

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
4493	138712000	Mingus Springs Charter School

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 - Face coverings will be encouraged or required based on health and safety mandates in place in real time. Face coverings must comply with the school dress code.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Cohorts/grades are kept together during daily activities as much as possible to keep the spread of germs to a minimum. All teachers maintain an updated seating chart for contact tracing.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	All sinks have contactless sensor controlled water flow adapters. Proper hand washing is taught and posters are placed throughout the facility to encourage proper hand washing. In the event that a sink/water is not available, all staff have hand sanitizer dispensers. Students are taught to cough/sneeze into their inner elbow or to change masks if needed and to wash hands and/or sanitize after.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	Daily sanitizing is required in every room. A cleaning person thoroughly cleans all facilities daily. In addition, each classroom/office has an air purifier.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	Contact tracing is in place for all staff and students. Anyone who is in close contact with a confirmed case of covid is quarantined for 10 days. Anyone who has a confirmed case is isolated for 10 days from the date of first symptoms.
Diagnostic and screening testing	N	We were given some rapid Binax tests from the county. These were used for staff members as needed.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	N	Information is given to families if requested on where vaccinations are given in our local community.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	All accommodations necessary are made for any students with disabilities, especially with respect to health and safety.

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Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	We work with local health officials whenever necessary and keep up on current recommendations/mandates.
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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?

In the event of a closure, we will continue to provide academic needs via distance learning (as allowed by local/state mandates) using the platform Google Meets. Food services as necessary will be provided and available at the school site for students. We would also provide in person Special Education during a closure if necessary to provide appropriate services in a safe environment using social distancing and masks as necessary. Teachers and staff would provide paper or print materials for students who do not have sufficient access to internet. We would continue to meet social and emotional needs for students and staff via online platforms and phone calls. Teachers have access to a social/emotional program to help students via the online platform. Teachers and some classified staff members are trained in how to help students with social/emotional /mental health needs and/or refer them to the appropriate agency if necessary. Professional Development in this area has been provided for staff. Staff has paid-time off as necessary for maintaining their own mental/physical health in place.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	In the event of a closure, students will be provided with packets for short term. In the event of a mandated long term closure, students will be provided instruction and academic needs via online instruction from certified teachers as allowed by ADE and/or other governing agencies
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Students SE and Mental Health needs will be met via programs in place within each classroom. In the event of a closure, students SE and Mental Health needs will be met via online instruction within the scope of teacher's abilities. Students and families will be referred to local agencies as needed.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	Food services are provided during in-person instruction. In the event of a closure, food services will be provided and available.

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Staff are encouraged to view/attend webinars to meet their SE and Mental Health needs and/or attend Professional Development as many times as needed to meet the needs of each individual person. PD is selected by each individual depending on the need of each person.
other needs	None

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 7/10/23

Public Input



Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:

The Mitigation Plan is reviewed at a public board meeting and is also available in the front office upon request.

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; 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