

Nenana City School District American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Mitigation Plan Template

[9.8.2023]

Note to Districts

Districts may use the sample template below as a framework for the information to be included in their ARP Act Mitigation Plan. Districts are not required to follow this sample template or framework, but if they include all of the items listed below, they will have incorporated the information required by section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act.



Contact Information

District Information

Name of District: Nenana City School District

District Point of Contact Name: James Patrick Manning

Address (Street, City, State, Zip): PO Box 10, Nenana, AK, 99760

Phone: (907)-832-5464 Fax: (907)-832-5625 Email: pmanning@nenanalynx.org

Assurance Agreement for ARP Act Mitigation Plan

The district assures either:

- a) It will, within 30 days of receiving ARP ESSER funds, develop and make publicly available on the district's website a mitigation plan for the safe return and/or continuation of in-person instruction and continuity of services as required in section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP and in the U.S. Department of Education's Interim Final Requirements, or
- b) It developed and made publicly available on the district's website such a mitigation plan that meets statutory requirements before the enactment of the ARP Act that meets -federal requirements. (The ARP Act was enacted on March 11, 2021)

The district assures that:

- a) It will periodically review and revise its mitigation plan, as appropriate, no less frequently than every six months for the duration of the ARP ESSER grant period (i.e., through September 30, 2023); and
- b) It will seek public input, and take such input into account, on (1) whether revisions are necessary and, if so, (2) the proposed revisions to the mitigation plan.

Before making the mitigation plan publicly available, the district **must seek public comment on the mitigation plan** and take such comments into account in the development of the plan.

Name of Superintendent: James Patrick Manning

Signature:

Date: 9/8/2023



Mitigation Plan

Plan Components

Districts must implement, to the greatest extent practicable, prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff. Describe the extent to which the district adopted policies and a description of such policies on each of the strategies listed below:

1. Masks

Nenana City School

Student and staff masking is optional. At high rates of community transmission, students and staff will be encouraged to wear masks indoors. During times of high rates of community transmission, NCS will attempt to host high risk events in a manner that increases ventilation and decreases risk of transmission, as defined by the CDC. Students who are immunocompromised are encouraged to wear a mask at medium and high rates of community transmission. In order to ensure in-person learning, the school will make reasonable accommodations for any student who is at risk of getting very sick from COVID-19.

Cyberlynx Correspondence School

Masks are an allowable option for staff, students, and guests in the office and masks are readily available at all entrances. Staff, students, or guests will not be required to wear a mask, consistent with CDC guidelines for vaccinated individuals.

Nenana Student Living Center

• NSLC will not require masking of students (Grades 9-12) or staff. Masking will be optional unless directed otherwise by public health and/or TCC.

2. Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/pods)

Nenana City School

Nenana City School encourages all staff, students, and visitors to be respectful of each other and a person's personal space. In accordance with CDC guidelines, NCS encourages all staff and students who are symptomatic or who know they have been exposed to COVID 19 to stay home when they are sick. All reasonable accommodations will be made in accordance with district policies and student and staff handbooks to support student learning regardless of illness.

Transportation: Masks are optional on school buses in accordance with CDC guidance.

Cyberlynx Correspondence School

Due to the nature of the CyberLynx program as an independent and remote learning program, close student contact is inherently rare. During group activities (workshops, field trips, indoor teams), students and visitors are encouraged to be respectful of each other and each person's personal space.

Nenana Student Living Center



3. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

Nenana City School

NCS will teach and reinforce washing hands among children and staff in accordance with CDC guidance: Teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds among students, teachers, and staff. If handwashing is not possible, hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol should be used.

- Sanitation/hygiene stations provided for every classroom or shared workspace.
- Students and staff are encouraged to wash hands upon entering the building and upon entering and leaving respective rooms.
- After using the restroom, students and staff must wash hands with soap and water for about 20 seconds
- Before and after using playground equipment, starting recess, or starting a sports practice or event, students are encouraged to wash hands or use hand sanitizer.
- Ensure soap and water or hand sanitizer are easily accessible near all entry doors, all high traffic areas, in every classroom or other learning space, and anywhere where food or drink is consumed.

