



ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan

Tidioute Community Charter School

TCCS 2022-2023-January 11, 2023

Section 2001(i)(1) of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires each local education agency (LEA) that receives funding under the ARP Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund to develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website a *Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan*, hereinafter referred to as a *Health and Safety Plan*.

Based on ARP requirements, 90 percent of ARP ESSER funds will be distributed to school districts and charter schools based on their relative share of Title I-A funding in FY 2020-2021. **Given Federally required timelines, LEAs eligible to apply for and receive this portion of the ARP ESSER funding must submit a Health and Safety Plan that meets ARPAct requirements to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) by Friday, July 30, 2021, regardless of when the LEA submits its ARP ESSER application. THIS IS REVISION DATED 01-11-2023.**

Each LEA must create a Health and Safety Plan that addresses how it will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff, and which will serve as local guidelines for all instructional and non-instructional school activities during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. The Health and Safety Plan should be tailored to the unique needs of each LEA and its schools and must take into account public comment related to the development of, and subsequent revisions to, the Health and Safety Plan.

The ARP Act and U.S. Department of Education rules require Health and Safety plans include the following components:

1. How the LEA will, to the greatest extent practicable, implement prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for **in-person learning**;
2. How the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services;
3. 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 policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC:
4.
 - 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 State and local health departments;
- f. Diagnostic and screening testing;
- g. Efforts to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to school communities;
- h. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and i. Coordination with state and local health officials.

The LEA's Health and Safety Plan must be approved by its governing body and posted on the LEA's publicly available website by July 30, 2021.* The ARP Act requires LEAs to post their Health and Safety Plans online in a language that parents/caregivers can understand, or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to an individual with limited English proficiency, be orally translated. The plan also must be provided in an alternative format accessible, upon request, by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Each LEA will upload in the eGrants system its updated Health and Safety Plan and webpage URL where the plan is located on the LEA's publicly available website.

The ARP Act requires LEAs to review their Health and Safety Plans at least every six months during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. LEAs also must review and update their plans whenever there are significant changes to the 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.

LEAs may use the template to revise their current Health and Safety Plans to meet ARP requirements and ensure all stakeholders are fully informed of the LEA's plan to safely resume instructional and non-instructional school activities, including in-person learning, for the current school year. An LEA may use a different plan template or format provided it includes all the elements required by the ARP Act, as listed above.

* The July 30 deadline applies only to school districts and charter schools that received federal Title I-A funds in FY 2020-2021 and intend to apply for and receive ARP ESSER funding.

Additional Resources

LEAs are advised to review the following resources when developing their Health and Safety Plans:

- CDC K-12 School Operational Strategy
- PDE Resources for School Communities During COVID-19
- PDE Roadmap for Education Leaders
- PDE Accelerated Learning Through an Integrated System of Support
- PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Tidioute Community Charter School

Initial Effective Date: 8/25 /2022

Date of Last Review: 8/24/2022

Date of Last Revision: 8/10/2022

Date of Last Review:1/11/23

1. How will the LEA, to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?

- TCCS will monitor state and county COVID-19 numbers and transmission and TCCS will be proactive in the approach to maintaining the health and safety of staff, students and community members. Social distancing, masking, covid testing, covid information distribution and cleaning are areas of concern that TCCS will monitor. TCCS will work with local school districts to collaborate in response to local spread of COVID-19. TCCS utilizes IU5 safety personnel, area councils of covid response coordinators in schools and area superintendents to share ideas and solutions.

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

- There will be post motivational signage and will provide information on effective health care to all students and staff. The TCCS school nurse is knowledgeable in PA school health procedures and educates all students and staff on covid and other health matters. The TCCS school nurse collaborates with the PA Department of Health staff about COVID-19 situations as needed. TCCS will provide vaccination information and offer vaccination clinics to our students and community members.
- TCCS has utilized ESSERS funds to provide mental health support to enhance the emotional and social needs of TCCS K12 students. TCCS will continue to use ESSERS to continue the employment of a full time in-house mental health therapist in 2022-2023.
- TCCS has provided a variety of summer school options and summer enrichment camps in July and August of 2022 and plans to do the same in 2023 to help close student achievement/social emotional gaps.
- TCCS will utilize multi-tiered systems of support to help students utilize best practices in the areas of the science of reading, math instruction, and to improve or stabilize students', academic, social, emotional needs.
- School-based professional development activities will focus on improving instruction in reading, writing, science, technology, and math, special education areas by using best practices, data analysis, and consultants
- TCCS will provide food service to local families/students if TCCS moves to temporary remote learning/teaching in 2022-23.
- Tutoring services after school will be provided for students at TCCS to assist in promoting academic, social and emotional growth.
- Professional development planning will be designed for administrators on leadership skill development and Best Practice leadership development training. Teacher staff development will be focused on best practices in teaching the core academic subjects to help close learning gaps.
- TCCS will continue to utilize or fund an extra or an additional day to day substitute teacher to reduce class sizes, or to assist in maintaining continuity of teaching -learning in 2022-2023.

