

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Cocalico School District

Initial Effective Date: **August 23, 2022**

Date of Last Review: **August, 22, 2022**

Date of Last Revision: **August 22, 2022**

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. Updates were made as needed to reflect a responsive approach to the pandemic mitigation strategies. During the 2022-2023 school year, limited mitigation strategies may be utilized as reflected throughout this plan.

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 and 2021-2022 school years 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 2022- 2023 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.

- 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. These practices may be utilized during the 2022-2023 school year if deemed necessary during periods of excessive absences due to illness.

ARP ESSER Requirement

Strategies, Policies, and Procedures

With mitigation efforts such as capacity limits and social distancing no longer recommended by the state of Pennsylvania, the District plans to return to most pre- pandemic procedures in classrooms, hallways and cafeterias for the start of the 2022-2023 school year

Future modifications to address mitigation efforts may include :

- Changing the schedule*
- Modifying seating arrangements and/or maintaining seating charts*
- Establishing student cohorts*
- Reducing travel in the hallways*
- Adjusting 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.

For the 2022 -2023 school year, handwashing procedures will be reinforced and hand sanitizer may be available for use in select locations. Additional cleaning, disinfecting, and airflow exchange actions were implemented in 2020-2021.

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

These practices may continue based on applicable guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after August 22, 2022. 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 discontinue contact tracing and quarantining based on updated guidance for schools.

State and federal guidelines may be provided to determine when a staff member, student, or volunteer may return to school after testing positive for COVID-19.

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 tests positive for COVID-19, may be directed to an isolation area until able to leave the property.

The District may 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.

Communication with local health experts and state contacts from the PA Department of Health will be initiated as needed.

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 **August 22, 2022**

The plan was approved by a vote of:

Yes 7

No 0

Affirmed on: **August 22, 2022**

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 .