

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

#### **Addendum Guidance**

#### 2022-2023

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, local education agencies (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 it to ePlan in the LEA document library and post it to the LEA's website (Feb. 15 and Sept. 15). 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 and when making any significant revisions or updates to 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 and revision of the plan. This is different from 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) helps 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 Sept. 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 and ensure they align with any significant changes to CDC recommendations for K-12 schools. 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: Clinton City Schools** 

Date: September 1, 2023

1. Describe how the LEA has continued to engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders in the development of the revised plan.

Clinton City Schools maintains open communication with our parents and community members. Information is placed on our social media and website with input opportunities encouraged. Surveys were sent out prior to the 2022-23 school year that indicated parents wanted us to return to normal in-person instruction. Feedback is requested and welcomed at school events such as Sneak Peek, Cook-outs, Parent Conference Nights, etc. The district uses social media to give updates and encourage feedback. The Director of Schools gives monthly updates regarding schools to the School Board, City Council, Rotary Club, and Anderson County Chamber of Commerce. Stakeholders are given the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback at all these meetings.



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

Clinton City Schools has a close partnership with the Anderson County Health Department and the
Regional Health Department. They have been excellent in walking CCS through individual situations and
keeping CCS abreast of the current state guidance. At this time, the state is not tracking individual COVID
cases, nor mandating quarantines. However, they remain available to us when we have questions and
seek guidance regarding a situation. They are also available to assist parents as needed.



### 3. Provide 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.

Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies

Individual accommodations have been made as needed for students with IEPs. This is done through the IEP process. Each individual situation is handled according to the unique needs of the student. Staff members either offer online special education services or students are given compensatory services upon returning to school if warranted.

Physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)

Students are dismissing from individual classrooms in the afternoons. Being in an elementary school, our general logistics naturally lend itself to cohorting. Therefore, all other general routines have been implemented.

Hand washing and respiratory etiquette

Staff members continue to reinforce the importance of handwashing during the day. Students wash their hands as a class at all bathroom breaks and before going to lunch. Students also have access to antibacterial gel to use throughout the day.

Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities including improving ventilation

The CCS maintenance team regularly sanitizes high traffic areas during the day. In the evenings, all classrooms, including desk surfaces and chairs, are sanitized. The bathrooms are also deeply cleaned. CCS administration runs a list of the number of sick absences/check-outs each day and communicates high rates to the maintenance team. These classrooms receive a deeper cleaning in the evening based on this data.

Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine

At this time, CCS is not conducting any contract tracing nor mandating isolation or quarantines. CCS works with individual families who have positive cases to make-up schoolwork or provide any additional supports as warranted.

Diagnostic and screening testing

The ELC Grant has expired which allowed for school nurses to administer COVID tests to students and staff members. At this time, Clinton City Schools is not administering COVID tests at the school. We encourage parents and staff members to seek physicians advice if they are exhibiting COVID symptoms.

Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible

During the 2020-21 school year, CCS held vaccination clinics for all staff members. If a staff member needs to receive a booster, CCS will provide needed release time for that to occur. CCS will distribute any material to parents from the TN Department of Health as requested. However, we remain supportive of whatever decision the parent feels best.

Universal and correct wearing of masks

CCS allows parents to make the decision regarding masks for their children. CCS supports whatever decision parents feel is best for their personal family situation.



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

Clinton City Schools is a 1:1 district and has a plan to move to distance learning if a situation warrants. Annually, all staff members and students conduct a remote learning drill as outlined in Tennessee Code Annotated. Teachers and support staff have a plan of how to move into distance learning for individual, small groups, and entire classes if needed. If a child is out due to COVID-19, they may continue to receive their free breakfast/lunch through a pick-up method. Mental health staff regularly check in on students as needed. CCS is prepared to deliver special education, OT/PT, and speech services virtually if warranted. Compensatory services will be provided if deemed necessary.