



Health and Safety Plan Summary Wallingford-Swarthmore School District

New Effective Date: August 16, 2021

Approved Date: August 2, 2021 (Board Approved - First Revision)

June 19, 2021 (Board Approved - Initial)

Date of Last Review/Revision: August 2, 2021

Date of Last Revision: N/A

- 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?**

The School District implemented a health and safety plan throughout the 2020-2021 school year using mitigation strategies supported by the CDC, PA Department of Health, CHOP Policy Lab, and other health agencies. These strategies were successful in supporting the larger public health initiative to slow the spread of COVID-19 and to protect our District community, especially those at increased risk for severe illness. Further, our District supported vaccination clinics for our teachers and staff and led vaccine clinics for students.

Even though the Order of the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings was lifted on June 28, 2021, the District must still follow the Federal Order issued by the CDC in January 2021. This Order requires face coverings for anyone, regardless of vaccination status, being transported on school buses and vans operated by public and private school systems as a means of public transportation.

Our District will continue to review the latest guidance from the CDC, the PA Department of Health, CHOP Policy Lab and other health agencies. This information will assist the District when reviewing our mitigation strategies for effectiveness. The guidance will also be used to revise our health and safety plan as necessary. The chart below provides strategies, policies, and procedures to be used within the District.

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?

Curricular teams have met to discuss student learning gaps. Professional development days will have all grade level and subject area staff analyze data and end of the year instruction and achievement. Teams will meet to prioritize missed instructional concepts and/or strengthen concepts previously taught. Universal screeners will be used at the beginning of the year as in the past. The continuation of interventions and remediation strategies were included in the planning. Increased support services were identified through the special education department. Our summative and formative assessment data will allow us to determine student learning gaps and we will fill in those gaps with high quality instruction.

We have developed a continuity of education plan that has multiple options for students that would lend itself to our students' educational needs. We have increased supports for students. Our special education staff and Administration have worked tirelessly to provide supports for vulnerable populations and families. Some aspects of these supports, which include student physical and mental health and food services, are through our homeless liaison, home and school visitors, school social workers and counselors, and through our student services team.

In addition, the district has developed an Emergency Instructional Plan to meet the 180 day state requirement in case of an emergency closing.

[Emergency Instructional Plan 2021-2022.pdf](#)

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.

Mitigation Strategy (ARP ESSER Requirement)	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>a. Universal and correct wearing of masks;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a result of the transmission rates as of August 16, 2021, the District will require universal masking while indoors on campus for all K-12 students, District staff, visitors and contractors regardless of vaccination status. If Delaware County, according to CDC data (or the Wallingford Swarthmore School District catchment area, if that data becomes available), rises above the threshold of 50 or more cases per 100,000 over a 7-day period, as reflected in weekly reporting by the PA Department of Health, WSSD will institute universal indoor masking within all District buildings. This mandate would be lifted if we fall below this threshold and sustain reduced rates for a two-week period.

Mitigation Strategy (ARP ESSER Requirement)	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the 2021-2022 school year, the District will monitor community transmission and positivity rates in Delaware County to determine when universal masking will be lifted. • Once threshold levels decrease and remain stable for 2 weeks, students and staff in grades K-6 will still be required to be masked while indoors on campus. • While on campus, individuals are not required to wear masks outdoors. • Masking on District buses and vans is required by the Federal Order issued in January 2021. Federal Order Transportation • Individuals who cannot wear a mask due to a medical condition, including those with issues that may impede breathing, a mental health condition, or disability or individuals for whom wearing a mask may create an unsafe condition to execute a task are exempt from wearing a face mask. • Any masking mandate or order as dictated by the Federal Government or the PA Department of Health would override the policies and procedures listed.
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School buildings and offices will allow for full occupancy with three (3) feet of physical distancing to the greatest extent possible. • Buses will operate at full capacity. Physical distancing will be done to the greatest extent possible. • Elementary buses and classrooms will utilize assigned seating. • Weather permitting, outdoor seating will be available for lunches. • District buildings will limit nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations, particularly in areas where there is moderate-to-high COVID-19 community transmission. • The District will not limit access for direct service providers, but can ensure compliance with school visitor policies. • The District will consider any additional recommendations from the CDC, the PA Department of Health and other health agencies for additional mitigation strategies when these recommendations are available.
<p>c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best practice encourages hand washing prior to meals and snacks, after meals and snacks, transition back to class from being outside, after using the bathroom, and after blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing. The District will encourage our students, staff, and contractors to implement these best practices.

