

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan Addendum

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief 3.0 (ESSER 3.0) Fund under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, was enacted on March 11, 2021. Funding provided to states and local educational agencies (LEAs) helps safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students.

In the fall of 2021, LEAs developed and made publicly available a Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan. All plans were developed with meaningful public consultation with stakeholder groups. LEAs are required to update the plan every six months through Sept. 30, 2023, and must seek public input on the plan and any revisions and must take such input into account. LEAs also must review and update their plans and ensure they align with any significant changes to CDC recommendations for K-12 schools. Like the development of the plan, all revisions must be informed by community input and reviewed and approved by the governing body prior to posting on the LEA's publicly available website.

The following information is intended to update stakeholders and address the requirement.

LEA Name: **Hickman County Schools**

Date: **02/06/23**

1. Describe how the LEA has continued to engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders in the development of the revised plan.

Hickman County School System(HCSS) continues to engage our stakeholders in a variety of ways. We are continuing to utilize four task force groups that work on initiatives established by our system strategic plan. Every task force group is made up of district administrators, teachers, parents, and community stakeholders. In addition to the task forces, each school has a leadership team that consists of parents, teachers, and support staff. In order to make sure district goals and initiatives align with stakeholders, HCSS has an advisory committee of parents to provide feedback to administration. Surveys continue to be sent out to the community and parents, as well as the Hickman County Chamber of Commerce, the Hickman County Business Education Council, and the Hickman County Economic Development Association. In addition to community leaders and parents, faculty and staff members were surveyed about how to best utilize ESSER funds in our schools. HCSS used the district website to get the survey out to stakeholders. Student and parent survey responses reflected the composition of district students. Results of the surveys have been reviewed and implemented into the district plan. The Hickman County School System has consulted with the local department of health and developed updated COVID-19 protocols.

2. Describe how the LEA engaged the health department in the development of the revised plan.

The Hickman County School System continues to consult with the local department of health and develop updated COVID-19 protocols. HCSS checks periodically with the local health department to ensure that recommendations have not changed.

3. Provide the extent to which the LEA has updated adopted policies and a description of any such policies on each of the following health and safety strategies.

<i>Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies</i>
HCSS has not updated policies. We continue to offer reasonable and appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies. HCSS is using ESSER funds for additional nursing and cleaning services throughout the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.
<i>Physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)</i>
HCSS has not updated policies. Additional spacing in classrooms is provided as practically as possible.
<i>Hand washing and respiratory etiquette</i>
HCSS has not updated policies. HCSS continues to encourage proper hand washing and respiratory etiquette system wide.
<i>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities including improving ventilation</i>
HCSS has not updated policies. ESSER funds are being used for cleaning common areas such as hallways, restrooms and cafeteria and to improve ventilation and air circulation in multiple schools.
<i>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine</i>
HCSS has not updated policies. HCSS provides information and links to the Tennessee Department of Health guidelines for isolation and quarantine. Protocols have been recently updated to reflect the latest guidance from the Tennessee Department of Health.
<i>Diagnostic and screening testing</i>
HCSS has not updated policies. Parents and guardians are responsible for screening their students each day. HCSS does not provide onsite testing, but school nursing staff will continue to screen students as needed and advise parents/guardians of screening results.
<i>Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible</i>
HCSS has not updated policies. HCSS continues to allow all employees to receive vaccinations during the school year.
<i>Universal and correct wearing of masks</i>
HCSS has not updated policies. Discretion of mask wearing is left up to the students and staff.

4. Provide a current description as to how the LEA is ensuring continuity of services including but not limited to services that address students' academic needs and students' and staff's social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

HCSS students are provided continual educational services through Google classroom and personal online contact with instructors when they are away from school. Support through enrichment classes is provided to support social emotional learning. Nutritional services are provided to students upon request if they are away from school due to COVID-19 protocols. Students receiving mental health services will be provided tele-health checks. In addition, the AWARE team works to provide teachers and staff with social, emotional, and mental health support as needed.