

American Rescue Plan: Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

Each district and community school should post on its local website a plan which includes, or will be modified to include, the extent to which it has adopted policies and a description of any such policies on each of the following mitigation strategies:

1. Universal and correct wearing of masks:
Austintown Local Schools will follow the Ohio Department of Health and Mahoning County Board of Health guidelines.
2. Physical distancing:
Austintown Local Schools will follow the Ohio Department of Health and Mahoning County Board of Health guidelines.
3. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette:
Austintown Local Schools will continue current handwashing and respiratory etiquette guidelines.
4. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation:
Austintown Local Schools will continue current cleaning guidelines.
5. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the state, local, territorial or tribal health departments:
Austintown Local Schools will follow the Ohio Department of Health and Mahoning County Board of Health guidelines.
6. Diagnostic and screening testing:
Austintown Local Schools will follow the Ohio Department of Health and Mahoning County Board of Health guidelines.
7. Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff and students, if eligible:
We will follow our Austintown Local Board Policy regarding vaccinations.
8. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies:
We will follow our Austintown Local Board Policy regarding students with disabilities.

Each district and community school should post on its local website a plan which describes how it will ensure continuity of services including but not limited to:

1. Services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health and other needs, which may include student health and food services:

The Austintown Local Schools District Leadership Team will review student data and identify students' academic needs and SEL needs. They will provide input into how to best support the identified needs through before, during and after school programs.

They will also collect data on staff's social, emotional, mental health and other needs. They will provide input into how to best support the identified needs of staff.

2. The LEA periodically reviews, no less frequently than every six months for the duration of the ARP ESSER grant period (i.e., through September 30, 2023), and revises its plan as appropriate:

The Austintown Local Schools District Leadership Team will meet quarterly to review students' academic needs, and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health and other needs and will revise our plan if needed to meet identified needs.

3. The LEA seeks public input and takes such input into account on (1) whether revisions are necessary and, if so, (2) the revisions to the plan:

The Austintown Local Schools District Leadership Team will request public input on whether or not revisions are needed and will revise our plan if needed to meet identified needs.

Posted to website on 06/07/21

American Rescue Plan Local Use of Funds

1. How will ARP ESSER funds be used to implement prevention and mitigation strategies that are, to the greatest extent practicable, consistent with the most recent CDC guidance on reopening schools, in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?

Funds will be used to employ Sweeper cleaners to maintain cleaning and disinfecting of all buildings and common areas. Funds will be used to install and/or maintain air handling unit(s) to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities.

2. How will the LEA use the funds it reserves under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year?

The District Leadership Team will review student data and identify students' academic needs. They will provide input into how to best support the identified needs through before, during and after school programs. Funds will be used to offer intervention and enrichment programs.

3. How will the LEA spend its remaining ARP ESSER funds consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act?

The District Leadership Team will identify needs consistent with section 2001(e)(2) of the ARP Act for the remaining ARP ESSER funds.

4. How will the LEA ensure that the interventions it implements, including but not limited to the interventions implemented under section 2001(e)(1) of the ARP Act to address the academic impact of lost instructional time, will respond to the academic, social, emotional and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care and migratory students.

The District Leadership Team will analyze the academic, social, emotional and mental health needs of all students, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care and migratory students. The District Leadership team will identify academic and SEL interventions and enrichment opportunities for students impacted by COVID-19 pandemic.

5. Briefly describe the extent to which the LEA intends to use ARP ESSER funds to promote remote learning.

We plan to continue to work with families to bring as many students back to in-person instruction. However, we know some families will not be comfortable returning their child(ren) to in-person and we know Covid-19 may affect certain students, thus requiring us to support remote learning options with some funds.

6. Describe the LEA's plan for addressing learning loss by: administering and using high-quality assessments to assess students' academic progress and meet students' academic needs, including through differentiating instruction; implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students; providing information and assistance to parents and families on how they can effectively support students, including in a distance learning environment; and/or tracking student attendance and improving student engagement in distance education.

We plan to administer vendor diagnostic tests and high quality classroom assessments to identify learning loss. We plan to identify needs from the results of the assessments and provide differentiated instruction and extended learning options to students. In addition to TBTs and BLTs, we plan to have student attendance, remote learning and family engagement monitored and programs offered to families.

7. Describe the uses of funds for developing strategies and implementing public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators and other staff.

We will offer professional development on health and safety of students, educators and other staff. Funds will be used to implement public health protocols according to our policy.

8. Describe how ARP ESSER Funds have been/will be used for other activities for maintaining the operations and continuity of services in the LEA and continuing to employ existing staff of the LEA.

Funds will be used to employ Sweeper cleaners to maintain cleaning and disinfecting of all buildings and common areas. The district will maintain adequate supplies to sanitize all campus facilities, including busses and student vans. We will monitor the air quality of classroom areas and deploy units to inactivate all airborne microorganisms on contact providing the first line of protection against viruses and bacteria.