Cyberlynx Correspondence School

Appropriately stocked handwashing stations and/or hand sanitizer are readily available in all offices. Signs are posted to encourage proper hand washing and respiratory etiquette. Verbal reminders are provided as necessary, and information and reminders are also included in newsletters and appointment reminders.

Nenana Student Living Center

 Visual reminders are placed throughout the NSLC to encourage proper hand washing and respiratory etiquette. The school nurse will provide regular classroom visits to educate students/staff on proper techniques of handwashing and respiratory etiquette.

4. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation

Nenana City School

Use of the Custodial Care Plan

- Disinfecting of high-touch surfaces and general cleaning of all facilities.
- Maintain and clean all cleaning supplies; rags (microfiber), vacuum cleaners & filters, wet mops, and dry mops.
- Hand washing and gloves to be used during cleaning.
- Electrostatic sprayer with Purtabs solution daily of all touch points throughout the building.
- Set par-stock of all cleaning and sanitizing supplies to have on hand at least one month supply or more at all times (take into consideration how long it takes to receive materials).
- Ventilation Using MERV 13 air filters
- Adjust intake and air replacement cycle to increase uptake of fresh air (as permitted by the extreme cold temperatures of the region during the school year).

Cyberlynx Correspondence School

All offices are stocked with cleaning supplies, and staff is trained in accordance with CDC guidelines for sanitizing. High-touch surfaces are wiped down regularly. All offices are also provided with HEPA air purifiers to supplement the building air-handling system.

Nenana Student Living Center

- Use of the Custodial Care Plan
 - Disinfecting of high-touch surfaces and general cleaning of all facilities.
 - Maintain and clean all cleaning supplies; rags (microfiber), vacuum cleaners & filters, wet mops, and dry mops.
 - Hand washing and gloves to be used during cleaning
 - Electrostatic sprayer with Purtabs solution daily of all touch points throughout the building
 - Set par-stock of all cleaning and sanitizing supplies to have on hand at least one month supply or more at all times (take into consideration how long it takes to receive materials)

Ventilation

- Using MERV 13 air filters
- Adjust intake and air replacement cycle to increase uptake of fresh air (as permitted by the extreme cold temperatures of the region during the school year). Also provided with HEPA air purifiers
- 5. <u>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments</u>

Nenana City School

The school has a screening and isolation room prepared on site.

K-6 and 7-12 student populations will eat meals in different locations.

Cyberlynx Correspondence School

CyberLynx offices will continue to log the names and dates of all student and adult visitors to the office. In the event we are made aware of a positive test for a student or staff member, potential close contacts will be notified that they may have been exposed, and these individuals will be encouraged to seek COVID screening.



Nenana Student Living Center

 In the event a student or staff member tests positive, potential close contacts will be notified that they may have been exposed and these individuals will be encouraged to obtain a COVID screening. Test results will be reported to public health.

6. Diagnostic and screening testing

Nenana City School

NCS may provide testing upon request of a staff member or student who suspects they are sick with COVID-19. During high rates of community transmission, NCS may ask to screen staff and students participating in high risk activities during key times of the year as defined by the CDC. Home screening tests are available for parents and/or staff who request them. Parents are encouraged to contact the school main office or school nurse to request home test kits.

Cyberlynx Correspondence School

Information about nearby testing centers is available at the reception desk to any students or student family members who inquire about testing locally if a COVID-19 exposure is likely or if symptoms are present.

Nenana Student Living Center

 NSLC staff who travel out of state will be encouraged to be tested prior to and following all travel. Home screening tests are available for staff. They will also may be screened and tested when presented with symptomatic at-risk signs of possible illness.

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

Nenana City School

Information on vaccinations is available through the local health clinic and/or the school nurse.

Cyberlynx Correspondence School

All staff have been encouraged to get the COVID vaccine and any eligible boosters and provided the opportunity to obtain vaccinations, even during working hours.



Nenana Student Living Center

- All NSLC staff have been provided the opportunity to obtain vaccinations.
- 8. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies

Nenana City School

Students with disabilities will be considered for modification to the health and safety practices of the school with amendments to IEP's or implementation of a 504 plan, as appropriate.

