

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
4457	120201000	Nogales Unified School District @1

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	Governing Board has masking policy, following CDC guidelines, that has been confirmed at Governing Board meetings and included in written plan. School board adopted regulations concerning wearing of masks on 8-24-20 Regulation GBFB-R Staff Personal Security and Safety. Board voted to accept the superintendent's executive order to make mask wearing mandatory for everyone on campus and on school buses.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	y	As part of District procedures and included in the Safe Return to Instruction Plan, use of physical distancing in classroom and common areas was articulated. Protocols approved by school board on 8/24 on facility maintenance and safety preparation of school buildings, cleaning, disinfecting and safety measures taken in preparation of when/if NUSD transitions to in-person instruction/hybrid model in September. Board agreed to follow all CDC regulations and protocols.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Handwashing and respiratory etiquette is a regular expectation, but also included in the written plan and with posters in restrooms. Here is what is stated in plan: Hand Washing All students and staff will wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, using hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol content, via handwashing stations located on campus, in restrooms or classroom sinks at the following times: upon arrival at school (use hand sanitizer if there is no sink in the classroom), ●after being outside for physical activity, ●before and after lunch, ●prior to leaving school for home and after sneezing, coughing, or blowing nose, and ●prior to and after removing and putting on a face mask.

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<p>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>As part of plan, enhanced cleaning of facilities throughout the day and on early release days is included as is installation of devices to cleanse the air. ESSER II funds used to install ionization devices at all sites as well as special filtration systems in all air conditioners to improve ventilation. Return to School committee agreed to have Wednesdays be half days so each site can undergo a deep cleaning on Wednesday afternoons . Portable hand washing stations set up at each site and District facilities, and touch-less faucets and automatic flush toilets installed. Here is what is stated in the plan: Additionally, all staff will be provided with disinfecting solutions and special microfiber cloths to be used as needed in work areas between classes, at workstations, and in common areas. Instructional staff will be provided information regarding the "dwell time" or time that the disinfectant must be left on the surfaces to be cleaned before being wiped off by the microfiber cloth. This time is typically 5 to 10 minutes. The playground, sports equipment, and any other shared items (if they are being used) will be cleaned between uses by instructional and custodial staff utilizing District provided and approved cleaning products.</p>
<p>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>Contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine is completed in collaboration with the Santa Cruz County Health Department and in consultation with local health officials. Diagnostic and screening testing Y The District conducts pooled. Here is what it states in the plan: Guidelines for School Community Member Exposed to COVID-19 Employees or students who have developed COVID-19 symptoms or had a positive. COVID-19 test may not return to the site until they have met the CDC or State/County Health Department guidelines at that moment in time.</p>
<p>Diagnostic and screening testing</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>The District conducts pooled testing through ADHS and local health officials.</p>
<p>Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>The District continues to work with local health officials to provide opportunities for vaccination to employees, students, and the school community.</p>
<p>Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>Accommodations related to masking and other health policies are in place for students with disabilities and included in the written plan. Here is what it says in the plan: *Any student who has difficulty breathing or who is incapable of physically removing the face masks on his/her own</p>

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		will not wear face masks, and alternate methods of protection will be discussed by parents and staff, including the use of a face shield.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	NUSD works in close collaboration with the SCC Health Department and with Maricopa Community Health Center

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?

NUSD contracts with a mental health provider for students needing emotional-mental health therapies. Summer school and extended learning opportunities provided. All students are provided free breakfast and lunch. Students in after-school programs provided a snack. Elementary counselors added. An additional psychologist hired.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	Academic needs will be addressed through improved instructional materials, extended learning opportunities, and during school interventions.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Social, emotional and mental needs are met through activities incorporated into instruction and services, which are provided for students and their families as part of the written plan. Through ESSER III funding, each site now has a Mental-Social Emotional Coordinator who works with community and social agencies that are providing SEL activities for staff and students, and who is working with teachers to incorporate SEL lessons into their curriculums. An additional psychologist was hired to work with all sites.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	Other student needs are being met through the Community Eligibility Plan and Food Service to ensure all students are being fed. Additionally, there are liaisons at each site to identify and address needs related to clothing, educational materials, etc. The District set up more than 20 locations at which breakfast/lunch meals were provided during remote learning and during breaks such as fall break and spring break. Once students become age-eligible, vaccines provided on campus or at community events. School buses and drivers delivered meals to distribution sites.

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	NUSD has a wellness program for staff that includes workshops to promote social, emotional and mental health needs. NUSD's health insurance company Meritain offers mental health services free of charge.
Other Needs	Sick bank available for staff needing additional days for illness or personal needs. On-call nursing program for staff with chronic illnesses to receive emotional support and health checks.

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 | **08/14/23**

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:

Presentation of the requirement to have Safe Return to School plan revisited each six months and allow for public input presented at the 8/14/23 governing board meeting which is streamed live on YouTube. On the District Facebook page, the message that the plan seeks public input and asked that anyone who has comments to contact Kscott@nUSD.k12.az.us.