

Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan Addendum Guidance 2023

LEAs are required to update the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan every six months through **Sept. 30, 2023**. Each time, local education agencies (LEAs) must seek public input on the plan and any revisions and must take such input into account. The purpose of the plan is to keep stakeholders informed.

Every LEA should complete the addendum and upload it to ePlan in the LEA document library and post it to the LEA's website (**March 1 and Sept. 15**). 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.

Please consider the following when completing the addendum:

- Ensure the LEA used multiple models of engagement offered to stakeholders. Examples may include surveys, in-person or virtual committee meetings, town hall meetings, or other inclusive engagement opportunities.
- LEAs should engage all applicable groups noted in meaningful consultation during the crafting of the plan and when making any significant revisions or updates to the plan.
- The number of stakeholders engaged should represent the composition of students. For example, if students with disabilities make up 15 percent of students, then 10-20 percent of respondents should represent this subgroup.
- Ensure the stakeholder engagement happened prior to the development/revision of the plan.
- The LEA must engage the health department in the development and revision of the plan. This is different from providing the health department with COVID-19 numbers.
- Plans must explicitly address every bullet point in Question 3 regarding district policies and strategies.
- Plans require local board approval and public posting.
- LEAs must update the *Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan* at least every six months through Sept. 30, 2023, seek public input on the plan and any revisions, and take such input into account. All revisions must include an explanation and rationale of why the revisions were made.
- All revisions must include an explanation and rationale, with meaningful public consultation and in an understandable format. The American Rescue Plan (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.

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan Addendum

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief 3.0 (ESSER 3.0) Fund under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, was enacted on March 11, 2021. Funding provided to states and local educational agencies (LEAs) helps safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students.

In the fall of 2021, LEAs developed and made publicly available a Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan. All plans were developed with meaningful public consultation with stakeholder groups. LEAs are required to update the plan every six months through Sept. 30, 2023, and must seek public input on the plan and any revisions and must take such input into account. LEAs also must review and update their plans and ensure they align with any significant changes to 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.

The following information is intended to update stakeholders and address the requirement.

LEA Name: TENNESSEE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

Date: September 1, 2023_____

1. Describe how the LEA has continued to engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders in the development of the revised plan.

BCHS - Through meetings, direct outreach, and open forums, Bluff City engaged the community, guardians, staff, students, and local organizations to gather critical input on current policies, including their impact and effectiveness.

CPD, CPS, and LESTER Prep under Capstone Education Group - CEG has engaged the community for input gathered from the following forums: stakeholder surveys, parent/family engagement nights, Title 1 meeting, TSIP meetings, open houses, board meetings, public review of audit, staff handbook, student/family handbook.

No updates have been made in the last six months based upon stakeholder feedback.

KACPE and KACPM under KIPP Nashville - We continue to engage staff and caregivers around policies and procedures that will support learning and ensure the health and safety of all students and staff. Input was solicited from caregivers and staff before shifts were made in the policies and procedures.

NASHVILLE COLLEGIATE PREP - The school hosts regularly scheduled parent meetings, and comprehensive community outreach to diverse communities in multiple languages. Once the planning was completed for the ARP Plan, the school provided a survey to stakeholders to receive feedback on the budgeted items.

LIBERTAS SCHOOL - In previous years, we provided extensive stakeholder engagement related to Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services. These stakeholders included our local health department in addition to Libertas families, teachers and staff. Our school has been an exemplar of how to safely serve students during the pandemic and beyond. At this time all relative policies are incorporated into our general health policies. For specific policies related to Covid19, we refer our families to federal CDC guidance to follow. We have a school improvement planning team that includes teachers, support staff, and parents. This group meets multiple times per month and monitors all of our goals and progress and discusses adjustments we will make Furthermore, our board includes parents and community members, and oversees our plans and policies throughout the year. (We also have surveys at least twice a year of all parents and staff members.) In the past, we published updated guidance and procedures about public health, all of which were vetted with the stakeholder groups described above.

PROMISE ACADEMY - Promise Academy Elementary School's approach to complying with the ESSER 3.0 requirements was characterized by a commitment to meaningful consultation with stakeholders at every stage of the plan's development and revision. This inclusive and transparent process helped to build trust within the community, ensured that the plan remained responsive to evolving needs, and ultimately contributed to the safe and effective operation of the school during the ongoing pandemic.

2. Describe how the LEA engaged the health department in the development of the revised plan.

BCHS - Bluff City ensure all policies and practices abide by the Shelby County Health Department directives and guidelines.

CPD, CPS, and LESTER Prep under Capstone Education Group - CEG representatives contacted the Shelby County Health Department (SCHD) soliciting feedback on current plans via phone and email that was posted on the SCHD website. Most recently, SCHD was contacted via phone resulted in messages asking for a call back to discuss plans with no returned calls. Email messages were sent were also not returned.