Cyberlynx Correspondence School

- Students working on-site at CyberLynx will be instructed on health and safety policies. Visual cues and reminders are provided on physical distancing, hand washing/sanitization, and proper respiratory etiquette. Staff will model the appropriate health and safety practices for all students. Based on individual student needs, reinforcement of instruction and frequent reminders will occur.
- Masking is not required unless otherwise directed by local health officials. Should masks be necessary, students with disabilities who are unable to wear a regular mask will be provided with mask alternatives (bandanas, face shields, etc.) or permitted to learn without a mask. All efforts will be made to follow CDC and local health guidelines.
- All District health and safety policies will be made available to parents upon request.

Nenana Student Living Center

- All students at NSLC will be instructed on health and safety policies. Visual cues and reminders are provided on physical distancing, hand washing/sanitization, and proper respiratory etiquette. Staff will model the appropriate health and safety practices for all students. Based on individual student needs, reinforcement of instruction and frequent reminders will occur.
 - Masking is not required unless otherwise directed by local health officials.
 Should masks be necessary, students with disabilities who are unable to wear regular mask will be provided with mask alternatives (bandanas, face shield, etc.) or permitted to learn without a mask. All efforts will be made to follow CDC and local health guidelines.
- All District health and safety policies are available at www.nenanalynx.org and the NCSD app. These will be updated as changes are made

Continuity of Services

Describe how the district will ensure continuity of services including, but not limited to, services to address students' academic needs, as well as the social, emotional, mental health, and other needs of students and staff (e.g., student health and food service).

Nenana City School will operate on a regular schedule with normal routines. The start of the school year will be mostly traditional. The school will provide direct face to face instruction and will address learning gaps as necessary. All students will be supported through a best practice Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) model.

Student engagement and progress will be monitored through a variety of methods. These will include the monitoring of direct teacher contact, benchmarking and progress monitoring assessments, and regular phone calls/emails home. NCSD provides support and connection for students to their classes and peers with in-person learning. NCS will make accommodations on case by case bases for students who may experience extended absences due to COVID-related illness.

Schools will implement Individual Education Plans (IEP) with fidelity and will follow all compliance deadlines. Sites will continue to provide parents with quarterly progress monitoring. NCSD will encourage regular communication between schools and families.

The district will ensure continuity of services in a variety of ways in each of its entities in addressing and meeting the students' academic needs, as well as the critical needs of students and staff in the areas of social, emotional, mental health, and any other areas that are deemed of importance. The district is establishing acceleration programming, through its regular school hours and after-school programs, to help address academic gaps that may have occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Acceleration programming, instead of remediation programming, provides a proactive approach to actively address learning gaps and activate students' prior knowledge, building upon goal setting and focusing on academic growth. This district has also established funds, through ESSER II, in which mental and emotional services can be provided to students. In addition to this allocation of ESSER II funds, the district has surveyed various stakeholders to gather feedback on how to use ARP ESSER III funds to best serve students within the district. The administrative team has reviewed the stakeholder feedback and allocated funds to meet the needs of students and ensure continuity of services. Quarterly administrative meetings will take place throughout the 2022-2023 and 2023-24 school year to once again gather stakeholder feedback on our continuity of services to review and revise as appropriate. The district also has in place, which is regularly reviewed and revised for each of its entities, a SMART Start Plan, which was sent into the AK DEED and DHSS during the 2020-2021 school year, and approved, to serve as a critical document outlining the continuity of services throughout the district. The district's mitigation plan and updated SMART Start plan will be posted on the district's webpage (www.nenanalynx.org) for stakeholders to have direct access to.

Periodic Review

Describe how the district will periodically review and revise its mitigation plan, as appropriate, including a description of how the district will seek public input and take such input into account on (1) whether revisions are necessary and, if so, (2) the proposed revisions to the plan. Important Note: The district must review its mitigation plan no less frequently than every six months for the duration of the ARP ESSER grant period (i.e., through September 30, 2024).

Quarterly, the district's administrative team will monitor, review, and revise the district's mitigation plan for each of its entities to ensure it is being compliant with health and safety recommendations and mandates. As part of the reviewing and revising process of the mitigation plan, the district will also do a quarterly survey before the revision process. Survey stakeholders will include students, parents, district staff, and community members. Any changes to the mitigation plan based on stakeholder feedback and health/safety recommendations will be updated and posted on the district's website to ensure transparency of the plan.

