

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Cocalico School District

Initial Effective Date: July 30, 2021

Date of Last Review: November 15, 2021

Date of Last Revision:

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?**

Cocalico School District offered in-person instruction to all elementary students starting on August 25, 2020. The secondary students began the year in a hybrid model but switched to full in-person instruction in March of 2021. In addition, the District offered virtual education for students in K-12 for the entire school year. During the summer of 2020, the District, led by the pandemic team, developed a comprehensive Health & Safety Plan to address the following areas: (1) Cleaning, sanitization, disinfecting, and ventilation, (2) Social distancing and other safety protocols, (3) Monitoring student and staff health, and (4) other considerations for students and staff. The District followed the health and safety plan for the entirety of the school year even as mandates changed and new or different protocols needed to be implemented. Updates were made as needed to reflect a responsive approach to the pandemic mitigation strategies.

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?**

Cocalico School District offered in-person and virtual learning for the 2020 -2021 school year to address parent concerns related to health and safety. In both learning models, students were able to receive instruction and actively engage in their learning. Through synchronous and asynchronous instruction, students were provided with a continuity of services.

The social, emotional, mental health, and food services were addressed through various methods such as: Student Assistance Program (SAP), individual and group counseling, morning meetings, and advisory periods. For staff, the district provided individual supports, including the district-sponsored Employee Assistance Program

(EAP).

Students' individual health needs were met through the school's Health Services Department. The Food Services Department provided free breakfast and lunch to students each day, as well as participating families throughout the summer months.

The District will continue to provide in-person learning to students during the 2021- 2022 school year. As an alternative to in -person instruction, students may enroll in our virtual program, Cocalico Connections, when appropriate. The district will continue to provide services and programs to address the mental, social, and emotional needs of the children through the aforementioned opportunities. Our Food Services department will continue to provide free meals to students, and staff will be encouraged to participate in EAP if needed

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.

ARPESSER Requirement

- a. Universal and correct wearing of masks;

Strategies, Policies, and Procedures

Masks will be optional in the school setting. Staff and students may wear masks/face coverings for health reasons while in school or at school sponsored events.

Masks will be provided for staff or students upon request.

- b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);

For the 2020-2021 school year, Cocalico School District developed multiple mitigation efforts to promote physical distancing. Procedures were modified to keep students with their cohorts and to limit hallway movement. Additional eating spaces for lunches and additional rooms for instructional purposes were also established.

ARP ESSER Requirement

Strategies, Policies, and Procedures

With mitigation efforts such as capacity limits and social distancing no longer required in the state of Pennsylvania, the District plans to return to most pre-pandemic procedures in classrooms, hallways and cafeterias for the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

Throughout the 2021 -2022 school year, the District will continue to monitor the ever-changing and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to existing, valid, and binding applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, we will evaluate them and update the plan accordingly.

Future modifications to address physical distancing may include :

- Changing the schedule*
- Adjusting seating arrangements and/or maintaining seating charts*
- Establishing student cohorts*
- Reducing travel in the hallways*
- Minimizing large-group activities*

c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ;

Hygiene practices and routines were shared with students and staff throughout the 2020-2021 school year. Procedures were reviewed, signs were posted related to handwashing, and hand sanitizer was available in classrooms, offices, and in large group spaces.

d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation ;

For the 2021 -2022 school year, handwashing procedures will be reinforced and hand sanitizer will be available for use in select locations. Additional cleaning, disinfecting, and airflow exchange actions were implemented in 2020-2021.

These practices may continue based on applicable guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. For

ARP ESSER Requirement

- e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;
- f. Diagnostic and screening testing;
- g. **Efforts to provide** vaccinations to school communities ;

Strategies, Policies, and Procedures

example, the District may take the following actions :

- Clean buildings and buses with an approved disinfectant cleaner.
- Regularly clean and disinfect high touch points (door handles, light switches).
- Use air purifiers in classrooms with larger occupancies.
- Introduce fresh outside air, weather permitting.

The District will continue contact tracing based on PA Department of Health/CDC requirements .

State and federal guidelines will be provided to determine when an isolated or quarantined staff member , student , or volunteer may return to school.

The District will continue to expect that student screening for symptoms will be completed by parents/guardians at home before the start of each school day and that students will remain home if they are ill.

The District will continue to expect that staff will perform symptom screening prior to leaving for work and will remain home if ill.

Any individual on school property or at a school sponsored event who develops COVID-19 symptoms, tests positive for COVID-19, or may be a probable COVID-19 case will be directed to an isolation area until able to leave the property.

The District will maintain adequate personal protective equipment for use when individuals are sick or symptomatic.

The District will make vaccination information available to families if it is provided to us for that purpose from our local partners in the county and/or IU 13 .

ARP ESSER Requirement

- h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and
- i. Coordination with state and local health officials.

Strategies, Policies, and Procedures

Individualized health and safety plans will be developed in collaboration with families, as needed, for students requiring additional accommodations regarding health and safety measures.

The county does not have a local health agency.

Ongoing communication will be maintained with local health experts and state contacts from the PA Department of Health.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Cocalico School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **November 15, 2021**

The plan was approved by a vote of:

6 **Yes**

3 **No**

Affirmed on: **November 15, 2021**

By:



(Signature of Board President)*

Rev. Kevin Eshleman

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed .