

## 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;
- 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:

- a. Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u>;
- b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);
- c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;
- d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;
- e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u>, in collaboration with State and local health departments;
- f. <u>Diagnostic</u> 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.

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 Thorough an Integrated System of Support
- PA Department of Health COVID-19 in Pennsylvania

### Health and Safety Plan Summary: Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School

**Initial Effective Date: September 8, 2021** 

Date of Last Review: April 20, 2022

Date of Last Revision: April 20, 2022

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?

FACT Charter School will review and discuss any recommendations from the CDC and the Philadelphia Department of Public Health to determine if/how the school can implement prevention and mitigation strategies, to the greatest extent practicable based on our community/school needs. If changes are necessary, the school will update our plan as needed. FACTS will adhere to all existing, valid and binding orders from the Philadelphia Department of Public Health

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?

FACTS will continue to offer all academic, social, emotional, mental health, physical health and food services to all students for the entirety of the 2021-2022 school year. These comprehensive services will be offered to all students (K-8), regardless of instructional mode. In addition, the school will continue to focus our efforts on closing learning gaps resulting from schools being forced to close in March 2020.

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;	FACTS will adhere to any existing, valid and binding orders from the Philadelphia Department of Public Health or other governmental agency regarding facial coverings.
	FACTS will review any recommendations from the CDC and determine if/how it can implement prevention and mitigation measures, to the greatest extent practicable based on our community/school t needs.

b.	Modifying facilities
	to allow for
	physical distancing
	(e.g., use of
	cohorts/podding);
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FACTS will adhere to any existing, valid and binding orders from the PDPH regarding physical distrancing.

FACTS will review any recommendations from the CDC and determine if/how the school can implement prevention and mitigation measures, to the greatest extent practicable based on our community/school needs.

Meetings with parents and outside partners will be offered digitally whenever possible.

### c. <u>Handwashing and</u> respiratory etiquette;

FACTS installed additional handwashing stations on every instructional floor as well as on the play yard.

FACTS has placed hand sanitizer dispensers in every instructional room and administrative area.

Teachers will teach, reinforce, and practice proper hand hygiene, cough etiquette, and distancing with their students.

Students will be encouraged to frequently wash hands, especially before and after lunch or recess.

Hand sanitizer dispensers have been placed in all instructional and administrative spaces. When hand washing is impossible or impracticable, hand sanitizer may be used instead

# d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;

#### Cleaning:

FACTS implemented a new cleaning and hygiene protocol that includes color coded hygiene, a switch to microfiber cleaning supplies (and the installation of a washer/dryer to keep the rags and mopheads clean), and increased staff training.

Classrooms, hallways, offices, and common areas will be cleaned on school days using ordinary cleaning products. Disinfectant products will be used as required.

We have set the expectation that staff and students will play a role in cleaning their areas (not just custodial or building staff). The participation of the entire school community will be necessary, to create a sense of shared responsibility, to teach students and staff good infection control practices, and to practically accomplish the level of cleaning and disinfecting that must happen.

### Ventilation:

FACTS installed new exhaust fan/air purifiers in classrooms without windows.

Room air purifiers have been supplied for all instructional spaces.  FACTS is keeping our HVAC fans in the "on" position in order				
to keep active circulation of air going.				
Windows in instructional spaces and shared offices will be open when practical.				
FACTS will adhere to any existing, valid and binding orders from the PDPH regarding contact tracing, isolation and quarantining.				
The school will review any recommendations from the CDC and determine if/how it can implement prevention and mitigation measures, to the greatest extent practicable based on our community/school needs.				
Student screening for symptoms and exposure will be completed by all parents/guardians at home before the start of each school day.				
All staff will perform screening for symptoms and exposure prior to leaving for work and will stay home if ill.				
Staff, parents/guardians and volunteers are to self-report COVID-19 symptoms or exposure to the school nurse or designee.				
Information pertaining to on-site diagnostic testing will be provided to staff, parents/guardians on an as-needed basis and/or as it is made available to and recommended for use by FACTS.				
FACTS partners with Asian Americans United to offer vaccine clinics at the school.				
Individualized health and safety plans will be developed in collaboration with families, as needed, for students requiring additional accommodations regarding health and safety measures.				

i. Coordination with state and local health officials. FACTS complies with reporting requirements of the Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH). This ensures the close coordination and communication between FACTS and our local health officials.

FACTS closely monitors the guidance being issued by the PDPH as well as the PDPH's assessment of the local risk of transmission.

### **Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement**

The Board of Directors/Trustees for the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on April 20, 2022

The plan was approved by a vote of:				
8_Yes				
0_ No				
Affirmed on: April 20, 2022				
By:				
(Signature* of Board President)				
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\*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.