



ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan  
Guidance & Template

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Section 2001(j)(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*.

Based on ARP requirements, 90 percent of ARP ESSER funds will be distributed to school districts and charter schools based on their relative share of Title I-A funding in FY 2020-2021. **Given Federally required timelines, LEAs eligible to apply for and receive this portion of the ARP ESSER funding must submit a Health and Safety Plan that meets ARP Act requirements to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) by Friday, July 30, 2021, regardless of when the LEA submits its ARP ESSER application.**

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 include the following components:

1. How the LEA will, to the greatest extent practicable, implement 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 in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning;

2. How the LEA will 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;
3. 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:
  - 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 State and local health departments;
  - f. [Diagnostic](#) and screening testing;
  - g. Efforts to provide COVID-19 [vaccinations to school communities](#);
  - h. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and
  - i. Coordination with state and local health officials.

The LEA's Health and Safety Plan must be approved by its governing body and posted on the LEA's publicly available website by July 30, 2021.\* The 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.

Each LEA will upload in the eGrants system its updated Health and Safety Plan and webpage URL where the plan is located on the LEA's publicly available website.

The ARP Act requires LEAs to review their Health and Safety Plans at least every six months during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. LEAs also must review and update their plans whenever there are significant changes to the

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.

LEAs may use the template to revise their current Health and Safety Plans to meet ARP requirements and ensure all stakeholders are fully informed of the LEA's plan to safely resume instructional and non-instructional school activities, including in-person learning, for the current school year. An LEA may use a different plan template or format provided it includes all the elements required by the ARP Act, as listed above.

\* The July 30 deadline applies only to school districts and charter schools that received federal Title I-A funds in FY 2020-2021 and intend to apply for and receive ARP ESSER funding.

### **Additional Resources**

LEAs are advised to review the following resources when developing their Health and Safety Plans:

- [CDC K-12 School Operational Strategy](#)
- [PDE Resources for School Communities During COVID-19](#)
- [PDE Roadmap for Education Leaders](#)
- [PDE Accelerated Learning Through an Integrated System of Support](#)
- [PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#)

## Health and Safety Plan Summary: **Philadelphia Hebrew Public Charter School**

**Initial Effective Date: 8/1/2021**

**Date of Last Review: 9/19/2022**

**Date of Last Revision: 9/19/2022**

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?

[Please click here](#) for the most updated COVID policies communicated to families for the 2022-23 school year. The health and safety of our team, students, family, and community has been at the forefront of our decision making process since the onset of the pandemic. The Strategies, Policies, and Procedures below includes the operational strategies to protect our team, students, and families. Please note that the Health & Safety Plan below builds on our 2020 PHP Reopening Plan and 2021 Hybrid Reentry Guide, which included extensive investment in health and safety protocols, training, and monitoring. The plan now aligns with the most recent guidance from the CDC and Philadelphia Department of Public Health that balances the most effective ways to prevent the spread of COVID with the urgent in-person educational needs of students.

Additionally, Hebrew Public and PHP have developed, implemented, and revised a comprehensive guide of action and communication plans to deploy immediately based on a variety of scenarios. Further, we have developed both a Pandemic Emergency Closure Action Plan and a Reentry Emergency Action Plan to guide the systems and procedures for both closing school suddenly and then a smooth transition back to offering in-person hybrid learning.

These plans will continue to be updated based on the most recent city, state, and federal guidelines, as published in these resources:

- [Philadelphia Department of Public Health](#)
- [Pennsylvania Department of Education](#)
- [Center for Disease Control](#)

- 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?

Philadelphia Hebrew Public has successfully ensured continuity of services throughout the pandemic. Since the 2021-22 school year, we have been in full in-person instruction. This year, aligned with recommendations from the CDC and the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, we have returned to a schedule built based on the instructional needs of students and not around social distancing.

PHP will continue to prioritize staff wellbeing. PHP's benefits plan offers staff access to mental health providers covered by health insurance. PHP offers 80 hours of paid time off for 10-month staff, as well as paid leave for any staff who contract COVID for up to two weeks. Further, we have established partnerships with TalkSpace, an online therapy provider made available to all staff and members of their families. PHP provides weekly professional development to staff and offers affinity group spaces.

- 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   |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Universal and correct wearing of <a href="#">masks</a> as aligned with requirements from the CDC and the Philadelphia Department of Public Health during periods of</b></li> </ul> | <p>In periods of high spread or vulnerability as determined by the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, face masks or coverings must be worn by any adult or student at all times while inside the school building except when eating or drinking, when instructed to remove by a nurse or other staff member, or if a student has an exemption on the basis of health or developmental need. Extra disposable face coverings will be kept on site to distribute to students or staff who forget their masks. Schools will distribute, at a minimum, one reusable mask to each staff member and student.</p> <p>The School may allow students to remove their face coverings for a brief period of time. These “mask breaks” can be offered throughout the day, at a school’s discretion. The frequency of mask breaks may vary by grade level within a school.</p> |

