

# LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT READY FOR LEARNING PLAN

*IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19  
FOR THE  
2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR*



**LITTLE ROCK**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>COMPONENTS OF THE LRSD READY FOR LEARNING PLAN</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>SECTION I: SAFETY OF STUDENTS, STAFF, AND VISITORS</b>	<b>3</b>
TIMELINES and ACTIONS	3
SUPPORT NEEDED FROM PARENTS/ GUARDIANS	4
EMPLOYEE AND STUDENT SAFETY	5
VISITOR INFORMATION	5
TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS	5
EMPLOYEE SCREENING AND PROTOCOLS	5
HEALTH PROTOCOL	6
GUIDANCE, IF EXPOSED	7
PHYSICAL DISTANCING	8
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)	8
PERSONAL WORKSPACE/SHARED WORKSPACE	9
FACILITIES/ TRANSPORTATION CLEANING	10
GENERAL DISINFECTION EXPECTATION/ PROTOCOL	10
DEEP CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PROTOCOL	11
SIGNAGE	11
BUS DRIVERS/BUS PROTOCOLS	11
PROCEDURES FOR COMMON AREAS	12
RESTROOM USAGE DURING THE WORK DAY	12
LOCKER ROOMS/ STUDENT LOCKERS	12
CAFETERIA AND MEAL PERIODS	12
CLASSROOM SPACE/MATERIALS	12
SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING OF STUDENTS AND STAFF	12
STUDENT CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS	15
STAFF TRAINING	15
COMMUNICATION METHODS	16
<b>SECTION II: ACADEMICS AND REMOTE LEARNING</b>	<b>17</b>
STUDENT LEARNING CHOICE	20
TRAINING AND SUPPORT	21
GRADING POLICY	22
GRADING AND ATTENDANCE	22
COMPLETION PROTOCOLS	22
STUDENT SERVICES/ SPECIAL PROGRAMS	22
ALTERNATIVE AGENCIES	27
<b>SECTION III: HUMAN RESOURCES</b>	<b>28</b>
COVID-19 LEAVE AND PROTOCOLS	28
<b>SECTION IV: EXTRACURRICULAR AND DISTRICT-WIDE PLANNING</b>	<b>29</b>
ATHLETICS	29
FINE ARTS	29
<b>APPENDIX</b>	<b>32</b>

## INTRODUCTION

The Little Rock School District's Ready for Learning Plan was developed with input from parents, students, teachers, administrators and district level staff. Those who expressed interest in the initial parent/teacher survey and provided an email address were invited to participate in follow-up focus groups as the plan was developed. This plan is intended to aid in guiding the reopening of our school buildings. The guidelines referenced in this plan are based on guidance from the Arkansas Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and Arkansas Department of Health (ADH). Regular updates to this plan will be based on information provided by the ADH, DESE, and applicable federal, state and local agencies. **Arkansas Center for Health Improvement has recently provided school district-level COVID-19 data.** The data on this website are provided to help inform local decision makers, including policymakers, school personnel and parents, about the impact of COVID-19 in their communities.

The LRSD Ready For Learning Plan has been revised to include the ESSER funding support programs/ initiatives and the expenditures.

The school site plans, in adherence with the District's Ready for Learning plan, have been developed and are located below in this plan, on the schools' websites, and the District's website; these plans will be updated as additional guidance is received.

[Elementary School Plans](#)  
[Middle School Plans](#)  
[High School Plans](#)

## COMPONENTS OF THE LRSD READY FOR LEARNING PLAN

In order to ensure the continued well-being of our LRSD community, the following guiding principles have been put in place:

1. Ensure a safe learning environment based upon the most current guidance from the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH);
2. Ensure the continuity of teaching and learning by providing a guaranteed and viable curriculum that addresses unfinished learning from the prior year, introduces new learning while utilizing technology to enhance regular classroom instruction;
3. Support teachers in providing virtual instruction by providing training in technology, blended learning (delivery of instruction), addressing social and emotional needs of students and self, and culturally responsive practices;
4. Provide guidance and support for educators, parents and students in the areas of health, safety, and social emotional learning;
5. Engage educators, parents, students, and the community.

