

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
4271	070440000	Glendale Elementary School District

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	N	Students will not be required to wear face coverings.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	N	If necessary, the following considerations and recommendations are established as a guideline to support site leaders in how they set up classrooms and student groupings, as space will become an issue in maintaining proper physical distancing. Leaders will need to be creative and rethink the design of school spaces and/or schedules to solve this challenge. For the sake of these guidelines students will be spaced six feet apart when feasible.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	N	All students and staff will wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol at the following times: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upon arrival at school (use hand sanitizer if there is no sink in the classroom), • after being outside for physical activity, • before and after breakfast, • before and after lunch, • prior to leaving school for home, • after sneezing, coughing, or blowing nose, and • prior to and after removing and putting on a face mask.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	N	<p>Protocols are established based on CDC Guidelines along with any federal, state or local orders.</p> <p>Cleaning will be maintained to the greatest extent possible. Custodial schedules will be adjusted to place focus on cleaning routinely throughout the day. Disinfectant will be used daily on frequently touched surfaces in work areas, such as door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains, desks and learning tools. Additionally, all staff will be provided with cleaner to be used as needed in between classes, at workstations and in common areas.</p>

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		<p>Air filters that mitigate the spread of COVID-19 will be installed.</p>
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	N	<p>GESD's COVID Response team in collaboration with Maricopa County Public Health conducts contact tracing with all close contacts of anyone testing positive for COVID-19.</p> <p>If a person shows symptoms while on campus, they are immediately separated from others, placed in a designated isolation area, and sent home. Sick students/staff cannot return to school until they have met district criteria.</p>
Diagnostic and screening testing	N	<p>For the health and safety of other students and of teachers and staff, it is recommended that parents/families conduct daily health screenings prior to sending their children to school. Students who are ill or have a household member with COVID-19 should not come to school.</p> <p>Parents/families are required to report a positive COVID-19 test for a student or any person residing with a student.</p> <p>If a parent believes their child has been exposed to COVID-19 but has not been tested or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, they must inform their school principal for further guidance.</p>
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	N	<p>GESD has partnered with Glendale Union High School District and other local school districts to advertise, support and promote POD within our boundaries. We also work with a variety of partners to provide vaccination and testing clinics.</p>
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	N	<p>Students with underlying health conditions, mobility, developmental needs, and receiving specialized physical healthcare procedures will be supported through mitigation that will include increased student health checks by the nurse and staff in the classroom.</p> <p>Families are encouraged to discuss safety concerns regarding return to class with their child's healthcare provider to determine needs. Classroom staff will use all appropriate prevention measures and will encourage students to do the same as able. Procedures will continue to be performed by trained staff members using appropriate precautions and protective equipment.</p>

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Coordination with State and local health officials	N	The Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources will be the point of contact for the Maricopa County Department of Public Health and/or Arizona Department of Health Services if there are verified employee cases in the facility or an increase in cases in the local area. The Assistant Superintendent for Behavioral Health and School Safety will be the point of contact for the Maricopa County Department of Public Health and/or Arizona Department of Health Services if there are verified student cases in the facility. The District will follow any additional guidance required by these departments.
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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?

Continuity of high-quality instruction for all learners remains a high priority for the entire Glendale Elementary School District. GESD also provides a full-time online school for students if parents prefer a virtual option. Both options will have services available to families to meet their needs for the school year.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	A continuum of interventions will be provided that supports Multi tiered System of Supports (MTSS). Staff will participate in professional learning opportunities to ensure they are appropriately trained to provide the interventions.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	GESD has Social Emotional Learning Specialists (SELS) at every site to support students and families with needs that may arise. The SELS have a variety of resources to share with families depending on their specific need. GESD partners with local agencies to bring in services for students and their families who need greater assistance. GESD implements SEL curriculum based on site needs to support every student and teacher.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	To ensure a continuity of services to students and staff the following serving modules have been established and implemented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serving meals in dining facilities and outdoors that encourage social distancing. • Offer classroom feeding when appropriate. • Offering curbside Grab and Go services as needed. • The Food and Nutrition Department will participate in ongoing training offered through many resources throughout the school year to stay up-to-date on health and safety.

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	The health and wellness of GESD staff members will be supported through the availability of Behavioral Health Employee Assistance program sessions at no cost. The Employee Assistance Plan (EAP) is a professional service which provides confidential assessment, referral and short-term counseling services to employees for behavioral health issues.
Other Needs	N/A

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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

August, 2023

Public Input

Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:

The process included:

- School board meeting presentation
- Continued presentations throughout the year on updates to plan
- Survey for public comment and feedback
- Focus group

The feedback will assist in the revision of the plan throughout the year.

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:
- (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).

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- (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