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| <p><b>high spread;</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mask breaks should not last for more than five minutes.</li> <li>● Mask breaks can only occur when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Students are outdoors or in well-ventilated areas.</li> <li>○ Students can remain at least six feet apart.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Mask breaks shall be those times when students are eating or drinking. Additional mask breaks can be granted on a case by case basis.</li> </ul> <p>If a student can medically tolerate a face covering but needs additional support towards compliance, the school should provide additional adherence support and additional break explore the use of alternative personal protective equipment (PPE), and ensure other risk mitigation strategies such as handwashing and physical distancing are adhered to while the child progresses towards compliance. Students shall not be required to participate in remote-only instruction as they progress towards compliance.</p> <p>Parent or student disagreement with the face covering requirement is not an acceptable basis for relaxation of the face covering requirement. Students who do not comply with the face covering requirement for reasons not based on a documented medical, social-emotional, or developmental impairment, and notwithstanding the school's provision of a face covering and support towards compliance, will be required to participate in remote-only instruction.</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#"><u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</u></a></li> </ul> | <p>Students and staff will be expected to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer often and follow best practices. Reminders of proper hand washing techniques will be posted throughout the building and in every bathroom.</p> <p>Teachers will be expected to reinforce messaging around frequency and best practice with students. Teachers will provide opportunities for students to wash or sanitize hands - while maintaining appropriate social distance - particularly whenever the following criteria are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Upon entry into and exit from program space</li> </ul>  |

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|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● When coming in to the program space from outside activities</li> <li>● Before and after eating</li> <li>● After sneezing, coughing or nose blowing</li> <li>● After touching or cleaning surfaces that may be contaminated;</li> <li>● After using any shared equipment like math manipulatives, computer keyboards, mouse</li> <li>● Before entering vehicles used for transportation of children</li> <li>● Before and after changes of gloves</li> </ul> <p>To help prevent the spread of respiratory disease, we communicate to staff and families to avoid close contact with people who are sick. If a staff member or student is ill at school, they will distance themselves from others so they do not spread germs. Distancing includes staying home from work or school when possible.</p>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b><u>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;</u></b></li> </ul> | <p>Under the supervision of our Director of Operations, our custodial team will implement a rigorous schedule for ongoing and routine environmental cleaning and disinfection. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A master schedule that allows for cleaning and sanitizing as frequently as possible, particularly after group usage and prior to a new group accessing space</li> <li>● Focus on high-touch areas (door handles, stair rails, faucet handles, toilet handles, playground equipment, drinking fountains, light switches, desks, tables, chairs, kitchen countertops, cafeteria and service tables, carts, and trays)</li> <li>● Use of a specialized sanitizing mister with EPA approved disinfectant on a daily basis</li> <li>● Creating an PPE inventory management schedule/chart for checking and refilling: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Hand sanitizing stations</li> <li>○ Hand washing supplies</li> <li>○ Classroom/Office Hygiene Kits</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Staff will be trained to clean and disinfect key parts of their classrooms/offices at the end of each school day. These will include the following:</li> </ul> |

- Phones
- Document cameras
- Remote controls
- Speakers
- Laptops & tablets
- Office Equipment
- Desk
- Chair back and armrest
- Isolation/potential exposure room cleaning protocols:
  - When the ill student has been picked up and the Isolation Room is empty, the Isolation Room must be closed for 24 hours before a deep cleaning can occur in accordance with Philadelphia Department of Public Health guidance.
  - The area/classroom where the student was showing symptoms must be closed to everyone for 24 hours prior to cleaning. A deep cleaning of the area/classroom must be performed after 24 hours.
- CDC and Philadelphia Department of Public Health guidance shall be followed. At times where federal, state, and local guidelines may not align, PHP will follow most recently published guidelines from the Philadelphia Department of Public Health.

PHP partnered with its landlord, IronStone, to complete an HVAC and airflow analysis. The school made significant investments in the fall 2020 in enhancing our already strong ventilation system by increasing intake and exhaust of fresh air to the maximum extent, including:

- Installation of increased fresh airflow into each classroom (with temperature control to manage humidity at optimal level to prevent COVID-19 spread)
- Installation of enhanced exhaust mechanisms to pull air from classrooms and ensure continuous supply of fresh air.
- Dedicated fresh air fan for CAFE OLAM and gym, with additional access to sliding