KACPE and KACPM under KIPP Nashville - The Director of Student Health continues to consult with the health department as needed.

NASHVILLE COLLEGIATE PREP - monitored the Metro Health Department as it relates to the state department of health as we created the school's policy.

LIBERTAS SCHOOL - We previously worked regularly with both the Memphis and Shelby County Health Departments. The City provided "test to protect" for many months, ensuring regular on-site testing for the majority of our population, helping us to manage quarantine / isolation. The County regularly reviewed our precaution plans and advised us on requirements and options to incorporate into our plans. Both assisted with vaccine info and access.

PROMISE ACADEMY - The Memphis Shelby County Health Department asked each school within its jurisdiction to submit our plan directly to them for review and feedback which we did. The plan was approved without additional feedback.

3. Provide the extent to which the LEA has updated adopted policies and a description of any such policies on each of the following health and safety strategies.

<p><i>Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies</i></p> <p>BCHS - No disability accommodation policies have been updated in the last six months.</p> <p>CPD, CPS, and LESTER Prep under Capstone Education Group - No updates have been made in the last six months.</p> <p>KACPE and KACPM under KIPP Nashville – <i>Individual health plans have been created for all students who have chronic health conditions.</i></p> <p>NASHVILLE COLLEGIATE PREP - <i>Accommodations will be made to individuals with certain disabilities or that are at high-risk for infection. Accommodations will include but not limited to no mask requirement, and online instruction alternative as opposed to in-person instruction.</i></p> <p>LIBERTAS SCHOOL - We routinely consulted guidance from US CDC, TN Dept of Health, and local health department to draft policies; shared them with board members and staff for feedback; and shared with parents through a variety of communication formats.</p> <p>Federal, state and county guidance have changed significantly. In the past, we provided ample accommodations, including at-home and online special education and therapy services as appropriate, and (for those who submitted appropriate doctor’s notes at the right point in time), limited (e.g. 2-3 students) exceptions from masking policies when possible. We also communicated extensively with our community members about how we can be consistent to protect everyone, but also how to make exceptions for those who needed them.</p> <p>At this time federal, state and local authorities are not requiring masking.</p> <p>PROMISE ACADEMY -, Promise Academy successfully adapted and revised policies to accommodate children with disabilities while prioritizing health and safety during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. This commitment to inclusive and flexible practices ensured that all students had equitable access to education and a safe learning environment.</p>
<p><i>Physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)</i></p> <p>BCHS - No physical distancing policies have been updated in the last six months.</p> <p>CPD, CPS, and LESTER Prep under Capstone Education Group - No updates have been made in the last six months.</p> <p>KACPE and KACPM under KIPP Nashville – The use of cohorts (homerooms) is used to the extent possible.</p> <p>NASHVILLE COLLEGIATE PREP - In our community model, we maintain each grade level in their individual classroom and building that serves as its own cohort model.</p> <p>LIBERTAS SCHOOL - We routinely consulted guidance from US CDC, TN Dept of Health, and local health department to draft policies; shared them with board members and staff for feedback; and shared with</p>

parents through a variety of communication formats. Federal, state and county guidance has changed significantly. In the first full year back, we educated a significant portion (about one third) of our students online because, with social distancing requirements, we could only accommodate up to two thirds of students in the classrooms. We also used cohorts / podsto limit exposure and potential spread. As those requirements relaxed, we welcomed all students back into the building and no longer required cohorts/pods.

PROMISE ACADEMY - Social Distancing and Classroom Arrangements: To accommodate students with disabilities, especially those who require close physical assistance or proximity to educators, the school revised classroom arrangements and made adjustments to social distancing guidelines when necessary. This was done while ensuring safety through other measures like regular testing and enhanced ventilation. We invested in desk shields for every desk and masks for students and adults.

Hand washing and respiratory etiquette

BCHS - No hand washing and respiratory etiquette policies have been updated in the last six months.

CPD, CPS, and LESTER Prep under Capstone Education Group -
No updates have been made in the last six months.

KACPE and KACPM under KIPP Nashville -

Students and staff must frequently and thoroughly wash their hands throughout the day. Hand sanitizer will be in every room and additional stations strategically placed throughout the school.

NASHVILLE COLLEGIATE PREP - Students, teachers, and staff shall practice frequent hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water is not readily available, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol may be used. Hand washing will be required before and after touching eyes, nose, mouth, or mask; meals or snacks; and coughing or sneezing.

LIBERTAS SCHOOL - We routinely consulted guidance from US CDC, TN Dept of Health, and local health department to draft policies; shared them with board members and staff for feedback; and shared with parents through a variety of communication formats.

Hand washing and respiratory etiquette are long-standing parts of Montessori “grace and courtesy” curriculum, pre-dating the pandemic. Children continue to receive lessons in these.

