

Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

Addendum Guidance

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, 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 in the LEA document library and post to the LEA's website (February 1 and August 27). 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.
- 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 of the plan. This is not the same as 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.

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) help 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 September 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 whenever there are significant changes to the CDC recommendations for K-12 schools and to ensure the plan is current. 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: Clarksville Montgomery County School System [00630]

Date: Update January 1, 2022

1. Describe how the LEA engaged in meaningful consultation with stakeholders in development of the revised plan.

CMCSS has continued the work initiated at the beginning of the COVID-19 and associated variants impact on the district. Feedback from stakeholders is on-going with the latest feedback received as the district returned from the winter break January 5, 2022. The district has an active Communicable Disease Team (CDT) that meets each Wednesday to address the ever evolving impact of COVID-19 and mutations on the schools, staff and students of the district; meetings may occur more often if there is an issue to address at specific schools. Communicable Disease Team members include Joey Smith, Montgomery County Health Department Public Health County Director, representatives from Tennova Health Care, Onsite Medical, Director of Schools, Chief Academic Officer, Safety and Health Director, Chief Human Relations Officer, General Counsel, Chief Operations Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Technology Officer, Level Directors, and Director of Accountability. Essentially, CMCSS developed a comprehensive communication and feedback plan. A webpage was created to provide COVID-related updates/information along with an ESSER funding webpage containing an overview video, budget narratives, and the complete budget broken down by section including how funds will be used for COVID mitigation/prevention. A survey was developed, and a link to the webpage and survey was dispatched to all parents/guardians and employees via district text and email notification system, sent to local media (newspaper article July 18), posted on social media (Facebook, Instagram, district YouTube channel), district newsletter (June 10), the Director's Friday Courier – a weekly Board brief (July 2, 19, 23, Aug. 6, 20, 30, Sept. 3, 10, 17, Oct. 1, 8, 22, Nov. 5, 12, 19, Dec. 3, 10, 17, and Jan. 7 and 14) and placed on the district website homepage. The survey for feedback from all stakeholders remains available and active on the district website at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ESSER3-0>. A survey was redeployed in October to garner updated feedback after the first three months of school. Feedback was collected, analyzed, and

reviewed by district leadership to inform improvements to the proposed budget – projects were added, adjusted, or eliminated based on this feedback. The Walton Family Foundation through Beacon Research conducted a family survey regarding the district’s use of relief funding including how funds are being utilized for COVID mitigation/prevention. They solicited feedback from 304 participants over two weeks with a 100% completion rate. The district has aligned activities with the intent and purpose of the funds and fall within the scope of the needs identified during our stakeholder engagement sessions and will continue to solicit input/feedback from stakeholders via: **weekly** Communicable Disease Team (CDT) meetings, **monthly** principal meetings, **fall** strategic work fishbowl, **weekly** SLT/SIT meetings, **monthly** board meetings/**weekly** work sessions, **monthly** commission meetings, **quarterly** community presentations (i.e., Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Clarksville), **monthly** Education Foundation meetings, **monthly** updates with military liaison, and **monthly** stakeholder meetings: Classified Communication Group (1 rep per department), Parent Advisory Council (1 rep per school), Student Advisory Group (1 from each school) and Teacher Communication Group (1 rep per school).

As the district continues to refine the Safe Return plan and the use of ESSER funding to address the identified needs, all updates will be posted to a **dedicated pages on the district’s website**. These webpages will ensure transparency in the district’s plan for keeping students/staff safe and in school buildings as well as to the district’s use of federal funds and provide additional clarification of meeting the needs identified by stakeholders. A new Board subcommittee has been formed and meets **weekly** to discuss/review relief funding applications/budgets (including funds dedicated for COVID mitigation/prevention); stakeholder questions/recommendations can be addressed during these work sessions. Also, any adjustments are communicated to organized stakeholder groups via their regular **monthly** news brief and push notifications utilizing new communication tools, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

CMCSS continues to provide updated information through a variety of processes to include email, text, social media, public entities, and the district web page.

Family Guide to Opening of Schools 2021-22

<https://www.cmcss.net/blog/2021/07/16/family-guide-to-the-start-of-school-2021-2022-school-year/>

- Attendance Policy
- Bus Riders
- COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols
- Curriculum (2021-2022)
- Face Coverings in Schools
- Free Meals
- Graduation
- How to Register
- Meet & Greets, Open Houses, Orientation
- Rezoning
- School Supplies
- Social and Emotional Learning
- Start of School
- Staying Connected with the District
- School Closings
- Technology

Parent Academic Resource Site

<https://sites.google.com/cmcss.net/cmcssparentacademicresources/home?authuser=0>

Health and Safety Overview

<https://www.cmcss.net/blog/2021/05/19/2021-2022-health-and-safety-overview/>

Foundational Literacy Plan

<https://sites.google.com/cmcss.net/cmcssparentacademicresources/elementary?authuser=0>

ESSER

<https://www.cmcss.net/blog/2021/06/10/cmcss-proposed-esser-funds-allocation/>

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

CMCSS has an active Communicable Disease Team that meets every Wednesday at 11:30 pm and additionally as needed to address COVID-19 and the various mutations impact on the district schools and staffing. Joey Smith, Montgomery County Health Department Public Health County Director, is an active member of the team and provides on-going updates to the entire team.

