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Applicant: 01 0110 Atlantic City Atlantic County

Application: 2021-2022 ARP Safe Return Plan - 00 -

Project Period: 9/1/2021 - 8/31/2022

Cycle: Amendment 3

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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.

Support for Schools: Describe how the LEA will support its schools in safely returning to in-person instruction and sustaining safe operation. This description must include:

For each mitigation strategy listed below, please describe 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 CDC.

LEA Response Table

1) Universal and correct wearing of masks

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

Atlantic City Public Schools will continue to follow the guidelines and recommendations from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

2) Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding)

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

We encourage 3 feet of social distancing to the maximum extent practicable in all locations (includes student seating). provide protective measures such as physical barriers, sitting on one side of the table spaced apart and/or desks facing one direction where 3 feet distancing is not feasible. keep child's belongings labeled and separated from others. increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible unless it poses a health or safety risk to children. utilize larger rooms such as cafeterias, gyms, media centers and auditoriums to allow for social distancing. keep classes together in cohorts. allow minimal mixing between

groups.

3) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

Handwashing & Respiratory Etiquette: promote and ensure 20 second hand washing before eating, after bathroom use, after blowing nose/sneezing, coughing. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing; Use the nearest waste receptacle to dispose of the tissue after use; provide hand sanitizing stations (60% alcohol) in each classroom, all entrances/exits, near lunchroom, near toilets, near handwashing stations (children under 5 must be supervised). add time to recess and lunch periods to ensure students have time to wash their hands. embed the practice of handwashing throughout the day, inside and outside the classroom (e.g. field trips). hand washing with non-antimicrobial soap and water, alcohol-based hand rub, or antiseptic handwash

4) Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

Atlantic City Public Schools developed and implemented a procedure manual for increased cleaning and has established a disinfecting schedule in order to maintain a safe environment for faculty, students, and staff. Routine cleaning and disinfecting - ACBOE Custodial Staff will clean and disinfect at least daily (more, depending on use patterns) frequently touched and shared surfaces and objects. Improving Ventilation - There are various repairs and replacements of rooftop units, air handling units, control upgrades and other ventilation projects planned for our schools of need. They are all within our Long Range Facility Plan that will be completed within the next two years. The ESSER monies has permitted the district to accelerate the completion of these projects.

5) Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

Two ACPS School Nurses are paid, after hours as the Medical Advisory Committee, to conduct contact tracing, communicate with the local health department and keep current with COVID-19 data. The nurses on the Medical Advisory Committee follow all NJ DOH guidelines and have created and maintained Standard Operating Procedures and Protocols. All nurses within the district receive ongoing training on all new

procedures. Parents are contacted immediately and notified on our school protocol.

6) Diagnostic and screening testing

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

ACPS does not offer COVID testing. ACPS does provide information on the availability of testing sites within the community for staff and families. COVID protocols have been distributed to building administrators, who have educated their staff. Screenings were completed as the students/staff enter the building and informally during the day. Nurses are contacted immediately if there are any questions or concerns. Standard operating procedures are frequently updated as new guidelines from the DOH/DOE are distributed. Updated information is conveyed to the staff, students and parents.

7) Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The City of Atlantic City housed a COVID-19 megasite for vaccinations at the old convention center. We make accommodations for staff who need to leave during the workday for a vaccination appointment. In conjunction with the Atlantic County Health Department, information was provided to eligible families concerning the COVID-19 vaccine via website and social media. We will continue to provide education to our families.

8) Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

While the goal of Atlantic City Public Schools is to keep everyone healthy and safe by following CDC, NJDOH and NJDOE, we do understand that for some students with disabilities, this may be difficult. We can provide clear masks for our preschool disabled students, students with autism, auditory impaired students, ML students and staff when needed. Individual needs are addressed in each student's IEP.

Safe Return Plan Updated

Safe Return Plan text and assurances must be agreed to every six months.

Date Plan Updated

Describe 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. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

Atlantic City is committed to providing students with a consistent, high-quality education through sustained support, training, and resources, reinforced by quarterly District Leadership meetings involving parents and community members. Instructional Design: Facilitate standards-aligned instruction to promote student mastery of grade-level outcomes, Monitor student progress and address learning loss through targeted interventions and an enrichment period Focus on priority and essential NJSL standards, Differentiated instruction, accommodations/modifications to support students with diverse learning needs. Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports SEL and School Culture and Climate Provide targeted and general 1:1 & small group behavioral and emotional supports, Provide consultative support for administrators, teachers, support staff and parents, Promote a positive school climate and culture, Parent Engagement staff work with families to support student learning and emotional well-being

Describe how the LEA sought public comment on its plan, and how it took those public comment into account in the development of its plan. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

i. May 27, 2021-June 16, 2021 The district conducted a survey for public comment and input. The results of the survey are posted on the District webpage. ii. June 10, 2021-June 24, 2021 After analyzing results from the public survey on June 16, meeting with District Administrators on June 10, and meeting with the ACEA Union on June 17, we consolidated the information into the Safe Return Plan, and submitted. iii. June 17, 2021 Safe return plan was submitted in EWEGiv. July 20, 2021 & November 21, 2023 District Administration presented an overview of its "Safe Return Plan" to the community at the regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting. The public will be notified via the District webpage and social media. The public will be invited to comment on the presentation. v.