Mitigation Strategy (ARP ESSER Requirement)	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The District will have hand sanitizer available in strategic locations of high traffic areas. • The District will post signs in buildings reminding students, staff, and visitors of proper respiratory etiquette.
<p>d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The District utilizes EPA Approved Disinfectants for use against COVID-19. There will be routine cleaning of our buildings, classrooms, common areas, and office spaces. • If there is a case of COVID-19, a cleaning and disinfecting of the area will take place. • The District will ensure ventilation systems operate properly and enhance ventilation for cafeteria, gyms and auditoriums. The District will change filters regularly for these systems. • The District will encourage the circulation of outdoor air by opening windows and doors when safely possible. • Weather permitting, roof vents and windows will be open on District buses and vans to increase fresh air circulation.
<p>e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and Local Health Departments;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The District will report all confirmed cases of COVID-19 to the PA Department of Health on the prescribed template for such instances. • The District will provide the PA Department of Health as required, a list of close contact(s) of individuals who were in contact with the COVID-19 positive individual while at school to the best of its ability. • The District will support and implement public health guidance on isolation and quarantines. The District has adopted the modified quarantine as outlined by the CDC and PA Department of Health. PA Ending Isolation-Quarantine.pdf • Any student, staff or contractor, who has tested positive for COVID-19 or is a probable case, shall notify the building nurse and their direct supervisor or principal immediately. Guidance on isolation will be provided to the individual. • Any student, staff or contractor, who was in close contact with a COVID-19 positive case, must notify the building nurse and their principal or direct supervisor immediately. These individuals will be provided guidance whether to isolate or quarantine as per guidelines of the CDC or the PA Department of Health. • Any positive cases identified through District contact tracing will be listed on the District COVID dashboard located on the District website.

Mitigation Strategy (ARP ESSER Requirement)	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The District will follow its <i>Immunization and Communicable Diseases</i> Policy for guidance on communicable diseases as COVID-19 is classified as such. • The District requires staff and contractors to self-screen prior to reporting to work, programs, and schools and to stay at home if experiencing any symptoms as outlined below. (Group A/B) • Parents and guardians are required to self-screen their child prior to reporting to school or programs and keep their child home if experiencing any symptoms outlined below. (Group A/B) <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><u>Group A (1 or more symptoms)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of smell or taste • Cough • Shortness of breath • Difficulty breathing <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><u>Group B (2 or more symptoms)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sore throat • Chills • Muscle pain • Fever • Headache • Congestion or runny nose • Nausea or vomiting • Diarrhea <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff, children, students, and clients who are ill <u>must stay home</u> from work, schools and programs. • Staff, children, students, and clients <u>shall be sent home</u> if they become ill at work, school or program. • Anyone, including visitors, who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as flu or COVID-19, should stay home and seek testing and care, regardless of vaccination status. • Students, staff and contractors shall report immediately to their immediate supervisor/principal if they are COVID-19 positive or were in close contact with a person who has COVID-19. These individuals will be provided guidance whether to isolate or quarantine as per guidelines of the CDC or PA Department of Health. • The District may implement a rapid antigen testing program for individuals who become symptomatic during the program, school or working hours.

Mitigation Strategy (ARP ESSER Requirement)	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The District will maintain adequate personal protective equipment for use when individuals become ill: gowns, N95 face covering, eye protection, gloves.
g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The COVID-19 vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. People who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are at low risk of symptomatic or severe infection. The District encourages all existing and eligible students, staff, and contractors to consult with a physician regarding the COVID-19 vaccine. The District will provide information to families on vaccine clinics and/or how get a COVID-19 vaccine for their child or family member. The District will work with local agencies to support and/or coordinate local vaccination clinics for the community as necessary.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For students with disabilities with a medical diagnosis that requires a prescribed health and safety plan, the IEP may reconvene to develop a specially designed instruction or strategies meet the needs of the student. For more information on accommodations for students with disabilities, please see CDC Disabilities and Accommodations.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The District will report cases of COVID-19 and its efforts on contact tracing with the PA Department of Health. The District will consult with the PA Department of Health on specific cases or issues as needed.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors for **the Wallingford-Swarthmore School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **August 2, 2021**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

Yes

No

Affirmed on: **August 16, 2021**

By:

(Signature of Board President)*

(Print Name of Board President)