- The TCCS Board, staff, and community believe in an” in-person “ expeditionary education experience . TCCS will consider flipping to remote learning in 2022-2023 primarily if it becomes not possible to staff the building safely due to excessive absences of staff. Every effort will be made to stay ‘in person’.

- TCCS will continue to train staff and students in 2022-2023 in google and other software platforms to ensure continuity of instruction in school and out of school. Technology remains a primary focus of TCCS so that learning opportunities are up to date.

TCCS is a PDE “community free” school which will offer free meals- food service for all K-12 students .

- TCCS has a character development program for social -emotional growth for supporting students’ emotional growth and mental health support.

- Students will be required to take their school computer/ I-Pad home with them every day in case of the school moving to temporary remote learning/teaching. Technology has been purchased to improve technological delivery. Internet boosters are available for students.

- Teachers shall maintain lessons on google daily in case of a quick flip to remote learning. Parents shall be informed regularly about school plans, google docs, remote lesson ideas and curriculum K-12.

3. Use the table below to explain 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 policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u>; 	<p>Parents, students, staff, and visitors will not be required to wear a face covering in school at this time and in general for 2022-2023 at this time. TCCS reserves the right to make masks mandatory for everyone if they are mandated by law, executive order or PDE or the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Face coverings will be required by all who visit the TCCS health suite. Students and staff may choose to wear a mask if they feel the need to do so. TCCS administration / teachers /aides will support those who choose to mask.</p>

- **Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);**

TCCS will clean and sanitize all rooms daily, ensuring that high traffic areas are cleaned and sanitized using best practices. TCCS will keep students safely distanced to the maximum extent possible. If the COVID-19 rate moves into the substantial category, TCCS may restrict interaction between students to the maximum extent possible. Additionally, TCCS may decide to move some classes to bigger spaces and alter classrooms to ensure student safety if a serious set of circumstances arise. TCCS has an outside pavilion and other outdoor classroom spaces to utilize. TCCS has a new boiler and improved heating and ventilation systems in the summer of 2022. TCCS has completed electrical upgrades to expand classroom space and to help class sizes. TCCS maintenance in 2022 modified three classrooms also to help with class size reduction. TCCS improved the outside playground facilities to allow students to use it to its maximum potential. TCCS constructed a lobby entrance room/area for a school receptionist/ safety monitor position. TCCS will encourage teachers in 2022- 2023 to teach as much as possible outside in certain seasons and to open windows in the classrooms. When feasible TCCS will cohort plan. For example, recess K-6 will be scheduled to keep groups of students at a reasonable size.

- **Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;**

TCCS will provide clean restrooms and we shall continue to provide classroom education for proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette for all students and staff. Signage about handwashing will be displayed in all bathroom facilities to draw attention to student and staff health care.

- **Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;**

TCCS will continue to employ day cleaners and evening custodians to maintain health and safety and to mitigate the spread of illness. TCCS has committed \$500,000 to improving ventilation and replacing boilers in the school to improve the air quality / temperature controls for students and staff. TCCS will encourage classroom windows to be open and have room air conditioners running. TCCS has air conditioning and room air purifying machines in many of the classroom settings. We have built an outdoor classroom. TCCS will continue to use bottle fill stations and keep water fountains sanitized. The TCCS cafeteria will be cleaned between each lunch with special attention to having sanitary surfaces.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contact tracing in combination with <u>isolation and quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments; 	<p>TCCS will review guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and CDC regularly. At this time TCCS is not planning to contact trace in a total school-wide systematic way that we did for two years prior, but we reserve the right to resume school-wide tracing should a situation warrant that option that becomes legally mandated by officials. The nurse and TCCS office of student services will be monitoring the PDE or CDC Guidelines on tracing . TCCS will cooperate with involved individuals on tracing and covid testing options if legally necessary. The nurse will advise parents on COVID-19 procedures for safety. Parents/ guardians will often be reminded in 2022-2023 to be proactive in calling TCCS or our nurse should they experience positive covid or if they or family members come in contact with one who has multiple symptoms.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Diagnostic and screening testing; 	<p>TCCS will provide educational materials to families and staff regarding symptoms of COVID-19. TCCS will encourage families , parents, employees, community members to self-screen prior to school for symptoms of COVID-19. If symptoms are present, students and staff, others should remain home and will be encouraged to contact their healthcare provider and/ or to covid tests. TCCS will monitor students and staff who display symptoms that are related to COVID-19 per the CDC and PA Department of Health. If students/staff develop or display CDC noted symptoms of COVID-19, they will be sent to the health office for evaluation by the school nurse. If the student needs to be sent home due to illness symptoms they will be isolated in the health office and the parent will be contacted. NOTE: MESSAGE: If your child has symptoms of COVID-19 listed here, keep them home.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fever or chills ● Cough ● Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing ● Fatigue ● Muscle or body aches ● Headache ● Now loss of taste or smell ● Sore throat ● Congestion or runny nose ● Nausea or vomiting ● Diarrhea <p>Staff and students should self monitor for symptoms prior to arriving at the building daily to prevent the spread of communicable illnesses and to ensure continued in person learning at TCCS. Please refer to https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/</p>

