



## **Health and Safety Plan Summary: Southern York County School District**

**Revised Launch Date: November 16, 2023**

**2023-2024 Instructional Model:** Total reopen for all students and staff with some students/families opting for distance learning through SYCSD Digital Academy.

Section 2001(i)(1) of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires each local education agency (LEA) that receives funding under the ARP Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund to develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website a *Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan*, hereinafter referred to as a *Health and Safety Plan*.

Each LEA must create a Health and Safety Plan that addresses how it will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff, and which will serve as local guidelines for all instructional and non-instructional school activities during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. The Health and Safety Plan should be tailored to the unique needs of each LEA and its schools and must take into account public comment related to the development of, and subsequent revisions to, the Health and Safety Plan.

The ARP Act and U.S. Department of Education rules require Health and Safety plans to include the following components:

- 1. How will the LEA, to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?**

### **Facilities Cleaning, Sanitizing, Disinfecting and Ventilation**

The District custodial and maintenance staff will be trained in best practices and methods to maintain cleanliness, sanitation, disinfecting and ventilation protocols/procedures including the use of the CDC and State guidelines to maintain safety for our students and staff. The District will utilize supplies meeting specified requirements necessary to implement cleaning, sanitation, and disinfecting protocols. The District's cleaning and safety standards will be monitored on a daily basis by Head Custodians, Head Mechanic and Director of Operations.

### **Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols**

Students and staff will be encouraged to practice proper hygiene with regular hand washing/hand sanitizer use.

### **Monitoring Student and Staff Health**

To mitigate the potential spread of COVID-19, the District will share resources with the school community to help families understand when to keep children home. Parents should complete a symptom screening at home before their child leaves the home that includes a fever, cough, shortness of breath, headaches, body aches, fatigue, loss/altered sense of taste or smell, diarrhea, and runny nose/congestion. Anyone with symptoms present will not come to school. After quarantining, the District will follow CDC, PA Department of Health and PDE quarantine Guidelines. The District Health and Safety Plan will be posted on the school website. Schools will keep documentation of potential COVID-19 cases while awaiting results to determine the need for further action.

### Other Considerations for Students and Staff

The District will consider guidelines set forth by PDE, PA Department of Health, and CDC. If needed, alternatives to face coverings such as, but not limited to, face shields, plastic partitions and other PPE will also be made available. Individual health, attendance, and/or educational plans will be developed for all students with complex needs or other vulnerable individuals. These protocols will include the provision of personal protective equipment as necessary. Additional protocols will include the sanitation of shared surfaces and materials.

**2. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services?**

The District will analyze academic, social/emotional, and staff data to ensure growth in all areas. In the event of temporary school closures due to positive COVID cases, all students, staff, and administration will be prepared to quickly transition into virtual learning. As a part of virtual learning, students will be able to access academic and social/emotional resources and supports. In addition, food services will be accessible to in-person and virtual learners. The District will identify and assign professional staff for digital academy programs to support additional enrollment and other remote learning needs.

**3. Use the table below to explain 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 policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.**

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
a. Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u> ;	The Southern York County School District will follow any state or federal mandate or order for mask-wearing in schools and on buses. Absent a state or federal mandate or order, mask-wearing will be optional.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	Classrooms and common areas will be set up to promote social distancing to the greatest extent possible.
c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u> ;	<p>Students and staff will be encouraged to practice proper hygiene with regular hand washing/hand sanitizer use.</p> <p>To the greatest extent possible, ensure handwashing strategies include washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating and after eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not available use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.</p> <p>Posting CDC handwashing resources that include health promotion materials, information on proper handwashing techniques, and tips for families to help children develop good hand washing habits.</p> <p>Encourage the increase in frequency and opportunities of hand washing and sanitizing.</p>

