

## LEA Plan on the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

This document is intended to meet the federal statutory requirement that, within 30 days of receiving ARP ESSER LEA allocation (anticipated May 24th), an LEA shall publish an LEA Plan on the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services, which is often called a “school district reopening plan.”

Note, if an LEA developed a plan before *The American Rescue Plan Act* (ARPA) was enacted on 03/11/2021 that complied with the federal statutory requirements for public posting and comments but does not meet all of the requirements below, then the LEA must revise its plan no later than six months after receiving ARP ESSER funds

For further context, please reference ARPA (<https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1319/text>) or the Interim Final Requirements of ARP ESSER (<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2021-04-22/pdf/2021-08359.pdf>).

### I. General Information

1. LEA Name: SAU 7 Including Clarksville, Colebrook, Columbia, Pittsburg and Stuewartstown
2. Date of Publication: August 12, 2020, Revised June 22, 2021 for 21-22 school year

### II. Transparency and Accessibility

1. This plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services was published and made publicly available online here:  
Description: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mqBkUQFOdz-qPII5I5nxkt3pfgp6dAQZBPWW0d\\_MV\\_c/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mqBkUQFOdz-qPII5I5nxkt3pfgp6dAQZBPWW0d_MV_c/edit?usp=sharing)
2. Before making the plan publicly available, the LEA sought public comment on the plan and took such comments into account in the development of the plan (please check one).  
Yes:  Somewhat:  No:   
Description: School Board, parents and school staff provided input.
3. The plan is in an understandable and uniform format (please check one):  
Yes:  Somewhat:  No:   
Description: All required elements are included and adaptations for differing years are noted.
4. The plan, to the extent practicable, is written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable, orally translated (please check one):  
Yes:  Somewhat:  No:   
Description: The plan is written in understandable language.
5. The plan, upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, is provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent (please check one):  
Yes:  Somewhat:  No:   
Description: Yes if requested.

**III. Health and Safety**

1. How the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and LEA staff:

Description during SY20-21: Created operational and instructional plans, policies and procedures which aligned with the NHDHHS guidelines and which were approved by the school board.

Description during SY21-22: Update the operational and instructional plans, policies and procedures as NHDHHS guidelines changed.

2. The LEA's adoption of the following CDC health and safety strategies are described below: (Note federal regulation on this plan requires such reporting, but does not require adoption of CDC safety recommendations. The NH DOE recognizes schools will implement localized safety measures based on the guidance provided by the CDC, NH Public Health, and local public health officials.)

- a. Universal and correct wearing of masks:

During SY20-21 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

During SY21-22 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

Description of both SYs: Followed CDC and NHDHHS guidelines and adjust plan and practices as needed this year and plan to next. Guidance was consistent through 20-21.

- b. Physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding and modifying facilities):

During SY20-21 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

During SY21-22 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

Description of both SYs: Followed CDC and NHDHHS guidelines, when possible. Space limitations and multigrade high school classes made this difficult.

- c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette:

During SY20-21 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

During SY21-22 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

Description of both SYs: Followed CDC and NHDHHS guidelines, adjust plan and practices as needed this year and next.

- d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation:

During SY20-21 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

During SY21-22 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

Description of both SYs: Followed CDC and NHDHHS guidelines, provided regular sanitization, air exchange and personal protective equipment to students and staff as needed.

- e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, and/or Tribal health departments:

During SY20-21 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

During SY21-22 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

Description of both SYs: We communicate with local and state health departments, however, DHHS backlogs and staffing issues resulted in delays and we relied on local authorities.

- f. Diagnostic and screening testing:

During SY20-21 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

During SY21-22 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

Description of both SYs: Followed CDC and NHDHHS guidelines, adjust plan and practices as needed this year and next.

