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 ARP Act requirements to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) by Friday, July 30, 2021, regardless of when the LEA submits its ARP ESSER application.

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:
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 formal 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 Thorough an Integrated System of Support
- PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania
Health and Safety Plan Summary: Northeastern Educational IU # 19

Initial Effective Date: JULY 1, 2021

Date of Last Review: JUNE 22, 2021

Date of Last Revision: JUNE 22, 2021

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?

The Northeastern Educational IU # 19 (NEIU) is prepared to practice prevention and mitigation strategies along a continuum of most to least restrictive strategies in response to the changing conditions of the Pandemic.

In addition to practicing standard preventative measures such as handwashing, cleaning practices, and the option of PPE, the NEIU will continue to encourage the vaccination of students and staff. The NEIU will continue to practice standard mitigation efforts to include reducing close contact when feasible.

The NEIU recognizes that as long as there are cases of COVID-19 in the community, there are no strategies that can completely eliminate transmission risk within a school community. With that in mind, the NEIU will align to the guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) to the maximum extent possible on all orders of health and safety related to the prevention and mitigation of COVID-19.

As the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, the Executive Director will present current public health conditions and present recommendations to the Board of Directors. When policies and procedures associated with COVID-19 prevention/mitigation are approved by the board, the health and safety plan will be formally updated.

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?

The NEIU is committed to returning to in-person instruction, five days per week for the 2021-2022 school year. Concurrently, the NEIU is building in academic supports and interventions to ensure that students are successful upon return. However, the NEIU understands that current public health conditions may require a fluid transition between remote, blended and face to face options. The NEIU has developed a Temporary Emergency Instructional Time Plan for instruction that allows for ease of transition in learning from face-to-face, to blended approaches, to complete remote instruction. Within programs, teachers will work together to create a parallel learning system that highlights authentic learning experiences both in and out of the classroom. Teachers will create both synchronous and asynchronous experiences as students transition between face-to-face instruction, hybrid and remote learning. Teachers will
provide direct instruction, guided support, one-on-one feedback, assessments, progress monitoring and therapies through a variety of in-person and digital tools.

The NEIU Temporary Emergency Instructional Time Plan considers the needs of diverse learners and families across unique programs. The plan provides options to engage learners from Pre-K to 12 which are in alignment to the instructional time provisions with the use of virtual learning options, public television resources, printed non-digital resources, and one-to-one “zoom” style digital conferencing. Options for individual, small group and large group instruction in synchronous or asynchronous modes are also provided. Where possible, devices will be provided by the student’s home district or the IU. For families without internet access, offline instructional materials will be provided and synchronous sessions will occur via phone conference.

As circumstances change, the NEIU will continue to work with partner school districts and agencies to adapt service delivery to meet the needs of students, families and communities. Changes will be reviewed by the administration on a case-by-case basis. Attendance will be taken in school for all face-to-face learning days. On remote learning days, verification and completion of assignments will be counted as attendance and to track instructional hours. Students should complete work each day listed in the academic calendar, regardless of weather delays or closures.

During the summer of 2021, the NEIU will conduct an Extended School Year Program per student IEPs. The NEIU is in the process of revising its online program. This program is used by our special education teachers to deliver academic content and SEL programming.

The social and emotional well-being of students and staff will be supported in the following manner: the NEIU employs two full-time Psychologists, a Board Certified Behavior Analyst, one Certified School Counselor and a Licensed Social Worker to address students’ mental and behavioral health needs. The NEIU also employs a Certified School Nurse who is a certified COVID-19 Contact Tracer and a Licensed Practical Nurse to assist with student and staff health needs.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARP ESSER Requirement</th>
<th>Strategies, Policies, and Procedures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Universal and correct wearing of masks;</td>
<td>Communicate current face covering guidelines to all students/staff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Follow current face covering requirements established by the PA DOH and/or PDE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School based IU programs will follow the guidance set forth by the host district or agency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All implementation strategies will comply with IEPs or 504 Plans.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

June 4, 2021
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARP ESSER Requirement</th>
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</table>
| - Modifying facilities to allow for **physical distancing** (e.g., use of cohorts/podding); | - Follow the current CDC and/or PA DOH, and PDE guidelines for physical distancing.  
- Classroom-based IU programs will follow the guidance set forth by the host district or agency.  
- All implementation strategies will comply with IEPs or 504 Plans.  
- When feasible, reduce opportunities for close contact.  
- Provide standard PPE for all staff and students upon request. |
| - **Handwashing and respiratory etiquette**; | - Follow the current CDC and/or PA DOH, and PDE guidelines for handwashing and respiratory etiquette.  
- Classroom-based IU programs will follow the guidance set forth by the host district or agency.  
- Signage will continue to be posted to remind students and staff of proper handwashing techniques. |
| - **Cleaning** and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving **ventilation**; | - Follow the current CDC and/or PA DOH, and PDE guidelines for cleaning and ventilation recommendations to the maximum extent possible.  
- Classroom-based IU programs will follow the guidance set forth by the host district or agency.  
- Daily cleaning will be conducted by the NEIU maintenance staff and contracted custodial staff. |
| - **Contact tracing** in combination with **isolation** and **quarantine**, in collaboration with the State and local health departments; | - Contact tracing, isolation and quarantine will be completed through PA DOH in conjunction with the NEIU CSN.  
- All cases will be reported and the NEIU will follow the guidance and guidelines set forth by the PA DOH.  
- Classroom-based IU programs will follow the guidance set forth by the host district or agency. |
| - **Diagnostic** and screening testing; | - Any person displaying the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 will be referred to their health care provider by the NEIU CSN.  
- Documentation for safe return to work/school may be provided by a |
<table>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☐ Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities:</td>
<td>☐ The NEIU has and will partner with health care providers to run vaccination clinics to provide vaccinations for all eligible staff/students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</td>
<td>☐ Adhere to all current CDC and/or PA DOH guidelines per student IEPs and 504s to the maximum extent possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Coordination with state and local health officials.</td>
<td>☐ The NEIU has and will continue to work in conjunction with PDE and PA DOH, supporting their guidelines and mandates to the maximum extent possible.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for Northeastern Educational IU # 19 reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on June 22, 2021.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

15 Yes
0 No

Affirmed on: June 22, 2021

By:

[Signature* of Board President]

Mr. Joseph Muracco

(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.