

# Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (ARP Act)



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
4282	070483000	Cartwright Elementary District

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 policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

CDC Safety Recommendations	Has the LEA Adopted a Policy? (Y/N)	Describe LEA Policy:
Universal and correct wearing of masks	Y	The District has made wearing of face-coverings optional for all, in indoor settings and on school buses. Students and staff have the option to wear a cloth or surgical face mask which can be brought from home or available in limited supply at school.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	<p>Community risk levels from the CDC are being monitored to inform decisions on appropriate mitigation strategies related to cohorting and distancing.</p> <p><b>Classroom Layout</b> Community risk levels will be monitored regularly to inform the layout of desks and chairs in classrooms. If risk levels elevate beyond low risk, classroom layout may be rearranged to have all desks facing forward with students facing in the same direction.</p> <p><b>Hallways</b> Hallways may be marked to direct students to stay on one side of the hallway for each direction of travel depending on the current Community Risk Level published by the CDC. Where possible given the school layout, certain hallways may be designated one-way.</p> <p><b>Playgrounds</b> Physical activity continues to be a vital part of a student's school day. Teachers will require students to wash their hands before and after recess. Because each school is</p>



unique, each school may specify playground procedures including use or non/use of playground equipment based on current community risk levels. Shade structures were added to create additional spaces for scholars to be able to congregate.

## **Cafeterias and Other Areas During Lunch**

Schools will primarily serve breakfast in classrooms. We will utilize Community Risk Levels from the CDC to govern social distancing practices in our cafeteria and classrooms. Students will be prohibited from sharing lunch items with each other and, unless there is prior administrative permission, outside food will not be delivered to the school.

When eating in the classroom, students with food allergies may need appropriate accommodations. These may include, for example, taking the student to another location, such as a school conference room or the multipurpose room, with one friend (so long as physical distancing can be maintained in the alternate location).

When eating in the cafeteria or other areas outside of the classroom, increased safety measures may include the following depending on Community Risk Levels:

- Marking areas/tables indicating where students may sit.
- Staff will ensure students sit with a minimum of 3 feet between each other.
- Limit cafeteria seating to the number of seats required to maintain physical distancing while they are eating.
- Students will be prohibited from sharing lunch items with one another and water bottles needed to be purchased to eliminate water fountain use.

Implementation of these strategies will be guided by monitoring of current community risk levels published by the CDC.



		<p><b>Bathrooms</b> Students will enter bathrooms in groups no larger than the number of stalls/urinals in the bathroom. Posters reminding students of proper handwashing techniques will be displayed.</p> <p><b>Front Offices</b> Plexiglas dividers may be installed and adhesive marking placed on the floor to promote physical distancing in the Front Office. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette will continue to be emphasized to promote safe facilities. Community Risk Levels will be monitored to guide implementation of these strategies.</p> <p><b>Extracurricular Events</b> Community risk levels will be monitored to guide decisions about limiting non-essential spectators to indoor athletic events and indoor extracurricular activities. Masks are optional for all indoor athletic events.</p>
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	<p><b>Hand Washing</b> All students and staff will wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol at the following times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• prior to eating breakfast</li> <li>• after being outside for physical activity,</li> <li>• before and after lunch,</li> <li>• after sneezing, coughing, or blowing nose, and</li> <li>• prior to and after removing and putting on a face mask.</li> </ul>
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	<p><b>Protocols for Cleaning and Disinfecting</b> Protocols are established based on CDC and ADE Guidelines along with any federal, state or local orders. These practices are put in place as part of a general scale-up of operations.</p> <p>Cleaning will be maintained to the highest and most consistent standards</p>

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		<p>possible. Custodial schedules will be adjusted to place focus on cleaning and disinfecting routinely high-touch surfaces throughout the day. An EPA-registered hospital grade cleaner and disinfectant will be used daily on frequently high-touch surfaces in all areas, such as door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains/water bottle fillers, desks and learning tools. Supplemental cleaning products may be provided to be used as needed in between classes, at workstations and in common areas depending on Community Risk Levels. Sports equipment and any other shared items (if they are being used) may be cleaned between uses by teachers and/or custodial staff utilizing district-provided approved cleaning products depending on Community Risk Levels. Proper hand washing and hygiene will be practiced at all times to mitigate against the risk of spread of infection.</p> <p>Furthermore, air purification systems have been installed on school buses. Bipolar ionization technology has also been installed on all HVAC units throughout the District to create cleaner and more optimal air quality in classrooms and school buildings.</p>
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	<p>Maricopa County Department of Public Health, in conjunction with the District Risk Manager, will work with Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) to conduct contact tracing on cases which may be suggestive of an outbreak within the district.</p> <p>In addition, a district COVID-19 reporting group receives reported cases on students and staff demonstrating COVID-like symptoms, positive cases of COVID 19, or exposure to individuals with COVID 19 to receive feedback and next steps regarding isolation and quarantine.</p> <p>Community transmission metrics including risk levels of COVID 19 are regularly monitored and utilized to inform</p>

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		mitigation strategies to use in schools consistent with CDC guidance.
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	To further our COVID-19 response within the Cartwright School District, COVID-19 Rapid testing will be available while test supplies last. COVID-19 testing will not be available after 6/30/2023.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	Y	Cartwright School district has been working in collaboration with Maricopa County, Mountain Park Health Clinic, City of Phoenix, Albertson's and Equality Health Foundation to provide as many opportunities as possible for our community to receive the vaccine. The district also partners with its feeder district, Phoenix Union High School District, to continue to offer various opportunities for vaccination.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	Wearing of face masks is optional. If a student who has difficulty breathing, and chooses to wear a facemask, or their parents ask that they wear a facemask, or who is incapable of physically removing the facemasks on his/her own will not wear facemasks, an alternate method of protection will be provided, including the use of a face shield.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	The Cartwright School district has been working in collaboration with Maricopa County Health Department, Mountain Park Health Clinic, Albertsons, Equality Health Foundation and Phoenix Union High School District to provide as many opportunities as possible for our community to receive the vaccine.

