

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Greater Nanticoke Area SD

Initial Effective Date: August 1, 2021

Date of Last Review: March 10, 2022

Date of Last Revision: August 11, 2022

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 Greater Nanticoke Area School District will continue to follow all PA DOH, PDE and CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Depending upon the public health conditions in our region and the Commonwealth, there could be additional actions, orders, or guidance provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) and/or the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH). The District will practice and support mitigation efforts in response to changing conditions. The District is prepared to practice prevention and mitigation strategies along a continuum of most to least restrictive in response to the changing conditions of the Pandemic.

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?

The Greater Nanticoke Area School District will continue offer full in-person instruction to all students during the 2022-2023 school year. If the school needs to move to the virtual mode of instruction due to a COVID-19 outbreak based on an unknown variant that is not covered by current available vaccines, students will work from home utilizing their assigned Google Chromebook. Google Chromebooks were issued the first week of school. Students may also choose the Greater Nanticoke Area Cyber Academy if parents do not feel like sending their children back to school due to COVID-19 concerns.

Attendance will be taken in school for all face-to-face learning days. In the case of remote learning days, verification and completion of assignments will be counted as attendance and to track instructional hours. Students will be expected to complete all materials posted on Google Classroom in the event remote instruction needs to be employed.

The Greater Nanticoke Area School District will continue to employ a mental health worker during the school year to assist students with mental health needs. The worker is employed through the ARP/ESSER Grant.

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 masks;</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students and teachers in Grades PreK 12 in all district buildings retroactive to will have the option to wear face masks due to the decline in cases in Luzerne County and the School District as well as the availability of vaccines and therapeutics. If the case count increases due to an unforeseen breakout or a new variant, the Superintendent will reinstate the mask mandate after consulting the Board of Education. 2. The district will adhere to any guidelines regarding wearing of masks per the PA DOH, CDC, and PDE.
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All students will be socially distanced a minimum of three feet or more in classrooms and cafeterias per CDC guidelines. 2. Students in Kennedy Early Childhood Center will continue to eat breakfast and lunch in their classrooms. 3. Students in the Elementary Center will eat lunch both in their classrooms and in the gymnasium to keep them distant on a rotating basis. 4. High School and Educational Center students will eat in the cafeteria keeping a minimum of three feet social distanced at cafeteria tables.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	5. The district will adhere to the current CDC, PA DOH, and PDE guidelines established.
c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ;	All students will continue to be educated in handwashing and respiratory etiquette during the school year in grades PK-12 per CDC, PA DOH and PDE guidelines.
d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation ;	Follow current CDC, PA DOH, and PDE guidelines for cleaning and ventilation. Continue SOP cleaning protocols.
e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine , in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	<p>Contact tracing and isolation of non-vaccinated students will occur in cases whereby students are siblings and/or are living in the same household with an infected person.</p> <p>Follow current CDC, PA DOH, and PDE guidelines for contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine guidance.</p>
f. Diagnostic and screening testing;	Diagnostic and screening testing will be done at the discretion of parents at their choosing. Temperature checks will be reinstated if conditions warrant. Follow any current diagnostic testing and screening procedures required by the PA DOC and PDE.
g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities ;	The district will continue to encourage staff and students to be vaccinated as this is the best way to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and COVID-19 variants.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	Special accommodations for students with disabilities will be made. For example, students unable to wear masks due to health concerns or students that are intellectually challenged.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	Maintain existing partnerships with local and state PA DOH and PDE and emergency management as needed.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	Refer to PA DOH as needed for guidance on responding to evolving COVID situations.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors of the Greater Nanticoke Area School District reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on July 15, 2021 and revised the plan on August 12, 2021. The plan was reapproved and affirmed on March 10, 2022 and reapproved on August 11, 2022 for the 2022-2023 school year.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

_____ **Yes**

_____ **No**

Affirmed on: **August 11, 2022**

By:

(Signature of Board President)*

Mr. Tony Prushinski

(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.