

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
4458	120235000	Santa Cruz Valley Unified School District No. 35

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	As of March 14, 2022 face coverings are optional for all staff, students and community members (who may be on a campus). This change is in response to the decline in transmission rates for Santa Cruz County along with CDC face covering recommendations as of February 25, 2022.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	N	As of August 2, 2021, the District has been operating in a traditional brick and mortar environment and we are following a full week schedule with all services provided in-person. The District continues to have plans in the place for remote and/or hybrid learning should the need arise.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	N	Handwashing continues to be emphasized for all staff and students.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	N	All school sites will be deep cleaned each day prior to students and staff arrival as well as after their departure. In addition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restrooms will be sanitized daily by custodial staff. School staff will be provided with sanitizing training and protocols for frequent sanitation within the classroom environment. All water fountains will remain on. Recess will be permitted and students will wash their hands prior to and upon exit of the playground. High traffic areas will be sanitized daily using a Power Breezer. High Traffic Areas include: Front Office, Restrooms, MPR, Library, Cafeteria and Gym Classrooms will be cleaned and sanitized.

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		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Trash will be taken out daily 2. Classroom will be vacuumed weekly 3. Touch Points will be cleaned and disinfected <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Student Desks - Teacher Desks - Chairs - Door Handles - White Boards
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	N	In the event a positive case is reported by the Health Dept. The District follows the recommendation of the contact tracer. Positive or Sx individuals may be quarantined and or isolated depending on Vx status.
Diagnostic and screening testing	N	The District continues to offer testing to our students and staff as needed at no charge. Furthermore, we continue to promote and host vaccine clinics.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	N	SCV35 continues to assist the Santa Cruz County Health Department and Mariposa Community Health Center with promoting and planning vaccine clinics. We also started a telemedicine program to address specific symptoms or non-emergency individuals.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	<p>Policy IHB In accordance with IDEA the District shall provide appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities as determined by their respective IEP.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contact all parents/guardians of students with IEPs to determine preference for distance learning, need for internet/device, and provide a personalized opportunity for questions/concerns 2. Organize caseloads to reflect distance learning needs 3. Communicate plan with Case Managers 4. Case Managers to call to follow-up with parents/guardians and set up IEP meetings 5. Hold IEP meetings 6. Provide services as determined either in person, online or a combination taking into consideration IEP team and LRE needs.
Coordination with State and local health officials	N	The District meets on an “as needed” basis with the Santa Cruz County Health Dept and monthly with the COVID response team to ensure that transmission rates are monitored along with any CDC guidance updates. We also have “as needed” emergency meetings if community transmission data changes.

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**

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How the LEA will Ensure Continuity of Services?

SCV35 will ensure continuity of services by ensuring that all of our sites are open and available to all students, including special needs students, to the fullest extent allowable within CDC guidelines.

In SY24, distance learning will remain an option for all students in 6-12 grades with the majority of students attending in-person school. Meal services are normal during in-person school.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs

Google Classroom provides a digital solution for managing both remote and in-person student work. Google Classroom provides one platform for classroom communication, record keeping, assignments, etc. Other more traditional methods are also used to ensure all students - remote or in person - have access to the information they need. **Each school continues to staff at least one full-time counselor** and one full-time parent liaison to further assist students and families in meeting student academic needs.

All five SCV35 school sites continue to assist students with acclimating to the campus environment and otherwise developing their social and emotional skill set for ease of learning. All sites continue to emphasize relationship-building both peer to peer and staff to student. All sites are engaged in gathering and organizing student academic data to best maintain tiered interventions.

Sites continue to explore and implement various forms of Instructional Time Models (ITMs) or Flexible Seat Time strategies to provide students with more targeted, small group or personalized remediation support.

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs

Through various funding sources, additional counselors have been added such that each site now has at least one FTE counselor. One Assistant Superintendent oversees our district-wide counseling program to ensure high quality interventions are available consistently for all students. In addition, a full array of co-curricular activities are offered on all sites to promote a culture of inclusiveness for all students.

The District also provides wrap-around support services for all students to address special, emotional and mental health needs. Students are provided training, support services, direct counselor meetings, community referral services and personalized support to ensure that all students have the tools and information to effectively manage and understand their social, emotional and mental health needs. The District has an established student study team process that assists our trauma informed care team with direct referral services to Intermountain behavioral health and also facilitates and collaborates with the provider and family to provide support within the school environment. The trauma informed care team also works

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	directly with students and families to develop wellness plans, 504 plans, behavior plans and mental health services plans.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	No additional service needs have been identified.
Staff Needs:	
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Increased and on-going training for staff on benefits and resources available to them. In addition to access to personal leave as needed, all employees and their household family members have access to our Employee Assistance Program at no charge. Services available include mental, financial, legal counseling services, work/life resources and referrals, teen line and crisis case support (suicide, domestic violence, dependency, abuse). Staff who subscribe to the medical plan also have access to mental health and counseling as well as telehealth. This service is provided by the medical insurance carrier for all staff and their household members. The EAP provides private consultations regarding a host of physical, financial and emotional needs. When necessary, our HR Director works directly with employees seeking FMLA time off to ensure a smooth transition.
Other Needs	The District allows for Increased flexibility from principals and supervisors across all sites and departments including the ability to work from home as position duties allow, as well as regular reminders from the HR Department regarding the various services available to staff at no charge.

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	11-8-21, 4-12-2022, 10-11-22, 4-11-23, 9-12-23
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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:	<p>Initially, we hosted multiple Community Forums: Student Vaccination Town Hall - November 1st, Q&A livestream Back to School Update - July 21, livestream May 5th Learning models livestream July 27th, ESSER study session, Board Meeting July 28th - Website posting and letter home regarding Mask Policy update</p> <p>In addition, our Communications Office coordinated emails and school messenger communication with families. Administratively we held weekly leadership meetings with site and district administration and one of our Assistant Superintendents regularly engaged with outside state and county agencies.</p> <p>During the 2021- 2022 school year, the District provided weekly updates to the Governing Board while maintaining a COVID Update item on our twice-monthly Governing Board meeting agendas to allow for public input. Furthermore, we promoted and solicited feedback through social media</p>
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posts, community forums, and school site council meetings. At the school site level, we continued to promote in-person learning with our families.

Throughout the 2022-23 school year, the District has provided updates to the Governing Board, as needed, during our public Governing Board meetings. This also allows for public input. At the school site level, we continued to promote in-person learning with our families while directly answering any questions they may have.

At the start of the 2023-24 school year, the District will provide a final update to the Governing Board on our Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan. This public meeting will serve as an opportunity for public input, as well.

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).

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- (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