



ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan Guidance & Template

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:

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **School District of Borough of Morrisville**

Initial Effective Date: **June 17, 2021**

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Date of Last Revision: **March 4, 2022**

- 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.

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **School District of Borough of Morrisville**

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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: **School District of Borough of Morrisville**

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Introduction: School district operations will be implemented in the same manner as those in place prior to the pandemic; the exceptions will be fully described within this document. This plan reflects those components that we will keep in place, as referenced in our [Pandemic Health and Safety Plan](#), as well as promoting general health and safety for all students, employees and visitors as well as remaining compliant with national, state and local health guidance.

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 district will continue the Pandemic Planning Committee meetings to review current case data, as well as available Federal, State and Local guidance, and recommend modifications and adjustments to the current health and safety plan as needed. The plan will be reviewed and revised as necessary at the district level by the district's Pandemic Planning Committee as well as the building level teams. The revisions will be recommended to the Board for approval and changes will be communicated to all stakeholders.

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 District will use the current mechanisms in place (regular and modified schedules, remote/asynchronous learning options and distribution of services) to ensure the continuity of educational services as required by PA School Code and Federal Law.

Per CDC guidance, individuals who are fully vaccinated no longer need to wear masks or physically distance when participating in sports and extracurricular activities. CDC recommends K-12 schools implement prevention strategies, including masking and physical distancing, during sports and extracurricular activities for participants and spectators as feasible. All district extracurricular activities will follow the guidance found in our Return to Participate Plan for Athletics and the most recent CDC Guidance for K-12 Schools.

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **School District of Borough of Morrisville**

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Our methods for educational delivery for the 2021-22 school year will be:

1. Instruction will resume on September 1, 2021, on a normal, Monday through Friday schedule.
2. The following options will be available to families:
 - Face to face, in classroom instruction
 - Online option (Bridges/BCIU Academy) K-12
 - Combination of face to face and cyber programming, as appropriately determined according to medical need.
 - Homeschool (this option has long been available to our homeschool families)

Student medical issues which require a temporary leave from school will be addressed on a case-by-case basis to determine appropriate instructional alternatives to continue the student's education in consideration of information provided by the student's health care provider, parent/guardians, principal and counselor, and IEP team, if applicable.

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.

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.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
a. Universal and correct wearing of masks ;	<p>The School District of Borough of Morrisville will follow the most up to date Guidance for K-12 Schools from the CDC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CDC COVID-19 Guidance by County• Universal masking is recommended in public settings, including schools, only in areas at high risk of serious illness or strained healthcare systems.

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **School District of Borough of Morrisville**

Initial Effective Date: **June 17, 2021**

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	Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CDC Guidance on Public Transportation• CDC does not require wearing of masks on buses or vans operated by public or private school systems, including early care and education/childcare programs.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	<p>The CDC recommends maintaining at least 3 feet of physical distance between students in classrooms, with additional layered mitigation efforts employed if distance recommendations would prevent a school from fully reopening.</p> <p>When necessary, the District will shift to remote learning for the entire population or a specific subset of students, in consultation with the Bucks County Health Department. This may include modified schedules and blocks of days that include asynchronous learning. The District will work with the Bucks County Health Department in necessary circumstances for the modification and designation of safe and healthy instructional and workspaces for all individuals.</p> <p>Classroom configurations will promote learning and maximize distancing where feasible.</p> <p>Lockers will be spaced to accommodate for appropriate spacing when possible. Students will be taken outdoors as often as possible.</p> <p>Building faculty meetings, full administrative team meetings, and professional development activities will</p>

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **School District of Borough of Morrisville**

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c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ;	<p>occur in person unless designated as virtual by the meeting coordinator.</p> <p>General hand hygiene will be practiced throughout the day to minimize spread through use of common items.</p> <p>Proper hand washing technique signs will be posted in all bathrooms and sinks. All individuals will continue to be encouraged and reminded to sanitize or wash their hands on a frequent basis.</p> <p>Hand sanitizer will continue to be made available in all common areas, hallways, and/or lobby areas where sinks for handwashing are not available, in order to encourage frequent use.</p> <p>The District will continue to post signs in highly visible locations that promote everyday protective measures/hygiene and how to stop the spread of germs.</p>
d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation ;	<p>The District will maintain its sanitizing and cleaning routines, including the procurement and distribution of PPE and cleaning materials when necessary and appropriate.</p> <p>All District facilities are fully air conditioned, and have maximum fresh air exchange rates programmed into the building HVAC controls.</p>
e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine , in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	<p>The School District of Borough of Morrisville will follow the most up to date Guidance for K-12 Schools from the CDC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools • CDC COVID-19 Quarantine for

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **School District of Borough of Morrisville**

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	<p><u>K-12 Schools</u></p> <p>In addition, all students and staff are required to review the District Symptom Checker Resource.</p> <p>The District will continue to work in partnership with the BCHD for all COVID-19-related case reporting as feasible.</p> <p>The District will provide the BCHD, as Bucks County's local health authority, with all requested information to support their processes.</p> <p>Each day, before reporting to any assignment location, all staff (employees and contractors) are expected to self-affirm that they feel well enough to report to work and are symptom-free and fever-free without medication.</p> <p>Parents/Guardians are expected to conduct a similar daily assessment for students.</p> <p>In alignment with recommendations from the BCHD, the District urges the following communication:</p> <p>Parents and guardians to report their child's confirmed case of COVID-19 to the District and the School Nurse via email to covid@mv.org.</p> <p>Employees/contractors who have received a confirmed positive diagnosis of COVID-19 to communicate this information to the HR Department using the secure email transmissions.</p> <p>In alignment with recommendations from the BCHD, the District will communicate reported positive cases to the parents,</p>

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **School District of Borough of Morrisville**

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	<p>guardians, staff, and the home school district of all students and staff in any classroom and/or on any vehicle with a confirmed, reported positive case when feasible.</p> <p>Any staff member absent for three or more days is expected to submit a physician's certification to jtorres@mv.org prior to returning to work.</p> <p>District contractors will be expected to notify their employer and follow the employer's absence reporting procedures.</p> <p>Students experiencing symptoms of illness should stay at home and not report to their school location. Families should follow the District's current absentee/attendance procedures.</p> <p>The District will continue to communicate COVID-19 testing information to our school community.</p> <p>In the event there is evidence of potential COVID-19 spread within school, the District will work with the BCDH who may advise whether further mitigation strategies should be taken. "Temporary Targeted Mitigation" (TTM) strategies might include but are not limited to physical distancing, cleaning/disinfecting, and virtual learning. These strategies will be targeted (classroom(s), group(s), school(s), district) and will be temporary meaning they will end when the potential spread of virus in that case is expired.</p> <p>The District's Administration and Pandemic Team will continue to monitor COVID-19 cases related to our ability to</p>

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **School District of Borough of Morrisville**

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	safely and effectively provide in-person instruction.
f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;	<p>The School District of Borough of Morrisville will follow the most update guidance from the Bucks County Department of Health.</p> <p>All staff, students, families, and contractors are required to self-monitor and any individuals who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should be referred for COVID-19 testing.</p> <p>The School District of Borough of Morrisville will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inform staff, students, and families on the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and the importance of staying home if you are symptomatic.• Communicate COVID-19 testing information including locations.• Continue to utilize our School Nurse to evaluate any individual who presents with symptoms and communicate next steps to the appropriate parties in a timely manner. <p>Direct individuals who test positive for COVID-19 by a medical provider or via home test to seek support and direction from their medical provider.</p>
g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u> ;	Vaccination clinics will continue to be scheduled, based on survey data and community need/request.

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	<p>Continue to work with BCDH to provide opportunities for students and community members to receive vaccinations.</p> <p>District communication methods will be used to distribute information regarding vaccination clinics and designated hours</p>
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>The mission of this health and safety plan is to ensure the continuation of in-person instruction in all District programs.</p> <p>Accommodations and specially designed instruction will be provided to specific students as needed, this may include remote learning, modified schedules, or other strategies in accordance with IEP/504 requirements to allow flexibility for students with disabilities.</p> <p>We will maintain regular communication with families to ensure support is provided.</p>
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p>The School District of Borough of Morrisville will rely on best practices, informed by federal, state, and local guidance, to design and implement high-quality, student-centered instructional environments.</p> <p>The District will continue to partner with the Bucks County Intermediate Unit and the Bucks County Health Department to coordinate responses to outbreaks of COVID-19, in accordance with established procedures.</p>

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Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **School District of Borough of Morrisville** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on March 23, 2022.


Affirmed on: **March 23, 2022**

The plan was approved by a vote of:

7 Yes

0 No

By:



(Signature* of Board President)

Damon Miller

(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.