	<p>k-12-contact-tracing/guide.htm and 28 Pa. Code 27.71 (exclusion of staff and students at school with contagious illnesses). TCCS shall explore PA PDH testing at school options and consider options to provide home covid tests to families with family permission in the fall of 2022. We will rely on staff and families to self monitor .</p> <p>TCCS will review recommendations from PA PDHealth if a situation warrants safety changes relative to screening. Visitors to TCCS will enter through the Jefferson Street door and log in and out.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u>; ● Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies. 	<p>The TCCS health office and administration plan to conduct vaccination clinics for students, staff, and families throughout the 2022/2023 school year. TCCS feels that administering the COVID-19 vaccination is a personal decision for each family to consider and will encourage each family to make a decision that is best for each student and their family. Information on vaccinations will be provided through our communication outlets - the TCCS One Call system, website, facebook, and newsletters.</p> <p>The TCCS nurse's suite is central to the location of the elementary and middle/high school students on the main floor. Students will be required to wear masks when entering the health office. TCCS custodial staff will clean the health office regularly. TCCS will provide access to PPE equipment for employees. TCCS will work with any parent/guardians of high-risk students or staff to provide reasonable accommodations. TCCS will review all requests for appropriate accommodation for students with disabilities in response to COVID-19 mitigation efforts and decisions on covid or health need accommodations will be made in coordination with a student's IEP Team, medical team or other providers. TCCS will rely primarily on recommendations from physicians or professional health providers when considering and reviewing student or staff learning -teaching accommodations due to health, safety or COVID- 19 concerns. IDEA, ADA, and FMLA regulations shall be reviewed in cooperation with our school attorneys and parents .</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coordination with state and local health officials. 	<p>The nurse and administration will coordinate with health officials from the PA Department of Health, state, and local health officials, and the intermediate unit to stay up to date with local and state recommendations.</p>

COVID-19 Health -Safety Plan Chart

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If you were in close contact with a person who tested positive for COVID19 	<p>We highly recommend that staff and students wear a mask at school for 10 days.</p> <p>Monitor for symptoms of COVID19</p> <p>If you develop symptoms, stay home and get tested.</p>
---	--

POSITIVE COVID-19 CASE PROCEDURES

EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS- CHART

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employees, contracted employees and students who test <u>POSITIVE</u> for <u>COVID</u>. 	<p>*Denied entrance to school for 5 days in general. (CDC guidelines)</p> <p>The TCCS school nurse will follow health guidelines to determine the days out based on identified symptoms and testing.</p> <p>*If you are fever free for 24 hours without medication and your symptoms have improved, you may return to school on day 6. If you return on day 6, then you <u>MUST</u> wear a mask for an additional 5 days. Note: Date of Symptom onset or positive test w/out symptoms on day "0".</p> <p>* If you are still showing or developing symptoms after day 5, you must stay at home-out of school- for the full 10 calendar days.</p> <p>*If you are unable or refuse to wear a mask correctly, you must stay at home for the full 10 days. The school reserves the right to require a 5-10 day denied entry days if an individual chooses not to wear a mask correctly or is still having symptoms of illness.</p>
--	--

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for Tidioute Community Charter School reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on January 11th, 2023

The plan was approved by a vote of:

5 yes / 0 NO

Yes

No

Affirmed on: January 11th, 2023

By: January 11th, 2023

(Signature* of Board President)

ALBERT M. HANEY, JR

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.