	<p>Sanitizing protocols for shared items and utilize personal handwashing/hand sanitizer before and after.</p>
<p>d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;</p>	<p>The District will utilize supplies meeting specified requirements necessary to implement cleaning, sanitation, and disinfecting protocols. The District's cleaning and safety standards will be monitored on a daily basis by Head Custodians, Head Mechanic and Director of Operations.</p> <p>Cleaning in student dining areas and cafeteria serving areas will be enhanced in an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.</p> <p>Follow COVID-19 Instrument Cleaning Policies. Teachers will provide students instruction on these cleaning policies prior to resuming instrumental music lessons or classes.</p> <p><u>COVID-19 Instrument Cleaning Policies (NAMM)</u></p> <p>The District custodial and maintenance staff will continue to be trained in best practices and methods to maintain cleanliness, sanitation, disinfecting and ventilation protocols/procedures including the use of the CDC and State guidelines to maintain safety for our students and staff.</p> <p>Increase ventilation on buses and buildings when feasible.</p>
<p>e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>Continue to use the Raptor System for visitor/volunteer log in the event contact tracing is required.</p> <p>District staff will visually monitor for symptoms throughout the school day and any individual displaying symptoms will go to the nurse immediately for isolation and further treatment.</p> <p>School nurses and other healthcare providers will use standards and transmission based precautions when caring for individuals experiencing symptoms.</p> <p>The District will consider CDC and PA Department of Health guidelines for isolation, and generally require:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A person who tests positive for COVID shall isolate from all school activities for five days, and may return if symptom-free on day six.</li> <li>2. A person who experiences COVID symptoms shall isolate for five days from all school activities, but may return earlier with a negative COVID test or a doctor's note.</li> </ol> <p>The District will closely monitor trends in groups of individuals testing positive. If there is an outbreak in a specific group of children (class, team, bus, or school building), the District will consult with a team of epidemiologists at the Department of Health for guidance on when to close a classroom or quarantine a group of students. The epidemiologists may recommend a school closure based upon multiple factors. The District will then consider the recommendations of the epidemiologists.</p>

	<p>The PA Department of Health will be notified immediately to assist the District with risk assessment, isolation, and quarantine recommendations and other infection control recommendations.</p> <p>District staff and students will be permitted to return to school after being isolated or quarantined under the guidelines of the PA Department of Health.</p> <p>Recommended consultation with school nurse upon return from extended absence.</p>
f. <u>Diagnostic and screening testing;</u>	<p>Parents will be assigned/told to complete a symptom screening at home before their child leaves the home that includes a fever, cough, shortness of breath, headaches, body aches, fatigue, loss/altered sense of taste or smell, diarrhea, and runny nose/congestion.</p> <p>School nurses will have the ability to do individual testing when COVID-19 symptoms exist (student and staff) utilizing a rapid antigen test provided by Concentric. Parent permission will be required and subsequently documented; no test shall be administered without parent consent.</p>
g. <u>Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</u>	<p>Vaccinations will remain optional. The District will work with local PA Department of Health and Wellspan Health to provide facilities for vaccinations when needed for those who choose to be vaccinated.</p>
h. <u>Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</u>	<p>When social distancing and other mitigation measures will not be feasible for students with complex needs or other vulnerable individuals, additional safety protocols will be in place for staff working with these individuals. These protocols will include the provision of personal protective equipment as necessary. Additional protocols will include the sanitation of shared surfaces and materials.</p> <p>Accommodations for students with disabilities will be provided in accordance with students' Individual Education Plans or service agreements. Students with complex needs, including but not limited to complex medical needs, will receive additional accommodations in order to meet the requirements as set forth in this Health and Safety Plan.</p>
i. <u>Coordination with state and local health officials.</u>	<p>The District will coordinate with PA Department of Health and PDE to determine potential need for school closure and additional safety measures as a result of positive COVID cases.</p>

## Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

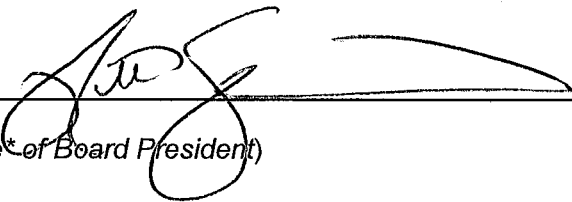
The Board of Directors/Trustees for **SOUTHERN YORK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **NOVEMBER 16, 2023**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

6 Yes  
2 No

**Affirmed on:** November 16, 2023

By:

  
(Signature of Board President)

**Robert Schefter**

*Print Name of Board President)*

\*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

**Option A:** The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

**Option B:** If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.