## SECTION I: SAFETY OF STUDENTS, STAFF, AND VISITORS

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### TIMELINES and ACTIONS

The following steps have or will be taken in developing and communicating this plan:

Timing	Actions
July 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Distributed Stakeholder Survey about delivery in Summer 2021 and concerns for Fall 2021;</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Draft Ready for Learning Plan</li> <li>● Allocated CARES funding</li> <li>● Ordered devices and PPE</li> <li>● Prepare buildings and transportation for reopen with thorough cleaning and disinfecting</li> <li>● Teacher teams established Essential Standards in ELA and Math</li> <li>● Published parent and teacher Ready for Learning FAQs</li> <li>● Plan social emotional training for parents and educators</li> </ul>
<b>July 2021</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Teams revise curriculum documents</li> <li>● Returned to limited onsite activities such as on-site training with restrictions based on ADH Directives and Guidance that include physical distancing, face coverings, limited capacity, etc.</li> <li>● Survey teachers and administrators (1,184 teacher responses and all principals provided time to give input during level meetings)</li> <li>● Engage stakeholders in providing feedback on Draft Ready for Learning Plan</li> <li>● Finalize Ready for Learning Plan</li> <li>● Provide training to lead teachers in District's LMS, Schoology</li> <li>● HR COVID-19 FAQs disseminated to employees</li> </ul>
<b>August 2021</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Determine what restrictions/guidelines stay in place</li> <li>● Implement Ready for Learning Plan by expanding onsite operations based on recommendations and data from DESE, ADH, Arkansas Governor, and applicable state and local agencies</li> <li>● Provide ongoing Professional Development for educators</li> <li>● Provide ongoing support for parents and students</li> <li>● Open school (In-person &amp; Virtual options)</li> </ul>

**SUPPORT NEEDED FROM PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

- Ensure that your student(s)' [immunizations/ wellness checks](#) are up-to-date
- Provide updated immunizations and required assessments to the school nurse
- Stress the importance of [proactive measures](#) for the utilization of masks/face coverings, adhering to physical distancing, and regularly washing their hands, both at school and away from school as well as obtaining the vaccine. Please take time to demonstrate these actions with our younger students.
- Check in with your child each morning for signs of illness. If your child has a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, **they should not go to school. If your child has symptoms such as sore throat or other signs of illness, such as a cough, diarrhea, severe headache, vomiting, or body aches please have your child stay home until they can be evaluated by their Primary Care Physician.** .
- If your child has had close contact with a [COVID-19 case](#), they should not go to school. Follow guidance on what to do when someone has known exposure (listed in the *Guidance If Exposed* section of this document and on the [District's website](#)).
- Be familiar with how your school will make water available during the day. Consider packing water bottles.
- [Develop daily routines](#) before and after school—for example, things to pack for school in the morning (like hand sanitizer and an additional (back up) face covering) and things to

do when you return home (like washing hands immediately and washing worn cloth face coverings).

- Be familiar with your [school's plan](#) for how they will communicate with families when a positive case or exposure to someone with COVID-19 is identified and ensure student privacy is upheld.
- Plan for transportation: If your child rides a bus, plan for your child to wear a face covering on the bus and talk to your child about the importance of following bus rules and any spaced seating rules.
- Secure [school supplies](#) for the selected learning environment; supply lists will be shared on the District's website and social media platforms.
- Review the [District's Mental Health and Counseling Resources](#).
- Support the [effective communication](#) among all stakeholders as partners, which is even more critical now.
- Please take the time to update your contact information in [ParentLink](#) and join Schoology once access codes have been provided by your child's teacher. In the ParentLink portal, you may select your preferred method of contact by the District: phone, email, text, LRSD APP or a combination. LRSD will only override your settings in cases of emergency.