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

### How the LEA will Ensure Continuity of Services?

**We will ensure safety protocols/measures/equipment/upgrades are finished so that our facilities will remain open and provide continuity of services in the future. We will ensure we have distance learning available for those that feel it is unsafe to be in "in person". (Options available for parents).**

### Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	Cartwright School District still has a significant need in the areas of math and ELA. While there has been some growth, proficiency rates are very low. Cartwright School District has had a significant decrease in math and ELA achievement during the pandemic. We will ensure our scholars have access to rigorous academic programming to support academic achievement for Math & ELA. Our school district will also ensure that our scholars have access to after school tutoring and we have ensured to increase the pay so that we can ensure to
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	<p>offer sufficient and qualified tutors for our scholars. Tier 2 interventions will be provided in addition to after school tutoring. Scholars may also need extra support in the summer to mitigate learning loss. This will be done in a school-based summer school model.</p>
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	<p>Cartwright School District has hired one counselor per school as well as social workers that will support the social emotional and mental health needs of our scholars. We are going to ensure that all scholars receive tier one social emotional learning in addition to small groups pulled out when needed. We have used additional funds to hire an additional SEL specialist to support scholars who need tier 3 SEL support. We will use resources and training to support.</p> <p>The Cartwright School District will continue with the response to intervention behavioral support staff at each school to support the SEL needs of scholars.</p>
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	<p>Cartwright School District health services has partnered with Maricopa County Health Department to provide free childhood vaccines to all children in need of them.</p> <p>Cartwright School District will purchase resources to support rigorous tier 1 instruction in the form of textbook adoption aligned to Arizona standards in order to reduce learning loss during the pandemic.</p> <p>Our scholars have some gaps and we have hired an acceleration teacher specialist to provide small groups and scaffolded support for grade level standards at each school. There is one person per site to support the learning loss that occurred. This position will terminate in May of 2023.</p> <p>We will ensure that we offer summer school for the summer of 2023 like we did in the summers of 2022 &amp; 2021.</p> <p>The Cartwright School District will ensure scholars have additional small group support by increasing instructional aide support.</p> <p>Scholars need individualized instruction / support / remediation / independent practice and therefore one to one technology was a need. The infrastructure of our technology systems was not equipped and needed upgrading.</p>
<b>Staff Needs:</b>	
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	<p>Cartwright School District has and will continue to ensure that we provide sessions with our medical insurance to support the social, emotional and mental health needs of our staff so that we can ensure they are prepared to work with scholars. If needed we will add additional support.</p>
Other Needs	<p>In order to support and maintain safety protocols as defined above we hired additional COVID 19 deep cleaning custodians to be able to ensure a clean environment for our scholars and staff.</p>

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In order to ensure safety protocols and ventilation we have purchased PPE equipment to include ventilation systems. Equipment has been purchased to sanitize. PPE has been purchased for all staff and scholars.

The LEA must **regularly, but no less frequently than every six months** (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools), **review and, as appropriate, revise its plan** for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services **through September 30, 2023**

<b>Date of Revision</b>	<b>August 15, 2023</b>
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### Public Input

Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	Input was provided by our Parent Advisory Committee. Input was also gathered from the association leadership committee called CAT. The Superintendent often communicated with stakeholders and took their input into consideration. We also had a COVID 19 taskforce composed of staff and parents. This committee was providing input along the way throughout the entire year from March 2020 through March 2021.
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## U.S. Department of Education Interim Final Rule (IFR)

### (1) LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

- (a) An LEA must describe in its plan under section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services—
  - (i) how it 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 policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC:
    - (A) Universal and correct wearing of masks.
    - (B) Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (*e.g.*, use of cohorts/podding)
    - (C) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette.
    - (D) Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation.
    - (E) Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments.
    - (F) Diagnostic and screening testing.
    - (G) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.
    - (H) Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.
    - (I) Coordination with State and local health officials.
  - (ii) how it will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

(b)(i) During the period of the ARP ESSER award established in section Start Printed Page 212022001(a) of the ARP Act, an LEA must regularly, but no less frequently than every six months (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools), review and, as appropriate, revise its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services.

- (ii) In determining whether revisions are necessary, and in making any revisions, the LEA must seek public input and take such input into account
- (iii) If at the time the LEA revises its plan the CDC has updated its guidance on reopening schools, the revised plan must address the extent to which the LEA has adopted policies, and describe any such policies, for each of the updated safety recommendations.

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- (c) If an LEA developed a plan prior to enactment of the ARP Act that meets the statutory requirements of section 2001(i)(1) and (2) of the ARP Act but does not address all the requirements in paragraph (a), the LEA must, pursuant to paragraph (b), revise and post its plan no later than six months after receiving its ARP ESSER funds to meet the requirements in paragraph (a).
- (d) An LEA's plan under section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services must be—
  - (i) In an understandable and uniform format;
  - (ii) To the extent practicable, written in a language that parents can understand or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, be orally translated for such parent; and
  - (iii) Upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent