

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
79207	078791	Milestones Charter School

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	While we recommend and frequently remind families and staff to follow CDC guidelines regarding wearing masks, Milestones is currently a mask optional campus except when required due to quarantine or isolation (Please see quarantine/isolation section below). Masks are made available for students, families, and staff.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Three separate locations for drop off and pick up of students. Times are also staggered.  Lunch in the classroom.  No assemblies or field trips. Visitors and parents on campus and in classrooms are very limited.  Playground and other multi-purpose space use only in grade level cohorts.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Reminders posted on campus, health and safety lessons and teachable moments during the day.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	Contracted janitorial company each night to clean entire campus. Electrostatic sprayers with biodegradable disinfecting solution available in each building. Classrooms are provided with disinfecting wipes, spray bottles, disinfecting solution, gloves, hand sanitizer and air purifiers.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	Milestones follows State of Arizona, Maricopa County and CDC recommendations pertaining to isolation, quarantining and contact tracing. Providing constant communication with parents and guardians before the school year and throughout the school year. Utilizing an empty office space to provide isolation area.  The following was revised on January 19, 2022. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individuals that test positive should isolate for 5 days. After 5 days, if asymptomatic and fever free</li> </ul>

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		<p>without medication for over 24 hours, they may return to campus. The individual should wear a mask for a minimum of 5 additional days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A close contact individual that is asymptomatic that has received their covid vaccinations or an asymptomatic individual that has tested positive and recovered from covid in the last 90 days need not quarantine. These individuals should wear a mask for a minimum of 10 days.</li> <li>• A close contact individual that is asymptomatic <u>without</u> a current vaccination will need to quarantine for 5 days from exposure, return to campus as long that they are symptom free and wear a mask for an additional 5 days. While we recommend testing, it is not a requirement to return to campus.</li> <li>• Symptomatic individuals that were in close contact should stay home and testing is recommended. If positive, they may return to campus after isolating for a minimum of 5 days, if asymptomatic and fever free without medication for 24 hours. The individual should wear a mask for 5 additional days.</li> </ul>
Diagnostic and screening testing	N	
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	N	
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	Special Education Director will meet with parents and teachers to complete a plan of action if needed.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	Complete online forms regarding exposure on campus on Maricopa County Public Health page.

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?

Milestones provides both Distance Learning and On-Campus Instruction for the 2021-2022 School Year. Packet pick-up, video lesson and online lessons and assignments are available. Currently, approximately 15% of our students participate in our Distance Learning Program in comparison to 40-60% during the 2020-2021 school year.

### Students' Needs:



<p><b>Academic Needs</b></p>	<p>Milestones provided free summer school in June 2021 and plans to continue this program in the summer of 2022 and 2023.</p> <p>Milestones started utilizing iReady, an online academic program for reading and math, in August 2020. The program assesses students at the beginning/middle and end of the school year to determine individual academic placement and areas that need academic support. Students are placed on an individual path to strengthen areas of need. Teachers and Administration can use this data to differentiate instruction within the classroom.</p> <p>Milestones also utilizes Dibels assessments to progress monitor student’s reading fluency and comprehension needs.</p> <p>Milestones has a Special Education Department that frequently monitors student’s progress and consults with teachers to offer academic support and strategies for Special Education students as well as students who need intervention.</p> <p>Administration and Teachers have implemented additional time for small group intervention and direct instruction for all students.</p> <p>Milestones has purchased Studies Weekly and Junior Scholastic as curriculum for Social Studies for all grades.</p> <p>Milestones teachers have afterschool programs that allow for additional academic support. These include a Math Club and Science Club.</p>
<p><b>Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs</b></p>	<p>Faculty and staff trained through services provided by the Crisis Response Network. Wellness Curriculum purchased and implemented in K-8<sup>th</sup> grades.</p> <p>K-6<sup>th</sup> Grades – Studies Weekly Well-Being Program is CASEL-Aligned, for Tier 1, 2, 3 to help teach and support social emotional learning and discussion in the classroom or remote. All within our student-friendly periodical format and robust online learning platform.</p> <p>7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grades – Choices from Scholastic – Choices helps students develop and apply the skills they need to navigate our world—on and offline. No scare tactics. No PSAs. Just the latest life skills and SEL information delivered in a down-to-earth tone teen can relate to.</p> <p>Distance Learning students have access to the same Wellness Curriculum.</p> <p>Milestones has been able to incorporate additional afterschool, sports programs for our 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to participate and</p>

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	increase social skills. Students play against other area charter schools.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	Contracted catering services under USDA Food Program to provide free meals to all students.
<b>Staff Needs:</b>	
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Faculty and staff trained through services provided by the Crisis Response Network that included not only training to support students, but for self-care.
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** 01/15/2022, 07/15/2022, 1/15/2023, 7/15/2023

### Public Input

Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	Frequent communication to families. Health & Safety Task Force was development that includes parents that are health professionals. Scheduled Zoom meeting with families in July of 2021 to discuss our Distance Learning families that had concerns returning their children to campus.
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## 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

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- (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; and
  - (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