3. Provide to 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>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each need is addressed on an individual basis for each SWD with (a) Mask Recommendations, (b) Hand Washing continuously encourage, (c) Physically distancing encouraged, (d) Facility sanitizing protocols maintained, and (e) The limiting of indoor mass gathering are ongoing.
<i>Physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying opportunities to promote physical distancing when possible in schools including utilizing relief funding to renovate buildings to promote reduced class sizes
<i>Hand washing and respiratory etiquette</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replenishing hand sanitizing stations Encouraging handwashing (signage, staff communication) Mask Recommendation Encouraging self-screening, masks, handwashing, covering sneezes, and staying home when sick for all students, employees, and visitors (written and oral communications)
<i>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities including improving ventilation</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using MERV 13 instead of MERV 9 filters in all buildings Increasing outdoor air ventilation Employing enhanced two-step cleaning throughout buildings Modifying custodial procedures to further increase the focus on two-step cleaning throughout the day and decrease focus on other areas (window cleaning, floor buffing, etc.) Operating mechanical systems (HVAC) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week as possible for each building's situation to further increase filtration Limiting nonessential visitors from the school environment at the discretion of building administrators, to include temporarily not allowing lunchtime visitors Limiting indoor mass gatherings during the school day at the discretion of building administrators
<i>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine</i>
Health departments are the only entities that can order a quarantine and contact tracing is the responsibility of health departments. Schools can exclude students who are symptomatic. MCSS cannot confirm the names of positives or potential close contacts to anyone, and CMCSS cannot quarantine or isolate individuals.
<i>Diagnostic and screening testing</i>
Testing available at our Onsite Employee Health and Wellness clinics for employees and their dependents. The ELC grant has provided buildings with access to additional health staff and screening supplies/resources.
<i>Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible</i>

Universal and correct wearing of masks

CMCSS has strongly encouraged students, employees, and visitors to wear face coverings in common areas and when physical distancing cannot be maintained anywhere in a building or on transportation. A mask mandate with the choice to opt-out makes little difference from encouraging masks, and opt-outs are required by the Governor's Executive Order 84.

- Providing masks in school buildings and on transportation for those who request one

4. Provide a current description as to how the LEA is ensuring continuity of services including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

CMCSS has remained open throughout the pandemic and continues to develop, implement, monitor, and adjust Strategic Work Plans, District Plans, and School Action Plans to ensure students, faculty, and staff have continuing access supports to address academic needs, social emotional needs, mental health needs, and other needs that may arise. This is accomplished by:

*CMCSS has a strong communication and media presence providing all information on accessing supports for needs on the district website [www.cmcoss.net] and across social media platforms. Family Guide to the Start of School (2021-2022 School Year) is posted at <https://www.cmcoss.net/blog/2021/07/16/family-guide-to-the-start-of-school-2021-2022-school-year/#meals>

*CMCSS district and school level support personnel are available and accessible to address student, faculty, and staff needs to include Students with Disabilities, Students with Section 504 plans, and English Learners.

*CMCSS has the following COVID-19 primary mitigation layers in place:

***Using MERV 13 instead of MERV 9 filters in all buildings

***Increasing outdoor air ventilation

***Employing enhanced two-step cleaning throughout buildings

***Encouraging self-screening, masks, handwashing, covering sneezes, and staying home when sick for all students, employees, and visitors

***Identifying opportunities to promote physical distancing when possible in schools

***Replenishing hand sanitizing stations

***Promoting the use of personal water bottles and filling stations while water fountains are shut down

***Establishing School Health Screening Rooms

***Providing vaccination opportunities and COVID-19 testing for employees and their families at Onsite Employee Health and Wellness Clinics

***Updating and implementing the Return to School/Work Flowchart following guidance from the CDC and the Montgomery County Health Department

*CMCSS has a partnership with the Mental Health Co-op to assist students and families with accessing mental health supports.

*CMCSS provides additional academic supports to address learning loss and learning acceleration through before school, afterschool, and summer learning opportunities.

*CMCSS has Military Family and Life Counselors provided to the schools to deliver valuable face-to-face counseling services for military connected within the district schools.

*CMCSS provides primary care, physicals, specialty referrals, lab, infusion services, and behavioral health services to employees and their families. CMCSS Onsite operates a Main Clinic in Clarksville-Montgomery County's Veterans Plaza and five satellite clinics strategically located on CMCSS properties around the community.

*CMCSS has USDA approval to continue serving free meals to enrolled students who are physically on campus through June 2022.