

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
4394	090220000	Whiteriver Unified 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	Y	September 12, 2022 WUSD Governing Board voted to abide by HB 2453 and HB 2616 in relation to mask mandates. Masks are not required in any school district building.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Per WUSD Governing Board approved the Operational Guidelines for Safe and Healthy In-Person Learning social distancing is recommended when possible but not required.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Per WUSD Governing Board approved the Operational Guidelines for Safe and Healthy In-Person Learning frequent handwashing is encouraged before and after meals and upon returning from playgrounds and participation in athletic activities.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	Per WUSD Governing Board approved the Operational Guidelines for Safe and Healthy In-Person Learning, additional custodians have been assigned to each school to ensure consistent sanitation of facilities and air purifiers have been added to HVAC systems.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	WUSD Schools work closely with local, tribal contact tracing teams to ensure timely quarantine for staff and students exposed or testing positive for COVID19.
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	Staff and students are referred to local health care providers for diagnostic and screening testing.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	Y	WUSD works closely with local Indian Health Services to provide venues for all school community members including mass vaccination clinics and site-based clinics.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	Per WUSD Governing Board approved the Operational Guidelines for Safe and Healthy In-Person Learning accommodations for students with disabilities or compromised health concerns are provided in a timely manner.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	WUSD works closely with state and local health officials to update and revise current WUSD Operational Guidelines for Safe and Healthy In-Person Learning as needed.

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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?

WUSD will be using ESSER, ESEA, Impact Aid and Title funding to ensure continuity of services including:

- Academic/Emotional support staff: extended school year teachers, reading specialists, truancy/drop-out prevention coordinators, instructional assistants, and school improvement specialists, educational software
- Systems support and improvement (fiber replacement)
- Additional custodial support/bus monitor staff, bathroom upgrades at all campuses to make disinfecting more efficient, PPE supplies and HVAC air purifiers
- Devices-such as Chromebook and laptops for student and instructional staff use
- Ongoing professional development related to LETRS, MTSS, PLCs, instructional differentiation, and supports for students with disabilities, and other identified subgroups
- Memorandum Of Understanding with Apache Behavioral Health Services
- Continued Community Eligibility Programs to provide free breakfast & lunch to every student
- Continued Partnership local with Indian Health Services hospital to provide vaccination and general health clinics, screenings, and immunizations
- Professional development opportunities for school staff relating to best practices, student motivation, relationship building, school safety, classroom management, family engagement.

### Students' Needs:

Academic Needs

- In-person learning for all students unless indicated in an IEP or approved chronic illness plan.
- Elementary and Junior Teachers (K-8) utilize a subject based, letter grade system. Teachers use formative and benchmark assessments to determine progress towards mastery. Teacher use the Professional Learning Communities process to analyze data and data-driven action plans.
- High School Teachers use curriculum-based common formative assessments and benchmarks to monitor content mastery. Assessment data is analyzed and action plans are created after every benchmark.
- Extended school day/year instructional opportunities are provided at all campuses.
- All schools implement Multi-Tiered Systems of Support, including Tier I Positive Behavior Supports and Intervention.
- All schools implement weekly Professional Learning Communities.

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs

Apache Behavioral Health Services (ABHS) and WUSD staff will make Behavior Health Services available to all WUSD students K-12. We are committed to provide:

- Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports (PBIS) at each school to include lesson plans, incentives, reflection and behavior management plans.
- STEAM Education: ABHS will continue to support STEAM education during, before and after school.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued opportunities for VEX Robotics Education and competitions including coaches at each school.</li> <li>Counseling Services: ABHS will continue to support clients who attend WUSD #20 through face-to-face and telehealth counseling services.</li> <li>Continued support with Trauma Informed instruction and relationship building with students.</li> <li>Development of student support team/ plan at all schools which identifies the needs of students, special populations, and resources within school and tribal organizations. Actions steps to make resources available for students.</li> <li>Intervention meetings based on student behavior, attendance and academic progress.</li> <li>Evidence-based professional development opportunities on topics relating to student supports including classroom management, PBIS, relationship building, family engagement, college and career readiness, empowering student learning</li> </ul>
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	<p>WUSD continues to provide a community eligibility program-based meal program where all students are provided a healthy breakfast &amp; lunch free of charge.</p> <p>WUSD works closely with local Indian Health Services to provide site-based immunization and wellness clinics as well as dental and vision services as needed.</p>
<b>Staff Needs:</b>	
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	<p>WUSD provides the following to provide for staff social, emotional and mental health needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Employee Wellness Plan</li> <li>Employee Assistance Program (EAP)</li> <li>On-site immunization clinics</li> <li>Remote work options when possible</li> <li>Administrative support to support self-care time; needed scheduled time off</li> <li>Communication regarding health insurance changes, mobile programs, and on-site offers</li> </ul>
Other Needs	<p>Bi-weekly professional development opportunities available to all staff; targeted professional development available as requested or required; mentoring for novice teachers, monthly principal meetings to provide mentoring and support.</p>

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 1, 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: WUSD district cabinet meetings; monthly governing board meetings; school and federal programs Parent Advisory Council meetings; monthly meetings with Navajo County Health Department; consultation with Indian Health Services.



## 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).
- (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; and
  - (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