

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (ARP Act)



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
79569	078939000	Premier Charter High School

How the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

CDC Safety Recommendations	Has the LEA Adopted a Policy? (Y/N)	Describe LEA Policy:
Universal and correct wearing of masks (optional)	Y	Premier High School has an optional mask policy for the universal and correct wearing of masks while on school campus and other school sponsored events. Disposable and reusable masks are made available to staff, parents, students, and other members of the community while on school campus. The school has postings throughout the school demonstrating correct wearing of masks as well as other strategies used to minimize the spread of COVID-19 as provided by the Maricopa Department of Health Services (MCDHS).
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Premier High School has made every effort to provide a minimum of 3 feet of distance among students in classrooms. An outdoor eating space is available to students and staff.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	All staff members participated in CPR and Minimizing the Spread of Infectious Disease trainings which included handwashing and respiratory etiquette. Signs related to handwashing were installed in all restrooms. Hand sanitizer is available throughout the school including classrooms, offices, and common areas.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	Premier High school installed air filtration systems in all classrooms and frequently used offices. Increased cleaning of frequently touched surfaces was implemented. Additional cleaning products proven to kill COVID-19 were purchased and are made available in all classrooms and offices.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and masking, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	Premier High School practices contact tracing through seating charts in all classrooms. Students and staff are informed of isolation and masking requirements as needed and a tracking system is in place to ensure that students and staff adhere to guidance. Positive cases are reported to MCDHS as necessary.
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	Premier High School provides free rapid COVID tests to students and staff members experiencing illness as needed. Information is also provided to the community on where to get

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		free COVID testing. The information is made available via phone, mailers, and the schools' website.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	N	Premier High School has provided regular communication and information to all key stakeholders as information related to the vaccines is made available. Interoffice communication including emails and regular staff meetings are used to communicate with staff. The school's website, Schoolmessenger (autodials), phone calls and mailings have been used to communicate with parents, students, and other members of the community. The school coordinated with a MCDHS provider that has held vaccine clinics at the school during the pandemic.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	Premier High School provides needed accommodations in accordance with students' Individualized Education Plans and 504 plans. Any additional accommodations for 504 plans related to health and safety have been met.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	School administrators participate in weekly MCDHS webinars to stay up to date on local policies. Regular reporting and coordination with MCDHS are maintained as needed related to COVID cases, contact tracing, and quarantine guidance.

How the LEA will ensure **continuity of services**, including but not limited to services to address **students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs**, which may include **student health and food services**

How the LEA will Ensure Continuity of Services?

Premier High School will ensure continuity of services for academic, social, emotional, mental health and other needs through the use of multi-tiered systems of support including adopted technological resources, digital learning and communication platforms, social emotional training and ongoing services provided by support staff.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	Premier High School utilizes Microsoft Teams to ensure continuity of services during in person and remote learning when needed. Remind is also used as a form of communication among teachers and students. Access to technology and hotspots are made available to students and staff in need. Edgenuity is used to supplement instruction and provide continuity of the school's credit recovery mission. Other tools such as Newsela and Kahoot are used to reinforce learning.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Premier High School is focused on implementing multi-tiered systems of support for the social, emotional, and mental health needs of students. Administrators have participated in ADE training from Ricky Robertson on trauma informed practices. Conscious Discipline staff book studies and MTSS are a part of the schoolwide professional development plan. Panorama SEL surveys are being administered in the fall, winter, and spring for assessing student

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	needs and environmental factors that could impact social, emotional, or mental health. Referrals to outside mental health agencies are being provided to families/students in need. Premier hired a social worker to provide ongoing services to students and staff members onsite.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	Food service is currently being provided under the National School Lunch Program.
Staff Needs:	
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	<p>Premier High School offers various medical plans with mental health coverage to all full-time employees. All staff have access to an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) including free short-term counseling, free legal services, expert referrals, and free financial services. EAP services are accessible through a web portal or mobile application. Other office wellness initiatives include weight-loss programs and other team building activities.</p> <p>The school participated in an MTSS cohort in which data was gathered to suggest that the school should implement an SEL focus as a part its initiatives. The school has purchased a variety of tools including books and software to assist all teachers and staff in learning about SEL. Staff members are learning to address their own SEL needs so that they can best serve the community.</p>
Other Needs	Premier High School utilizes staff surveys and an open communication system for staff members to communicate needs. Needs are addressed on a case-by-case basis.

The LEA must **regularly, but no less frequently than every six months** (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools), **review and, as appropriate, revise its plan** for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services **through September 30, 2023**

Date of Revision

09/15/2023

Public Input

Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:

Student and parent surveys related to access to technology, preferred method of instruction, SEL and end of course surveys are sought to monitor and adjust delivery of instruction and other services to address student needs. In addition, teacher and staff surveys are collected to ensure that they have the tools necessary to provide instruction via various delivery methods.

U.S. Department of Education Interim Final Rule (IFR)

(1) LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

- (a) An LEA must describe in its plan under section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services—
 - (i) how it will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC:
 - (A) Universal and correct wearing of masks.
 - (B) Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (*e.g.*, use of cohorts/podding)
 - (C) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette.
 - (D) Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation.

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- (E) Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments.
- (F) Diagnostic and screening testing.
- (G) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.
- (H) Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.
- (I) Coordination with State and local health officials.
- (ii) how it will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

(b)(i) During the period of the ARP ESSER award established in section Start Printed Page 212022001(a) of the ARP Act, an LEA must regularly, but no less frequently than every six months (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools), review and, as appropriate, revise its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services.

- (ii) In determining whether revisions are necessary, and in making any revisions, the LEA must seek public input and take such input into account
- (iii) If at the time the LEA revises its plan the CDC has updated its guidance on reopening schools, the revised plan must address the extent to which the LEA has adopted policies, and describe any such policies, for each of the updated safety recommendations.

(c) If an LEA developed a plan prior to enactment of the ARP Act that meets the statutory requirements of section 2001(i)(1) and (2) of the ARP Act but does not address all the requirements in paragraph (a), the LEA must, pursuant to paragraph (b), revise and post its plan no later than six months after receiving its ARP ESSER funds to meet the requirements in paragraph (a).

(d) An LEA's plan under section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services must be—

- (i) In an understandable and uniform format;
- (ii) To the extent practicable, written in a language that parents can understand or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, be orally translated for such parent; an
- (iii) Upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent