

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



| Entity ID | CTDS | LEA NAME |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------------|
| 79214 | 078901000 | Excalibur Charter Schools |

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 | Face Coverings are recommended but not required for students or staff |
| Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding) | n | |
| Handwashing and respiratory etiquette | Y | Instruction on proper hand washing, hand sanitizing, and coughing/sneezing etiquette. |
| Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation | Y | Hand sanitizer provided in all classrooms and office space. High touch surfaces sanitized daily. Daily enhanced cleaning and increased HVAC filter changes. Water fountains have been turned off and a filling station has been placed in the hallways that only teachers are permitted to fill students water bottles after hand sanitizing. |
| Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments | Y | School Health Aides coordinate and communicate with affected families and staff. All staff and student required to stay home if symptomatic. Parents and staff encouraged to screen daily for symptoms. All persons testing positive required to quarantine for 10 calendar days and be symptom free for 24 hours before returning. |
| Diagnostic and screening testing | Y | Symptom screening-Temperature checks before students enter the building. |
| Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities | Y | Provide information to staff and families about vaccination locations upon request. |
| Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies | Y | Accommodations will be included in student IEP's/504 plans with regard to health and safety if appropriate. |
| Coordination with State and local health officials | Y | Administration tracks and reviews |

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?

Excalibur purchased laptops to have a 1 to 1 ratio of computers to students if quarantine and online instruction was necessary to facilitate a student's learning. The use of Google classroom was implanted for all students to have access to the curriculum and teacher and to provide a pathway for assessing students learning in the event that in person instruction was not possible. To support our special needs population, we allowed our Sped team to meeting with students on a one-on-one basis with social distancing and masking throughout the pandemic. Once back at school we keep group sizes within the special education environment small as to not over crowd the classroom. We

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also implemented Accellus curriculum as our on-line platform for students during the pandemic and keep access for students once back on campus for those how needed additional help.

Students' Needs:

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| Academic Needs | Provide in-person instruction with an online option for those who would need to quarantine. During the day we have increase reteach and enrichment times as well as provide 40 minutes per day on RTI. Excalibur has hired additional support staff (para pros) for the primary grades. Increase use of technology in the classroom with the via the one-on-one computes in the classroom. These devices will be utilized in the event of a mandated school closure. Curriculum resources are accessible digitally and instruction would be provided via Zoom or Google Meet as well as Google Classroom. |
| Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs | Provide information to families for mental health and counseling resources. Excalibur has hired a full-time school counselor to work with the students during the school day as well as hold Social Emotional Support classes couple of times a week. Excalibur has also has started having therapy dogs in the school several times per week. |
| Other Needs (which may include student health and food services) | Breakfast in the classrooms as well as play first then eat for lunches. |

Staff Needs:

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| Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs | Team Building and social opportunities monthly, hiring of additional instructional staff. The school has hired a FT school counselor. |
| Other Needs | Paid time off for COVID 19 related absences in addition to staff personal PTO. Excalibur pays for 100% of employees health insurance. |

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**

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| Date of Revision | 1.27.2023 |
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Public Input

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| Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan: | Excalibur did not seek public input to develop this plan. |
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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.

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- (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