

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
4426	10-87-01-000	Hermosa Montessori Charter School (HMCS)

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	Y	Face coverings are optional on Hermosa's campus and at school-sponsored events. HMCS will not tolerate any harassment or discrimination arising from or related to students or staff wearing a face covering. Included is the link to Hermosa's comprehensive Mitigation Plan: http://hermosaschool.org/COVID-19/Hermosa%20Montessori%20Mitigation%20Plan%202021-22.pdf
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Staff members will educate and remind students to maintain distance between individuals at all times when possible. Where possible, students will remain with the same groupings or cohort, and the same staff throughout the day. Social distancing protocols may be "relaxed" when community monitoring reveals lower levels of community spread of COVID-19. Outdoor porches will be converted to classroom space to further allow separation of students.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	All students and staff will wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, at the following times: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● upon arrival at school ● before and after lunch ● after sneezing, coughing, or blowing nose ● after being outside for physical activity
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	HMCS has doubled the number of hours our janitorial staff work, ensuring daily cleaning of bathrooms, door handles, tables, and other frequently touched surfaces. The heating and cooling systems have been reviewed, adjusted and are in compliance with CDC guidelines. New fans and hand dryers with virus killing lights have been installed.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	Per CDC Guidelines, any staff member or student with 3 feet of an infected person for more than 15 minutes in a 24-hour period is quarantined. Pima County Health Department is notified for contact tracing.

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Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	Testing is encouraged when a student has been identified as a close contact or is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. Testing is required for any staff who has been in close contact or is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	Y	HMCS provides information to the population regarding where to receive vaccinations.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	HMCS provides accommodations for students with disabilities as determined appropriate, based on the individual's needs and according to their IEP.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	Employees or students who have developed COVID-19 symptoms or had a positive COVID-19 test may not return to the site until: At least 10 days have passed since the first symptoms emerged; and at least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery, which is defined as either: § (a) resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; and (b) full resolution of respiratory and other COVID-19 symptoms; or § (a) resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; and (b) substantial improvement in the resolution of respiratory and other COVID-19 symptoms. Hermosa School continues to follow CDC and local health department guidelines and reports all confirmed COVID-19 cases that occur at school.

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**

How the LEA will Ensure Continuity of Services?

HMCS implemented a number of provisions to ensure continuity of high-quality services as and continues to follow our comprehensive Mitigation Plan.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	Additional instructors were hired for the 2021-2022 school year to support academic recovery in the core areas.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	HMCS will implement Project Achieve, an evidence based social-emotional learning program. When need is indicated, HMCS will contract with local mental health providers.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	Before leaving home, a parent or guardian is encouraged to check their child for symptoms associated with COVID-19 or any other contagious illness that would prevent them from attending or remaining at school. Parents must communicate information regarding symptoms of contagious illness to school personnel. Students will have the opportunity to make up work missed due to symptoms of illness.

Staff Needs:

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Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	School administration will work with teachers and support staff to identify social, emotional, and mental health needs throughout the school year, and these needs will be addressed on an individual basis.
Other Needs	

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	09/30/2021
Public Input	
Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	Hermosa requested public comments on three separate occasions in July, August, and September 2021 via the Governing Board meetings. Agendas were published every month on the website. Hermosa also has an email address, www.hrt@hermosaschool.org , that collects and responds to questions, concerns, and comments from our parent population. These comments and concerns were also taken into consideration during the revision of the plan.

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).

- (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