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|  | <p>doors for fresh air (weather permitting)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Hospital-grade air filters (MERV 13) changed every 90 days.</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</b></li> </ul> | <p>Hebrew Public schools shall follow all guidance from applicable government bodies (including PA Department of Education, PA Department of Health, and Philadelphia Department of Public Health) about mandating remote learning or work, or PTO/excused absences, for individuals with confirmed or suspected COVID cases, and those who have been exposed to others with confirmed or suspected COVID cases. School Leadership will follow detailed guidelines outlined in the Hebrew Public COVID Scenarios guidebook that provides directions on specific responses to various scenarios according to the following guidelines:</p> <p><b>Isolation Room</b></p> <p>Philadelphia Hebrew Public has a designated room as a private isolation room that can be used for isolation in the event of any person presenting symptoms. Upon entry, students will be screened for temperature. If students display an elevated temperature, they will be isolated to be further examined by the nurse. Upon examination, if the student displays COVID symptoms, they will remain in isolation observed by the school nurse until they have been picked up by a parent or guardian. In the event of a student in isolation, the nursing office will be open only in case of emergency.</p> <p>Upon the arrival of the student’s guardian, the student will be escorted by a leadership team member to the visitors’ entrance for pick-up by the guardian. The leadership team member will advise the student to visit a doctor and get tested for COVID-19, and provide the information of the closest testing site.</p> <p>The Operations Team will follow up with the family regarding the ill student’s condition daily. The Director of Operations will ensure that the incident involving the ill student is reported to the Philadelphia Department of Health by calling (215) 686-5200.</p> |

### **Positive Case or Exposure**

In the event of a positive case or exposure of a member of the Philadelphia Hebrew Public, the Leadership Team has a comprehensive action plan and checklist to put into place to immediately identify, contact trace, isolate, and report cases in conjunction with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health. Possible scenarios built into this action plan include:

- **Exhibiting COVID symptoms or tested positive for COVID:** Individuals who exhibit symptoms that may indicate COVID, including fever above 100 F, or who have tested positive for COVID must follow the following protocol:
  - Any individual (student or staff member) showing signs of COVID-19 can only return to school when all the following conditions are met:
    - Received a positive COVID-19 test AND
    - Isolated for 5 days AND
    - The individual has been fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication and overall symptoms are improving AND
    - Wears a well-fitted N95 or equivalent mask for Days 6-10
  - OR**
  - Received a negative COVID-19 test AND
  - The individual has been fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication and overall symptoms are improving, and
  - Wears a well-fitted N95 or equivalent mask for Days 6-10
- OR**
- Never got a COVID-19 test AND
- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms started AND
- The individual has been fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication and overall symptoms are improving.

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Exposure:</b> Students who have been established as a “high-risk” exposed to someone with a positive COVID case wear a well-fitted mask from Days 1-10 from last exposure, even if the exposed individual does not present symptoms. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Hebrew Public will assist all PDPH investigations and follow all PDPH protocols and recommendations around cohort closure, school closure, and other preventative actions.</li> <li>○ Protecting student and staff privacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ HIPAA, PA DOE, and PDPH mandates will be followed,</li> <li>■ Names and other identifying characteristics of those who have a confirmed or suspected case of COVID will not be revealed to students or parents.</li> <li>■ Only staff who need to know for contact tracing purposes will be informed of the names of those who have a confirmed COVID case.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ When 1 or more confirmed cases are reported within a school building, Philadelphia Hebrew Public will be in close contact with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health to determine school shutdown protocols. PHP will follow the PDE recommendations below but a decision will be made at the directive of PDPH.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b><u>Diagnostic symptomatic testing;</u></b></li> </ul>                        | <p><b>Symptomatic Testing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Successful COVID mitigation strategies include access to regular testing. PHP will continue investing in onsite symptomatic testing for students and staff as part of our robust health and safety planning.</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b><u>Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</u></b></li> </ul> | <p>Philadelphia Hebrew Public has invested heavily in staff vaccination campaigns, including arranging a vaccination clinic and scheduling appointments for all team members. We have maintained records of all staff vaccination cards to keep on file. We are pleased to currently have 100% vaccination status among staff, and are supporting remaining team members to get boosted as soon as possible, including providing paid time off for any symptoms.</p>  |

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|  | <p>As soon as the vaccine became available to students between ages 5-11, PHP partnered with the Visiting Nurses Association to host two onsite COVID vaccination clinics to maximize accessibility to families. Weekly announcements included resources to access additional vaccination appointments.</p> <p>For families, we will continue to provide and champion vaccination opportunities to protect their loved ones and community. We will provide these through our translated platforms, such as ParentSquare, to ensure families receive information in their home language.</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</b></li> </ul> | <p>The school may determine, through the exemption process described below, that a student cannot medically tolerate a face covering. School staff may also determine that a student can only minimally tolerate a face covering due to a documented social-emotional or developmental impairment. No student shall be excluded from school or busing for these reasons. A parent must seek an exemption from the face covering requirement where a specific medical condition prevents the student from wearing or tolerating a face covering at all.</p>                                  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Coordination with state and local health officials.</b></li> </ul>   | <p>Philadelphia Hebrew Public will stay in close contact with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health and monitor updates in guidelines (<a href="https://www.phila.gov/programs/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/guidance/guidance-documents/schools-guidance/">https://www.phila.gov/programs/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/guidance/guidance-documents/schools-guidance/</a>)</p>  |

**Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement**

The Board of Trustees for Philadelphia Hebrew Public Charter School reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on September 22, 2022

The plan was approved by a vote of:

5 **Yes**

0 **No**

Affirmed on: **September 22, 2022**

By:



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*(Signature\* of Board President)*

Klissa Thomas

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*(Print Name of Board President)*

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