

# Health and Safety Plan Summary: Solanco School District

Initial Effective Date: July 30, 2021

Date of Last Review: June 19, 2023

Date of Last Revision: August 23,

2021

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 Solanco School District School District opened school to students on August 31, 2020. In preparation for this, the district formed multiple tasks forces to engage in thorough and exhaustive planning for in-person instruction, which resulted in the development of the Solanco 2020-21 Health and Safety Plan. This plan outlined comprehensive safety measures in place for the return of students and staff to buildings. These safety measures included the following:

- (1) cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilation
- (2) social distancing, wearing masks, and other safety protocols
- (3) monitoring student and staff health
- (4) other considerations for students and staff

The school district remained vigilant for the entirety of the 2020-2021 school year in the implementation of this Board-approved PDE Health and Safety Plan for Reopening Schools. As the requirements and guidelines for safety measures changed frequently throughout the school year, the district was responsive and adjusted accordingly.

For the **2023-2024** school year, we will continue to monitor the ever-changing and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after **June 19, 2023**. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after **June 19, 2023**, we will **review** them and update the plan accordingly.

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?

Given that the Solanco School District offered multiple choices for instruction to families during the 2020-2021 school year (in-person learning, remote learning, and learning through its virtual academy), students were actively engaged in their academic studies throughout the school year. Through the provision of

synchronous and/or asynchronous instruction during days when the schools needed to close due to COVID-19 cases (and required case investigation, contact tracing, and cleaning), the continuity of services were ensured to students.

The social, emotional, and mental health of students were addressed through a variety of ways, such as counseling, class meetings and advisory periods, student clubs, etc. For staff, the district and individual schools provided individual and collective supports, including a district-sponsored EAP plan. This was further accounted for by the forming of Solanco Emotional Health Task Force in July, 2020 (and subsequent implementation of recommendations).

Students' health needs were met individually through the school's Health Services Department. The Food Services Department provided breakfast and lunch to students each day of the school year, as well as interested families throughout the summer months.

The district will continue to provide in-person learning to students during the upcoming **2023-2024 school year**. If families seek the option for their student(s) to receive online academic work instead of in-person learning, they can enroll their student in the district's virtual academy (known as the Solanco Virtual Academy). The district will continue to provide social, emotional, and mental health support to students in the same venue. If any staff member is in need of social, emotional, and mental health support, the district will continue to encourage them to participate in its EAP program which provides several free services to employees.

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.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>a. Universal and correct wearing of <a href="#">masks</a>;</p>	<p>This District will continue to monitor the ever-changing and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after <b>June 19, 2023</b>. If there are any changes or revisions to existing, valid, and binding applicable requirements or guidelines after <b>June 19, 2023</b>, we will <b>review</b> them and update the plan accordingly.</p> <p>Staff and students will be <b>allowed</b> to wear masks/face coverings while in school <b>if they choose</b>.</p>

**ARP ESSER Requirement Strategies, Policies, and Procedures**

Masks will be provided for any staff or student **by request**.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in Kindergarten K-12 Schools prioritizes in-person instruction in conjunction with recommended prevention strategies.

Solanco is implementing prevention strategies that also encourage the greatest number of students to attend in-person instruction and to consequently have full access to all of the supportive services (such as guidance counselors, school nurses, meals, etc.).

The Solanco School District surveyed stakeholders regarding the District's Health & Safety Plan. A large majority of respondents 'agree' with the statement that masking should be 'optional,' giving support to a mask-optional approach that would best encourage the most in-person student attendance.

<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for <a href="#">physical distancing</a> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>For the 2020-21 school year, the Solanco School District employed multiple configurations to ensure social distancing in all schools. This included changes to classroom spaces, utilizing large group spaces, and schedule changes to cohort students.</p> <p>This District will continue to monitor the ever-changing and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after <b>June 19, 2023</b>. If there are any changes or revisions to existing, valid, and binding applicable requirements or guidelines after <b>June 19, 2023</b>, we will <b>review</b> them and update the plan accordingly.</p> <p>This could include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modifying seating arrangements</li> </ul>
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ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilizing large group spaces</li> <li>• Cohorting students</li> <li>• Reduction of large-group activities</li> <li>• Schedule changes</li> </ul>
<p>c. <a href="#">Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</a>;</p>	<p>Procedures for hygiene practices were developed, shared, and implemented in collaboration with the School Physician, school nursing staff, and local, state, and federal guidelines for the <b>2023-24</b> school year.</p> <p>These procedures will be reinforced throughout the <b>2023-24</b> school year.</p> <p>Hand sanitizer will be available in all buildings.</p>

<p>d. <a href="#">Cleaning</a> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <a href="#">ventilation</a>;</p>	<p>Significant cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilation practices were implemented for the 2020-21 school year.</p> <p>The practices will continue based on applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after <b>June 19, 2023</b>.</p> <p>These practices include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All buildings will be cleaned with an approved disinfectant cleaner.</li> <li>• High touch points will be cleaned and disinfected regularly.</li> <li>• Outside air dampers in occupied areas of the building will be opened to bring in fresh air while still being able maintain a comfortable temperature.</li> <li>• Classrooms will be systematically treated using an electrostatic sprayer with a hospital grade disinfectant.</li> <li>• Hallways, restrooms, main and guidance offices will be treated with a sprayer and disinfectant per the recommended cleaning schedule. To the extent possible, windows will be opened in indoor spaces and on district transportation to allow for additional ventilation of the space.</li> </ul>
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ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>e. <a href="#">Contact tracing</a> in combination with <a href="#">isolation</a> and <a href="#">quarantine</a>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>State and federal guidelines will be used to determine when an isolated or quarantined staff member, student, or visitor <b>should</b> return to school. <b>Parents will be provided this information.</b></p>

<p>f. <a href="#">Diagnostic</a> and screening testing;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student screening for symptoms <b>should</b> be completed by all parents/guardians at home before the start of each school day.</li> <li>• All District staff <b>should</b> perform a symptom screening on themselves prior to leaving for work and will stay home if ill.</li> <li>• Staff, parents/guardians, and volunteers will be encouraged to self-report COVID- 19 symptoms or exposure to the school nurse or designee.</li> <li>• Any individual on school property who develops COVID-19 symptoms, tests positive for COVID-19, or may be a probable COVID-19 will be directed to an isolation room/area until dismissal is possible.</li> <li>• The school district will maintain adequate personal protective equipment for use when individuals become ill.</li> <li>• If any individual exhibits symptoms while in a school building, a screening will be completed by the school nurse or designee.</li> </ul>
<p>g. Efforts to provide <a href="#">vaccinations to school communities</a>;</p>	<p>The District will <b>provide information regarding</b> options for vaccinations for families and students from our partners with the county and the Intermediate Unit <b>upon request</b>.</p>
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>Individualized health and safety plans will be developed in collaboration with families, as needed, for students requiring additional accommodations regarding health and safety measures.</p>
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p>Ongoing communication will be maintained with local health experts and state contacts with the DOH.</p>



# Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Solanco School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **June 19, 2023**

The plan was approved by a vote of:

\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes**

\_\_\_\_\_ **No**

Affirmed on: **June 19, 2023**

By:

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*(Signature\* of Board President)*

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*(Print Name of Board President)*

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

**Option A:** The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

**Option B:** If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.