- g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities:

During SY20-21 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

During SY21-22 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

Description of both SYs: Partnered with Regional COVID task force including local hospital, physicians and pharmacies to provide vaccines and community education.

h. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies:

During SY20-21 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

During SY21-22 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

Description of both SYs: Special services coordinator and special education teachers ensured that students with disabilities were accommodated with respect to health and safety.

i. Coordination with state and local health officials (please check one):

During SY20-21 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

During SY21-22 (check one): Yes:  Somewhat:  No:

Description of both SYs: Partnered with NHDHHS and our regional COVID health and safety task force to align resources with needs, communicate important information and support

#### IV. Continuity of Services

1. The LEA has provided continuity of services in addressing student academic needs:

Description during SY20-21: Utilized our academic support system and expanded social emotional supports.

Description during SY21-22: Continued and expanded academic support through additional staffing, professional development and research based instructional and assessment practices.

2. The LEA has provided continuity of services in addressing student social, emotional, mental, and other health needs, which may include student health and food services:

Description during SY20-21: We provided a safety net for student physical and emotional health and wellbeing including universal access to health screenings and food services.

Description during SY21-22: We are increasing our social emotional support with additional counselling, social emotional learning training and professional development sessions for staff.

3. The LEA has provided continuity of services in addressing staff social, emotional, mental, and other health needs:

Description during SY20-21: We have expanded our wellness program and provide access to employee assistance programs. We also provided expanded paid COVID leave throughout the year

Description during SY21-22: We will build on the successes of the prior year and provide ongoing supports for our staff.

#### V. Plan Review

1. The LEA will meet the federal regulatory requirement to review and, as appropriate, revise its Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan at least every six months through September 30, 2023 (the award period including the Tydings period). (Note an LEA that developed a plan before ARPA was enacted on 03/11/2021 that complied with the federal statutory requirements for public posting and comments but does not meet all of the requirements above must revise its plan no later than six months after the LEA receives LEA ESSER funds.)

Yes:  No:

Description: We have work teams in place representing the community, families, health care professionals, school staff (support staff, faculty and administrators).

These teams were convened in July 2020. They will be reconvened in July, 2021 and every six months through 2023. School Boards will approve plan changes.



2. In doing so, the LEA will meet the federal statutory requirement to seek public input and take such input into account in determining whether to revise the plan and, if revisions are determined necessary, on the revisions it makes to its plan.

Yes:  No:

Description: Parents and school faculty and staff are surveyed periodically to determine the effectiveness of the plan. Input is sought in advance of changes.

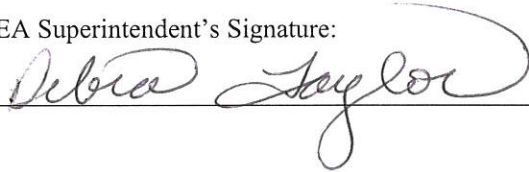
3. In doing so, the LEA will also meet the federal regulatory requirement to address CDC safety recommendations and, if the CDC has updated its safety recommendations at the time the LEA is revising its plan, each of the updated CDC safety recommendations.  
(Note federal regulation on this plan requires such reporting, but does not require adoption of CDC safety recommendations. The NH DOE recognizes schools will implement localized safety measures based on the guidance provided by the CDC, NH Public Health, and local public health officials.)

Yes:  No:

Description: We rely on the CDC, NHDOE, NHDHHS and local health officials in response to the pandemic.

## VI. Authorization

LEA Superintendent's Signature:



Date:

June 22, 2021

## VIII. Appendices

### Appendix A. ARPA Statutory Excerpt

“(i) Safe return to in-person instruction.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A local educational agency receiving funds under this section shall develop and make publicly available on the local educational agency’s website, not later than 30 days after receiving the allocation of funds described in paragraph (d)(1), a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services.

(2) COMMENT PERIOD.—Before making the plan described in paragraph (1) publicly available, the local educational agency shall seek public comment on the plan and take such comments into account in the development of the plan.

(3) PREVIOUS PLANS.—If a local educational agency has developed a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction before the date of enactment of this Act that meets the requirements described in paragraphs (1) and (2), such plan shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements under this subsection.”

### Appendix B. Interim Final Requirements of ARP ESSER Excerpt

“(3) *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.

(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 2001(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; and

(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.”