

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (ARP Act)



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
89486	07-85-27-000	Arete Preparatory Academy

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 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

CDC Safety Recommendations	Has the LEA Adopted a Policy? (Y/N)	Describe LEA Policy:
Universal and correct wearing of masks	Y	Optional Face/Mask Coverings: No messaging permitted on face/mask coverings (with exception of academy-related messages). Varied Colors and patterns are permitted.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Extraneous furniture has been removed from classrooms and desks have been spread out as much as possible to prevent direct contact between students.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Handwashing etiquette instruction completed at the beginning of school year. Handwashing signs posted in restrooms instructing students and staff on proper handwashing technique. Antibacterial soap in all bathrooms and hand sanitizer is made available to all students and staff. Proper respiratory etiquette (covering coughs and sneezes) is part of curriculum. Students are required to wash hands before eating.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	Cleaning is conducted with electrostatic sprayer all classrooms 3x weekly; Oxifer spray available to classrooms if needed; Day porter cleans all frequently used surfaces consistently throughout day with antibacterial wipes. Increased airflow and use of MERC-13 filters.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	CDC Isolation and Quarantine procedures were administered to all parents and faculty and are posted on the school's website including a detailed guide on symptomology, proper procedures and how to determine and report close contacts. All Close Contacts of positive cases are contacted, recorded and given Maricopa County of Health guidance on quarantine procedures. All Close Contacts are reported to appropriate governmental authorities.
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	Staff is provided with a list of providers for diagnostic screening and testing. Cost of testing is covered by health coverage.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	N	

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Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	Online Academy offered; [policy specifically regarding students with disabilities insert]
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	Cases and all Close Contacts are reported to the County Health Department. State and Local Health ordinances and guidelines are followed and posted when appropriate on School's Website.

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**

How the LEA will Ensure Continuity of Services?

Regular health and safety screenings are in place as well as additional staff and observation added to help facilitate return to in person services and learning.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	Add Lyceum, 30 minute all school
Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs	Teachers and parents can continue to refer students for counseling services by filling out a simple form. Students can be recommended during quarterly MTSS meetings for services. Staff changes (Hiring another counselor and 2 interns) to improve mental health services and teacher training to identify and respond to students dealing with trauma, anxiety, and depression.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	Schools expanded seating areas for lunch to allow students to spread out more. All Faculty trained in identifying symptoms of illness specific to COVID-19 and instructed to take immediate action when students appear to be exhibiting symptoms.

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs	Weekly employee check-in system, Headmaster & Assistant Headmaster meetings with staff and teams who check-in low.
Other Needs	Morale boosting experiences provided, Second School Counselor added

The 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 **through September 30, 2023**

Date of Revision	October 15, 2021
Public Input	
Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	Stakeholder luncheon and survey

U.S. Department of Education Interim Final Rule (IFR)

(1) 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:

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- (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 Start Printed Page 212022001(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; an
- (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