June 28, 2021, September 21, 2021 District Administration presented changesvi. April 25, 2023 & April 23, 2024
The district conducted a survey utilizing topics within the plan and section for public comment

Describe how the LEA ensured that the plan is in an understandable and uniform format; is to the extent practicable written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, will be orally translated for such a parent; and upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, will be provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The majority of this document is written using bullets and chunked information instead of lengthy narratives that are difficult for families to read and understand. Important documents will be provided in both English and Spanish, translated by employees proficient in both languages. All students have a Chromebook and assistive technology, such as a Chrome Vox, to help families access and understand the plan. Families are encouraged to ask questions in any format available: in person, by email, at the school Parent Resource Centers and at Board of Education meetings. Translators will be identified throughout the District to assist with translating the document with parents that have limited English proficiency. Accessibility -This document was added to the District website after being run through an accessibility check that will make it ADA compliant. The District website includes information for website accessibility including contact information for those experiencing problems

Briefly describe any guidance, professional learning, and technical assistance opportunities the LEA will make available to its schools. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The district has developed a calendar and plan to systematically deliver professional learning for teachers and administrators. Full-day professional development Half-day professional development New teacher and ongoing training in English Language Arts and Mathematics/ Sheltered English Instruction New Teacher Orientation and Support Training professional development Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) Summer institutes On-site coaching All professional learning embeds technical assistance so that staff is exposed and trained in the most current pedagogical methods, tools, and materials.

Provide current link to the district's website where the plan is posted.

<https://www.acboe.org/Page/5509>

By checking this box and saving the page, the applicant hereby certifies that they will assure that the information contained in the Safe Return to School plans will be updated within this system every 6 months during this grant project period.

Assurances Fully Agreed to By:

Atlantic City Board of Education

Assurances

American Rescue Plan of 2021

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP- ESSER)

- By checking this box and saving the page, the applicant hereby certifies that he/she has read, understood and will comply with the assurances listed below that will apply to any subsequent application amendments of all federal programs in which the LEA participates.

The Local Educational Agency (LEA) hereby assures the New Jersey Department of Education that:

1. The LEA, as a recipient of funds under the ARP understands the general assurances agreed to in the GMS system also apply to the ARP funds.
2. The LEA, as a recipient of federal funds under the ARP will determine the most important educational needs as a result of COVID-19, propose a timeline for providing services and assistance to students and staff, determine the extent to which the LEA intends to use funds awarded under the ARP to promote the authorized purposes and uses, and determine how the LEA intends to assess and address student learning loss resulting from the disruption in educational services. This information should be documented by the LEA and be available upon request by the NJDOE;
3. The LEA will ensure that funds awarded under the ARP are used for activities allowable under section 2001. All activities and expenditures must be reasonable, necessary, allocable under section 2001 and meet the purpose of the ARP, to prepare for, prevent and respond to COVID-19. Further, the LEA, as a recipient of funds under section 2001 of the ARP, will reserve not less than twenty percent (20%) of such funds to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs, and ensure that such interventions respond to the students academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on the student subgroups described in section 1111(b)(2)(B)(xi) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 USC 6311(b)(2)(B)(xi), students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care;
4. The LEA, as a recipient of funds under section 2001 of the ARP agrees to develop and comply with the

- requirements for a safe return to in-person instruction as required in section 2001(e) of the ARP;
5. The LEA will use such fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as will ensure proper disbursement of, and accounting for, Federal funds paid to the LEA under the ARP. LEA will utilize Grants Management System (EWEG) to budget and report financial expenditures relating to ESSER funds provided under the ARP. Further, upon request by NJDOE, the LEA will provide documentation to support claims for expenditures, including expenditure ledgers, invoices, receipts and documentation to support purchases and proof of services received;
 6. The LEA will adopt and use proper methods of administering funds received under the ARP Act, including:
 - A. The enforcement of any obligations imposed by law on agencies, institutions, organizations, and other recipients responsible for carrying out each federal award; and
 - B. The correction of deficiencies in operations that are identified through audits, monitoring, or evaluation.
 7. The LEA will ensure that any and all internet connectivity purchases are in compliance with the Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA);
 8. The LEA, as a recipient of funds under the ARP will comply with the provisions of all applicable acts, regulations and assurances, including the New Jersey School Code, the New Jersey Administrative Code, orders and guidance from the New Jersey State Department of Education, NJDOE State Board of Education, and the following provisions of Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) 34 CFR parts 76, 77, 81, 82, 84, 97, 98, and 99; the OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) in 2 CFR part 180, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3485; and the Uniform Guidance in 2 CFR part 200, as adopted and amended as regulations of the Department in 2 CFR part 3474.

Assurances Fully Agreed to By:

Submit

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Application History (Read Only)

Status Change	UserId	Action Date
Final Application Approved	KEVINC	05-24-2024
Submitted to NJDOE	kdurand010110	04-23-2024

Selectable Application Print

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ARP Safe Return Plan

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Requested by kdurand010110 on 7/16/2024

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