

# Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

## Addendum Guidance

### 2022-2023

LEAs are required to update the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan every six months through **Sept. 30, 2023**. Each time, local education agencies (LEAs) must seek public input on the plan and any revisions and must take such input into account. The purpose of the plan is to keep stakeholders informed.

Every LEA should complete the addendum and upload it to ePlan in the LEA document library and post it to the LEA's website (Feb. 15 and Sept. 15). 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.

Please consider the following when completing the addendum:

- Ensure the LEA used multiple models of engagement offered to stakeholders. Examples may include surveys, in-person or virtual committee meetings, town hall meetings, or other inclusive engagement opportunities.
- LEAs should engage all applicable groups noted in meaningful consultation during the crafting of the plan and when making any significant revisions or updates to the plan.
- The number of stakeholders engaged should represent the composition of students. For example, if students with disabilities make up 15 percent of students, then 10-20 percent of respondents should represent this subgroup.
- Ensure the stakeholder engagement happened prior to the development/revision of the plan.
- The LEA must engage the health department in the development and revision of the plan. This is different from providing the health department with COVID-19 numbers.
- Plans must explicitly address every bullet point in Question 3 regarding district policies and strategies.
- Plans require local board approval and public posting.
- LEAs must update the *Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan* at least every six months through Sept. 30, 2023, seek public input on the plan and any revisions, and take such input into account. All revisions must include an explanation and rationale of why the revisions were made.
- All revisions must include an explanation and rationale, with meaningful public consultation and in an understandable format. The American Rescue Plan (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.

## Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan Addendum

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief 3.0 (ESSER 3.0) Fund under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, was enacted on March 11, 2021. Funding provided to states and local educational agencies (LEAs) helps safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students.

In the fall of 2021, LEAs developed and made publicly available a Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan. All plans were developed with meaningful public consultation with stakeholder groups. LEAs are required to update the plan every six months through Sept. 30, 2023, and must seek public input on the plan and any revisions and must take such input into account. LEAs also must review and update their plans and ensure they align with any significant changes to 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.

The following information is intended to update stakeholders and address the requirement.

LEA Name: Williamson County Schools

Date: 8/15/22

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### **1. Describe how the LEA has continued to engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders in the development of the revised plan.**

The district did not significantly revise our plan. We updated pieces of the plan based on actual statistical data after consultations with our Health Advisory Committee. Therefore, we did not hold any additional consultation meetings with other stakeholders.

### **2. Describe how the LEA engaged the health department in the development of the revised plan.**

The district utilized the local hospital, Williamson Medical Center and other consulting physicians who also serve on our Health Advisory Committee. We did utilize the local and state health department's guidelines and revised our illness guidelines and mitigation strategies as much as was possible and practical when the changes were made at the state level.

**3. Provide the extent to which the LEA has updated adopted policies and a description of any such policies on each of the following health and safety strategies.**

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| <i>Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies</i>  |
| School Board approved a COVID-19 protocol to provide student accommodations for students with disabilities to have an equal opportunity to participate in WCS programs, benefits, and services as required by law. |
| <i>Physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)</i>  |
| Continued using cohort groups and podding where possible.  |
| <i>Hand washing and respiratory etiquette</i>  |
| No changes – Please see the originally approved template from the Fall of 2021 to see we did not update policies on this. We continue to emphasize hand washing and respiratory etiquette for good general health. |
| <i>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities including improving ventilation</i>   |
| No changes – Please see the originally approved template from the Fall of 2021 to see we did not update policies on this. We continue to clean and maintain healthy facilities as always.                          |
| <i>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine</i>  |
| Updated our illness guidelines to the CDC guidance for isolation timelines for infection. Adjusted our Illness Guidelines to no longer reflect quarantines based on the state no longer doing contact tracing.     |
| <i>Diagnostic and screening testing</i>  |
| Made self-testing COVID-19 kits available for staff.   |
| <i>Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible</i>  |
| No Change – Please see the originally approved template from the Fall of 2021. Not using ESSER 2.0 funding for this.   |
| <i>Universal and correct wearing of masks</i>  |
| School Board voted to not require masks in WCS in November.  |

**4. Provide a current description as to how the LEA is ensuring continuity of services including but not limited to services that address students’ academic needs and students’ and staff’s social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.**

The district has been able to keep all schools open for in-school instruction with only a few special education early childhood classrooms going remote for a few days during the year. We have continued with a full slate of extracurricular activities, and full-service school nutrition program. Attendance for the district has averaged

in the mid 90s percentile. Our before and after childcare program has also continued to operate during this time.