

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
4390	090204000	Pinon Unified School District #4

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	N	Due to recent changes in COVID-19 mitigations at the federal and local level, face coverings are now optional for student, staff, and community members.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	N	Class sizes will be monitored and students will be distanced to the maximum extent possible. Pinon Elementary and Pinon Middle School, students will have breakfast served in the classroom, and lunch will be in the cafeteria with the maximum extent possible. Pinon High School (PHS) students will report directly to the cafeteria when they arrive at school. Breakfast and lunch will be in the cafeteria with the maximum extent possible of social distancing. Students will not be assigned lockers and passing periods will be increased to four minutes to allow for adequate to safely transition between classes.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Pinon USD will encourage all students to 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Upon arrival at school (use hand sanitizer if there is no sink in the classroom), ● Use of touchless dispensers, ● After being outside for physical activity, ● Before and after breakfast and lunch, ● Prior to leaving school for home, and ● After sneezing, coughing, or blowing the nose. ● Teachers will be required to allow for handwashing time.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	Pinon USD will provide all classrooms and offices with cleaning supplies to disinfect learning and high-touch surfaces. Classrooms will be provided with a hand sanitizer station and placed at multiple sites throughout the school and offices. All bathrooms will remain open and surfaces will

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		<p>be disinfected regularly. Custodians will disinfect the public areas, teachers will disinfect classroom areas during class hours. Pinon USD will use Suprax-10 disinfectant multiple times per day on playground equipment on high touchpoint areas such as swings, climbing structures, and sliding structures.</p>
<p>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments</p>	Y	<p>Pinon USD has procedures in place for contact tracing when active cases are reported. We have isolation rooms at each school site for students to isolate while they wait for a parent or guardian to pick them up. In addition to following CDC guidelines for protocols regarding reported cases, also following specific guidance from Navajo Nation and AZDHS.</p>
<p>Diagnostic and screening testing</p>	Y	<p>We are participating in the symptomatic COVID testing with Indian Health Services. The positive individuals are instructed to follow the isolation/quarantine policy and to follow up with Indian Health Services to determine the time frame they will be required to isolate or quarantine. Our students and staff are expected to adhere to the guidelines as set by the CDC, IHS, and Pinon USD.</p>
<p>Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities</p>	Y	<p>Pinon USD collaborated with the local clinic to set up COVID-19 and Flu vaccination opportunities for our students and staff onsite. We are encouraging our students and families to get their vaccines and will host future opportunities onsite.</p>
<p>Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies</p>	Y	<p>Appropriate accommodations have been implemented to protect vulnerable students and students with disabilities as per school-wide plans. We want to ensure that our students are safe in regards to health and safety protocols. If additions accommodations are necessary, it will be documented in their IEP's.</p> <p>During the intake process, any needed support resources will be identified and IEP Teams will reconvene to discuss services to best ensure student success.</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special Education students may receive take-home specialized instructional materials for ELA and mathematics. Pinon Unified currently provides options for HIPAA approved tele-therapy. English Language Learners will receive all required hours of instruction per ADE guidelines. Gifted students and teachers will have access to problem-based learning resources through their Online Instruction platform.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	<p>We are actively engaged with the Navajo Nation Department of Health Services, Indian Health Services, and Navajo County on a monthly basis. Our Superintendent attends the bi-weekly meetings to assess the current situation and uses the information to refine our mitigation plan.</p>

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?

Pinon USD will ensure continuity of services through various opportunities such as offering in-person learning and online instruction. We will prioritize our students' academic needs and align the necessary resources to ensure our students continue to succeed. Social, emotional, and mental health awareness will be addressed through our Social Worker and School Counselors for our students. Our staff will continue to receive health program services through the Jorgensen's & Brooks services.

Students' Needs:

<p>Academic Needs</p>	<p>All classes will be held in-person unless there is a forced closure of a school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate special education services will be provided per each student's IEP. All classes will continue to be offered, although adjustments may be made to the format, capacity, etc. Furniture will be moved to support more spacing within sites. Program support staff and counselor to provide guidance and answer questions. All technology devices and software are free and are provided by Pinon Unified School District. <p><u>K-8th Grade Students</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have online support tools to enhance their learning. All students will follow an academic instructional schedule, classes are not self-paced. <p><u>9-12th Grade Students</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have a certified subject teacher who will support each student.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use Edgenuity web-based curriculum for coursework. ● All students will follow a structured academic instructional schedule. ● Program support staff and counselor to provide guidance and answer questions.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	<p>Students social, emotional, and mental health needs are addressed through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Onsite counseling with our School Counselors. Additional support and referrals are made to the local Indian Health Services (IHS) clinic as appropriate. ● Mentoring strategies during the school year and after school enrichment programs. ● K-8 Students will also access the Second Step program to address SEL needs and will be use by our Counselors.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	<p>We will continue to provide breakfast and lunch to our students who are enrolled for in person instruction. For afterschool tutoring, enrichment, and athletic programs we will provide dinner for our students before they return home.</p>

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	<p>Pinon USD provides the following services to our staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TELADOC services. This is a 24/7/365 service that allows our staff to access advice from a US Board Certified Doctor by telephone, app, or email with no COPAY. Employees may access these services online or by telephone. ● Jorgensen Brooks Group. This is a free service that we offer our employees. Counseling is offered for in-person meetings or virtual options such as phone calls or video sessions. The sessions are 45 minutes in length with a licensed therapist and is offered for each staff member during the duration of their employment. ● Crisis services are available 24 hours/7 days. Services include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marital Relationship ○ Parent/Child Conflicts ○ Grief and Loss ○ Anxiety ○ Stress ○ Depression ○ Substance Abuse ○ Workplace Issues ○ Gambling ○ Other Concerns
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PUSD purchased Modern Health and Calm subscriptions for all staff members which are available 24/7 as needed.
Other Needs	Pinon USD will continue to support our staff with weekly PLC opportunities, and embedded professional development for Admins and Certified Staff.

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**

Date of Revision	September 1, 2023
Public Input	
Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	<p>Pinon USD’s reopening plan was refined to meet the challenges we encountered with COVID-19 in SY’20-21, SY’21-22, SY’22-23.</p> <p>Plans for SY 2023-2024 are based on the School's general operations and procedures. Plans for reopening were shared during student orientation, school open house events, and student recruiting events, and included in the student handbooks.</p>

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.
- (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; an
 - (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