

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
78966	11-87-06000	Akimel O'Otham Pee Posh Charter School (3-5)

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	Face Coverings (Masks) are optional for all students and staff. These masks may be disposable or made of cloth. Masks must cover nose and mouth. Masks are provided daily to any student or staff member that requests.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Students are grouped in Cohorts. Cohort parameters are established by grade level. Staff and students will maintain a 3ft. minimum social distancing whenever possible. Although it may not be feasible at all times, employees and students will be reminded with announcements and signage.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Staff and students will be reminded to refrain from touching their faces, mouths and eyes, as well as to practice respiratory etiquette. Respiratory etiquette includes covering of coughs with a tissue and throwing the tissue away, sneezing into one's upper sleeve instead of one's hand and washing hands or using hand sanitizer. Staff and students will be reminded to wash or sanitize hands at the following times: after using the restroom, after using shared equipment before and after eating or preparing food, after blowing one's nose, coughing or sneezing. Proper handwashing signage is posted.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	Frequently touched surfaces disinfected with a EPA disinfectant. All school building ventilation systems are operating properly and air filters are changed monthly. Every classroom and office space is equipped with an air purifier.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	The school separates employees and students exhibiting Covid-19 symptoms immediately. If any person exhibiting Covid-19 like symptoms, he/she cannot leave campus immediately, he or she will go to a quarantine area with a supervisor or adult in line of sight. Staff working in the quarantine area wear proper PPE when taking care of the ill. Positive test results are reported to the Tribal Health Department for contact tracing.
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	COVID testing is offered bi-week to students and employees on site.

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Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	Y	Currently the school has hosted 4 vaccination clinics on site for the community. Staff members were provided vaccination by Tribal Health Care.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	Special accommodations, along with compliance of all state, federal and tribal laws, shall be made for students with disabilities or unique medical needs. Where possible, these students should wear mask and maintain a 3ft social distance. Staff will protect the privacy of those students at higher risk for severe illness regarding underlying medical conditions.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	The school has designated a COVID-19 Coordinator. This person is responsible for ensuring that the procedures in the re-entry plan are followed.

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?

Our school is implementing the following measures to ensure the continuity of services being provided to students during the 22-23 school year:

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	The school is committed to providing a high-quality educational experience for all students, while also helping to limit the spread of COVID-19. We are doing everything we can to minimize disruption to learning to ensure that students achieve academic success. Google Classroom is the platform utilized by the school to deliver virtual instructions while the campus is closed. Virtual after school intervention programs and tutoring are available to provide targeted instructional support. The school has provided individual laptop computers to all students and hot spots to those that need internet access.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	The school has a part-time school counselor and a full-time counselor provided by Tribal Health that is available to meet students' social, emotional, and mental health needs and provide resources to students and families. The instructional block schedule allows for daily SEL lessons. For school employees, school has made available the EAP services provided by 3 rd party.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	The school is contracted with Gila River Behavior Health for additional support.

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Social, emotional, and mental health resources are posted within staff and teacher lounge. The Tribal Counselor hosts weekly staff activities to address staff SEL needs as well.
Other Needs	Time is allocated during PD's and PLC's to focus on the wellbeing and mental health of teachers and 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**

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Date of Revision	November 8, 2022
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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:	The re-entry plan was discussed at public board meetings and submitted to Tribal authorities for approval. The plan will continue to be reviewed and revised as needed in future meetings.
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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.
- (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

