

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Elizabethtown Area School District

Initial Effective Date: 8-10-21 (Next Available Board Approval Date)

Date of Last Review: 8-10-21

Date of Last Revision: 8-10-21

1. How will the LEA, to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?

Prior to the start of the 2021-2022 school year and periodically thereafter, the district leadership and School Board will continue to review the most current guidance from the CDC and PA Department of Health. Based upon the community feedback we obtained in late Spring 2021 from more than 500 participants in an EASD-led ThoughtExchange, as well as the most current guidance from the CDC and PA Department of Health, the Elizabethtown Area School Board and Administration are unified in adopting the following expectations regarding how our schools will operate in the 2021-2022 school year. (*ThoughtExchange is an online crowd sourcing tool that promotes stakeholder engagement through a user-friendly platform designed to allow community members to share their thoughts and ideas on a specific topic affecting our school system and/or community*)

Our expectations are as follows:

1. Our schools will be open for in-person instruction five (5) days a week. Etown Cyber will continue to be available for all families wishing to utilize this option. *This is consistent with how we operated in the Spring of 2021.*
2. Staff and students will not be required to wear face coverings while at school.
3. Staff and students will not be required to be vaccinated in order to work or attend school. (*The district shared multiple communications with both staff and families on the various local opportunities to attend vaccination clinics.*)
4. Staff and students who wish to wear face coverings as a mitigation measure will be permitted to do so – but that will be a personal choice.

2. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services?

Prior to any mitigation efforts being warranted or implemented, we have developed a three prong approach to give families flexibility based on individual circumstances related to maintaining academic continuity. These include both an in-person instruction option and our Etown Cyber (Real-time and/or Independent) learning options. These were developed based on information and feedback gleaned from our community ThoughtExchange and our pilot for the 2020-2021 school year.

The district will maintain industry cleaning standards throughout all of our facilities.

HEALTHY HABITS: We will continue to share simple, yet effective everyday actions to help all of us stay healthy. You can help reduce the risk of getting and spreading viral respiratory infections, including COVID-19, by taking these steps:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Using hand sanitizing stations upon entering the building, common spaces and/or classroom
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home while sick and avoid close contact with others.
- Cover mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash hands.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with the elbow rather than hands
- Use of bottle filling stations

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING: The Elizabethtown Area School District always prioritizes positive connections between our school system, teachers, support staff, and students. Regardless of whether or not a student is enrolled in our in-person or online options, meeting their social and emotional needs is critical to student success. As such, we will continue to periodically gather feedback and data related to our students' well-being and social-emotional learning needs such as mindsets, skills, attitudes, and feelings that help students succeed in school, career, and life.

SUPPORT SERVICES:

- School Counselors will continue to provide resource development, student academic communication, consultation with staff and families, and individual and group opportunities for social and emotional support
- Social Workers/Home School Visitors will continue to provide check-ins, resource support and referrals, consultation, and community linkage recommendations as well as individual and group opportunities for social and emotional support.
- Teachers will continue to provide resource development, student academic communication, consultation with staff and families, and individual and group opportunities for social and emotional support
- EL teachers will continue to provide learner opportunities that include resources, activities, and consultation. EL teachers will continue to provide classroom teachers with supports that include resources, activities, and consultation.
- Special Education teachers and related service providers will continue to provide learner opportunities that include resources, activities, and consultation.

Special Education teachers will continue to provide classroom teachers with supports that include resources, activities, and consultation.

- Gifted Education teachers will continue to provide learner opportunities that include resources, activities and consultation. Gifted Education teachers will continue to provide classroom teachers with supports that include resources, activities, and consultation
- Psychologists will continue to provide resource development, consultation with staff and families, individual and group opportunities for social and emotional support, Evaluation Reports, Re-evaluation Reports
- To address equity concerns related to access in a cyber environment, funds will continue to be allocated to purchase hotspots and to provide students with 1:1 access to appropriate devices by grade level
- Our district maintains a strong EAP program to help support all employees.

If additional mitigation efforts are needed, then, based on our successful mitigation approach during the 2020-2021 school year for in-person instruction, we would plan to implement the following COVID-19 Prevention Plan:

GUIDANCE: We will continue to review the most recent guidance of federal and state agencies like the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as well as our school physician to provide local context to our decision making. Through consultation with our school physician, we will follow the above guidance to the greatest, practical extent possible. Guidance is being received daily.

CLEANING: The District is committed to ensuring our learning environments are safe for our students, faculty, staff, and school visitors. The following proactive cleaning measures will remain in effect:

- Reallocating custodian time away from cleaning non-essential areas that are less likely to contribute to the spread of COVID-19 to focus on high touchpoints like door handles, faucets, water fountains, light switches, technology devices etc.
- Using cleaning chemicals and procedures that have proven effective against viruses like COVID-19.
- Deploying electrostatic spraying systems in each of our school buildings to supplement the enhanced cleaning of high touchpoints.
- Reassigning a staff member to focus solely on cleaning high touch points in our largest building, the secondary school complex.

ABSENTEEISM: District and school administration, along with our health services department, will continue to closely monitor student and staff absenteeism for any unusual trends and make parent contact when necessary. The district will request that families, PLEASE keep their child home if they are sick. Additional flexibility will be provided during this time regarding the number of absences that a child may have during the school year.

FOOD SERVICES: District cafeterias will be evaluated and scheduled based on student numbers that can provide appropriate physical/social distancing and/or protective barriers to the extent possible.

3. **Use the table below to explain 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 policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.**

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>a. Universal and correct wearing of masks;</p>	<p>Our face covering protocols are subject to state mandates and we will comply accordingly. We will review the guidelines from the CDC, DOH and PDE. State mandates are subject to potential automatic adjustments via any of these entities. Face coverings are available for all parties.</p>
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>Our physical distancing protocols are subject to current CDC guidelines and alignment with state mandates from the DOH and PDE. All are subject to potential automatic adjustments via any of these entities.</p>
<p>c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</p>	<p>Our handwashing and hand sanitizing protocols will continue and are subject to current CDC guidelines and alignment with state mandates from the DOH and PDE. All are subject to potential automatic adjustments via any of these entities.</p>
<p>d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;</p>	<p>Our cleaning protocols will continue and are subject to current CDC guidelines and alignment with state mandates from the DOH and PDE. All are subject to potential automatic adjustments via any of these entities. We will alter our ventilation operation as necessary to support more outside air intake.</p>

<p>e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>Our contact tracing, isolation and quarantine protocols are subject to current CDC guidelines and alignment with state mandates from the DOH and PDE. All are subject to potential automatic adjustments via any of these entities.</p>
<p>f. Diagnostic and screening testing;</p>	<p>While there is adequate training for health staff within our county, we as a district do not have the capacity to facilitate diagnostic or screenings. Families would be referred out to primary care providers and/or entities that have capacity to perform this testing.</p>
<p>g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</p>	<p>Same as above, however we have partnered with our local IU and other agencies to provide this service. In addition, we have instituted a communication campaign to promote these community vaccination sites among our employees and families.</p>
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>Students with complex needs or other vulnerable individuals will continue to have specific plans to address safety protocols and procedures; it is understood that these plans must be individualized and comprehensive in order to mitigate risks for students and staff. A full continuum of services will remain available for students who have complex needs, including instruction at home.</p>
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p>The district works directly with our school physician and Penn State Hershey Medical Center. Lancaster County does not have a Department of Health so we will coordinate with the PA Department of Health. If Lancaster County develops a Department of</p>

	<p>Health and/or contracts with LGH/Penn Medicine again for the 2021-2022 school year, we will once again partner with LGH.</p>
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