

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: Jackson Madison County School System

Date: September 7, 2023 _____

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

Jackson-Madison County Schools developed the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan during the 2021-2022 school year. Feedback from community stakeholders was instrumental in developing this plan. Our Superintendent or designee continues to give updates to the public during board meetings as needed. Additionally, "Covid-19 Daily Updates," "Covid-19 Guidance for Parents and Schools," and the district's "Adjustable Safety Protocols" documents are on the district's website. In conjunction with the local health department, the district created "Classroom and School Closure Protocols" to provide real time data to help determine if a classroom or school needed to be closed. In addition, the district complied stakeholder feedback through surveys (a survey form remains in place on our district website) and well as from various community meetings. Principals were encouraged to seek input from the families they serve in their school-based meetings as well. All community members have an opportunity to provide feedback at monthly board meetings during open public comments. A stakeholder feedback form is on the district's website. This feedback is taken into consideration as updates to the plan are made.

9/6/2023: The district's School Health Coordinator stays abreast of any changes in the community to alert the district of recommended changes to schools as it relates to public health concerns.

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

Jackson-Madison County Schools engaged with the local health department daily through the district's Director of Coordinated School Health. Contact tracing for the district's employees and students was conducted through the Jackson-Madison County Regional Health Department (JMCRHD) but is no longer being utilized due to the decrease in cases and readily available vaccinations. The district's Coordinated School Health staff also collects data to support the JMCRHD. Additionally, as it relates to classroom and/or school closures, JMCRHD is consulted prior to closing schools, and the Local Health Department Officer may also determine school closure is warranted for other reasons, including results from public health investigation or other local epidemiological data. However, since our last report in February and the decline in cases within our county, no closures have occurred. The Local Health Department is still in constant contact with our Coordinated School Health Director about ongoing conditions and cases within our community/county/district.

9/6/2023 – Consultation with the JMC Health Department Director is ongoing.

There are no new recommendations from CDC at this time. Continue to follow the most current and updated recommendations by CDC. There is an increase in the number of COVID cases in our area, but thankfully the number of hospitalized is not increasing. Consultation with Dr. Bethany Lawrence at WTH recently for hospital updates. The local Health Department is preparing for the new booster that is coming out this month – September 2023. The ACIP met on 9/12/23 to determine recommendations for it. It is a monovalent vaccine that will have the XBB variant included in it, which is the Omicron variant circulating the most right now. Of course, the new booster will be commercialized, so there will be a charge for it, but we are not sure what that charge will be yet. It should be covered by most insurances and will be covered by Medicare and Tenn Care. The district will continue the magnificent work of safely educating our students while keeping our staff safe and healthy. The district will reach out to the local health department as needed.

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.

<i>Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies</i>
Jackson-Madison County Schools did not make any modifications in this area. The district will continue to provide PPE for our students with disabilities and the staff members who serve them. We will meet provisions of each student's IEP, as well as any students with health issues/concerns. 9/6/2023: Options for wearing a mask continues to be an option for children with disabilities, students with health concerns, and based on parent choice.
<i>Physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)</i>
Jackson-Madison County Schools did not make any modifications in this area. Physical distancing is used whenever possible/achievable with student cohort groups. 9/6/2023: Continuing with above strategy!
<i>Hand washing and respiratory etiquette</i>
Jackson-Madison County Schools did not make any modifications in this area. There is signage in every location for visual reminders. A concerted focus remains on proper handwashing and using hand sanitizer in the absence of soap and water, as well as respiratory etiquette. 9/6/2023: Continuing with above strategy! All schools have hands-free water bottle fountains.
<i>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities including improving ventilation</i>
Jackson-Madison County Schools made a slight modification in this area. The district increased staff assigned for the purpose of COVID cleaning. The district continues to increase cleaning and maintain healthy facilities. We are continuing to apply standards to improve the airflow and ventilation in buildings and encouraging outdoor learning stations as much as possible. The district still deploys our "Covid-19 Response Team" when classrooms and/or schools need to be deep cleaned due to Covid-19. 9/6/2023: Continuing with above strategy!
<i>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine</i>
Jackson-Madison County Schools did not make any modifications in this area. Contact tracing is conducted through the Jackson-Madison County Regional Health Department (JMCRHD). The district's Coordinated School Health staff also collects data to support the JMCRHD. At this time, no contact tracing is being conducted by our local health department due to the decline in cases and availability of vaccinations. 9/6/2023: Continue with previous notation! Added consultation with Health Department staff, School Health Coordinator, and district staff – updated in question #2.
<i>Diagnostic and screening testing</i>
Jackson-Madison County Schools did not make any modifications in this area. At this time, we are not engaging in testing at school facilities. 9/6/2023: No changes!
<i>Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible</i>
Jackson-Madison County Schools did not make any modifications in this area. Vaccines for staff and families continues to be encouraged. 9/6/2023: No changes!
<i>Universal and correct wearing of masks</i>

Jackson-Madison County Schools did not make any modifications in this area. The district continues to emphasize the correct wearing of masks, as well as washing hands and watching distance. These are our “3 W’s.” The district at this time does not require masks as mandatory.

9/6/2023:

Families/students may continue the use of masks as an option, if desired.

- 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.**

Currently, continuity of services includes: • After School Tutoring (Transportation provided) • Summer Camps (Transportation provided) • Credit Recovery options • Universal Screeners and Formative Benchmark Assessments • Truancy Officers • Academic and Behavior Interventionists • Technology Teacher Leaders Stipends • Professional Development for Staff • Extended Learning • Family Support Staff • Crisis Counselors • Trauma-Informed Practices • Social Emotional Curriculum • Weekly meetings with principals • School nurses placed at all school locations • Free breakfast and lunch for all students • Replacing outdated HVAC systems, windows, doors • Replaced traditional water fountains with water bottle refillable fountains • Provided water bottles for all students as needed - Replacing outdated carpet with hard surface flooring

9/6/2023: Continuing above strategies!

Adding a focus on staff wellness by providing bonuses via a “We Care Initiative” targeting social-emotional and physical health.

Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan Addendum Guidance 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 (**March 1 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.