PROMISE ACADEMY - We invested in sanitation stations througouth the building and in classrooms. Teachers made daily hand-washing and hand sanitizing a part of their daily routine.

Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities including improving ventilation

BCHS - No cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities policies have been updated in the last six months.

CPD, CPS, and LESTER Prep under Capstone Education Group -
No updates have been made in the last six months.

KACPE and KACPM under KIPP Nashville -

Schools are cleaned and disinfected each evening.

NASHVILLE COLLEGIATE PREP - The school shall adhere to CDC guidance on ventilation of the school to improve air quality such as ensuring HVAC systems are maintained, adjusting the HVAC system for fresh air, and opening windows. The school will use EPA-registered disinfectants that are active against SARS-COV-2. The frequency of sanitation will be increased in high volume areas and objects such as doorknobs, light switches, toys, equipment, and restrooms. Staff will be required to wear gloves and surgical mask when performing cleaning activities.

LIBERTAS SCHOOL - We routinely consulted guidance from US CDC, TN Dept of Health, and local health department to draft policies; shared them with board members and staff for feedback; and shared with parents through a variety of communication formats. During the first full year after the pandemic, we did multiple times daily disinfecting with advanced chemicals on all surfaces students touch throughout the day. As those recommendations changed, we reduced that in 21/22 however we continued to provide thorough daily cleaning and disinfecting. We also upgraded all of our air filters to MERV 3 and continue to maintain these.

PROMISE ACADEMY - We employed daily deep cleaning and disinfecting high traffic areas; hallways, classrooms, stairwells, etc. We employed additional staffing to ensure that our facility was cleaned and sanitized throughout the school day.

Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine

BCHS – No contact tracing updates have been made in the last six months.

CPD, CPS, and LESTER Prep under Capstone Education Group - No updates have been made in the last six months.

KACPE and KACPM under KIPP Nashville – follows updated CDC guidance.

NASHVILLE COLLEGIATE PREP - *If an individual is showing symptoms, has a temperature of 100.40 degrees Fahrenheit, have been in contact with an individual who has COVID-19, or test positive shall remain at home. Over the next 14 days, the individual shall monitor their health and isolate from others in the household. Per CDC guidance, individuals may return to the school wearing a mask for 5 days after a 5 day isolation period if having a confirmed case.*

LIBERTAS SCHOOL - We routinely consulted guidance from US CDC, TN Dept of Health, and local health department to draft policies; shared them with board members and staff for feedback; and shared with parents through a variety of communication formats. Once again, federal, state and county guidance have changed significantly. In 20/21 and into the fall of 21 we did intensive contract tracing to facilitate, isolate and quarantine. By spring of 2022 the state health department changed its guidance about isolation and quarantine such that in school exposures were viewed in a different light compared to at home exposures. We continued to refer people to the state's guidance matrix and we did enforce isolation or quarantine periods in coordination with staff and families based on that updated guidance. We currently follow CDC guidance and provide information to families regarding vaccines.

PROMISE ACADEMY - We designated areas in our building for any person who may have tested positive for Covid-19. These areas and the schools were deep cleaned and sanitized daily. We followed CDC and local health department guidance as it related to isolation and quarantine.

Diagnostic and screening testing

BCHS – No updates have been made in the last six months.

CPD, CPS, and LESTER Prep under Capstone Education Group -

No updates have been made in the last six months.

KACPE and KACPM under KIPP Nashville –

Students who develop a fever or symptoms during the day will go to the Care Room until they are picked up. Parents are requested to make every effort to pick up their students as soon as possible. - An “At-Home Symptom Check” checklist is provided to families, and is available in English, Spanish, and Arabic. Rapid covid tests have been available at school for anyone who is present and symptomatic.

NASHVILLE COLLEGIATE PREP - *Screening will include, but not limited to, thermometer scans at the entrance of the school, visual inspection to locate signs of COVID, and asking students and teachers a series of questions to identify if any symptoms or contact has occurred. Individuals who have a fever of 100.40 degrees Fahrenheit, show any signs, or have answered questions affirmatively. If a student needs to be sent home the school will isolate the student until the parent is able to pick up said student.*

LIBERTAS SCHOOL - We routinely consulted guidance from US CDC, TN Dept of Health, and local health department to draft policies; shared them with board members and staff for feedback; and shared with parents through a variety of communication formats.

As described above, we conducted extensive testing in 2020 and 2021. We still have testing available on site when needed, although most testing is now referred through community partners.

PROMISE ACADEMY - Promise provided free, weekly testing for students and adults since Fall of 2020. This program concluded in Summer 2022. We employ a full-time nurse who led the testing program in partnership with our local health department and a national testing grant that was made available through federal funds.

Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible

BCHS - No efforts to provide vaccination policies have been updated in the last six months.

CPD, CPS, and LESTER Prep under Capstone Education Group -

No updates have been made in the last six months.

KACPE and KACPM under KIPP Nashville –

Staff and students are encouraged to get vaccinated/boosted for the COVID-19 virus but are not required to do so.

NASHVILLE COLLEGIATE PREP - *School is not applicable to provide vaccinations.*

LIBERTAS SCHOOL - In the past, we routinely consulted guidance from US CDC, TN Dept of Health, and local health department to draft policies; shared them with board members and staff for feedback; and shared with parents through a variety of communication formats.

We worked with the district and made special schedules so that staff who desired could get vaccines during or after the school day. We provided info to families about community vaccine options.

PROMISE ACADEMY - Promise Academy provided on-site vaccinations to scholars and adults who signed consent forms and received clearance from physicians on site. We partnered with ShotRX a mobile vaccination unit approved at the state and local level.

Universal and correct wearing of masks

BCHS - No mask wearing policies have been updated in the last six months.

CPD, CPS, and LESTER Prep under Capstone Education Group -

No updates have been made in the last six months.

KACPE and KACPM under KIPP Nashville -

Use of masks is optional.

NASHVILLE COLLEGIATE PREP - Employees, guests, and students are not required, but are allowed and not discouraged from wearing masks when in the building. Individuals that will be exempt from wearing a mask are young children under the age of 2 or will not tolerate wearing a mask by constantly playing with or chewing on their masks; anyone who has trouble breathing, unconscious, incapacitated, or unable to remove their mask without assistance; anyone who has certain disabilities who cannot safely wear a mask; personnel for whom wearing a mask would create a risk to workplace; and individuals who are fully vaccinated. Individuals who are wearing a mask will wear on that is fitted, covering the mouth and nose and follows the material recommendations made by the CDC.

LIBERTAS SCHOOL - We routinely consulted guidance from US CDC, TN Dept of Health, and local health department to draft, policies; shared them with board members and staff for feedback; and shared with parents through a variety of communication formats.

Once again, requirements for masking has changed significantly in the past few years.. Previously, we fully enforced the state and local mandate. Once the state and local government changed their policy, we accommodated families and staff who continued to mask as well as those who opted out.

PROMISE ACADEMY - We revised our policies on mask wearing for student and adults and developed a Covid-19 Policy Manual with all directives, updates, and CDC guidance on masking. Masks were/are available to students and adults at no cost.

4. Provide a current description as to how the LEA is ensuring continuity of services including but not limited to services that address students' academic needs and students' and staff's social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

BCHS - For the 2023 – 2024 school year Bluff City High School has been fully in-person learning and providing complete programming. To further services provided, Bluff City High School has added a social worker, and a student support specialist to the staff. Bluff City High School has also contracted with Lavinia Group to tailor learning and PD to better meet COVID student needs.

CEG schools began operating in-person in November 2020. All students have been in-person since the beginning of SY2021-22. As such, CEG continues to provide students and staff with supports that address students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, student health and foodservices. Each CEG school has access to a fulltime counselor and nurse to address mental, emotional, and health needs. Multiple reward celebrations and staff appreciation events throughout the year address student and staff social needs, respectively. Food service provides free breakfast and lunch to all students through the Community Eligibility Program.

KACPE and KACPM under KIPP Nashville –

KIPP maintained and increased our full scope of intervention and mental health supports for this school year to ensure students, families, and staff members felt fully supported. In addition, we increased our health staffing to ensure nursing staff remained available full time at our schools.

NASHVILLE COLLEGIATE PREP - The school will still provide meals to students in need and additional technology support to students and teachers to provide access to academic curriculum and programming in case of closure or rise in COVID-19 cases.

LIBERTAS SCHOOL - Our TSIP includes extensive discussion of how we address academic and social-emotional needs for at-risk students. Our Child Study team ensures that no child slips through the cracks; anyone who is off-track for academics, behavior, or attendance is referred to this team for intervention and monitoring.

We have a large and multi-function "Attachment Village" support team that includes a licensed social worker, licensed counselor, and special education paraprofessional who respond and work proactively to implement restorative and therapeutic practices in the classroom; This group has reached out and made numerous home visits to help increase access for families who might have barriers at school. Similarly, our special education team includes not only teachers but also clinical therapists, who on many occasions have provided distance or in-person service.

Food service: in addition to providing 2-3 meals plus snack per day throughout the pandemic to on-site learners, we also provided pick-up / take-home food for distance learners who desired it during the time when we had distance learning. We also worked with community partners to have emergency food supplies for families to pick up during that time as well.

Finally, regarding staff, we launched an Employee Assistance Program early in the pandemic that was utilized by multiple staff and received very positive feedback.

PROMISE ACADEMY -