## EMPLOYEE AND STUDENT SAFETY

Per the Arkansas Department of Health, PPE (face coverings and shields) is an effective way to minimize exposure to COVID-19. ***The mask mandate was reviewed by the Little Rock School District Board of Education on March 10, 2022. The LRSD Board of Directors approved to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for mask guidance for all schools and suspend contact tracing and quarantining of students and staff who are close contacts in LRSD.***

If needed, it is recommended that parents ensure students have masks when they arrive at school; however, masks will be provided if someone forgets to bring them to the school/office. ([Guide for proper use of masks/face coverings](#))

## Students

Until further action of the Board of Directors, **all students in Pre-k (age 2) through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade** shall be ***required to follow the CDC mask guidance when appropriate*** (a) while attending school or a school function in any school building, indoor facility or other areas of a school campus, and (b) when riding in school provided transportation. Pre-k students will be required to wear a mask. All masks and face coverings must cover the nose and mouth of the student. Students shall wear masks and face coverings at all times while indoors except for the following:

- Students may remove masks and face coverings for eating or drinking;
- Students may be exempted from this mandate by the school principal due to a documented medical condition of the student; and
- Students may be exempted from this policy due to special behavioral or individualized Educational Plan (IEP) needs as determined by the Director of Special Programs.

In accordance with the **Arkansas Department of Education 2021-2022 COVID-19 Guidance for Schools**, the Superintendent will review and apply applicable guidance including that of the Arkansas Department of Health for school related activities and event protocols as well as the guidance of the Arkansas Activities Association and will thereby determine and communicate the appropriate mask use for such school related activities and events.

***Students who refuse to wear a mask or face covering shall be required to leave the school campus with appropriate penalty pursuant to LRSD policy.***

## **Employees**

All employees and contractors of the Little Rock School District shall be required to comply with the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) regarding masks or face covering (a) while working or attending a school function in any school building, indoor facility or other indoor area of a school campus; and (b) when driving or riding in school provided transportation. ***All masks and face coverings must cover the nose and mouth of the employee. Employees shall wear masks and face coverings if recommended by the CDC and LRSD administration at the appropriate times. If masks are required to be worn, all masks and face coverings must be worn exempt the following:***

- Employees may remove masks and face coverings for eating and drinking;
- Employees may remove masks or face coverings if they are alone in their office or classroom;
- Employees may be exempted from this mandate by the school principal or the Superintendent due to a documented medical condition of the employee.

***Employees who refuse to wear a mask or face covering shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with LRSD policy up to and including termination.***

## **Visitors**

Until further action of the Board, all visitors to LRSD shall be required to follow the ***CDC mask guidance*** (a) while present in any school building, indoor facility or other indoor area of a school campus, and (b) when riding in school-provided transportation. All masks and face coverings must cover the nose and mouth of the visitor. **The Ready for Learning committee will monitor COVID-19 data and make recommendations to the LRSD Board of Directors as needed.**

LRSD has **normal visitation** to our campuses and facilities. Each school office will schedule appointments for parents and guardians for any necessary meetings with school staff. Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) guidelines will be strictly followed for the health and safety of all in attendance. Additional protocols may be developed for other instructional support staff or essential personnel. **Principals will have the flexibility to schedule all events, but are encouraged to keep events within a centralized location for social distancing and for cleaning purposes only!**

## **TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS**

LRSD now permits employees to participate out-of-state travel to conferences and workshops. Out-of-state travel for student-related activities is now permitted. The District strongly

encourages students and employees to adhere to all safety precautions while traveling. Out-of-state travel must be approved by the Superintendent.

## **CLARIFICATION AND PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED IN COVID-19 CASE MANAGEMENT BY THE DISTRICT POINT OF CONTACT (POC)TEAM**

1. The POC Team will notify Principals, if there is a positive COVID-19 case on their campus and if a parent or ADH notifies us. Employees are to notify principals who will submit the report to the POC for further investigation.
2. Principals will be needed to help identify teachers and students who are Probable Close Contacts to a positive case.
3. Principals need to have home phone numbers of all staff with them at all times (weekends, evenings).
4. Encourage your staff to answer calls from 539-0304, 539-0203, 539-8296, 519-9248; the covid POC team members.
5. Attendance records must be accessible for every class, every day.
6. Teachers must have their seating chart available at all times. A copy of the seating chart must be left at the school with the building principals.
7. Staff are not to come to work sick.
8. Staff are relying on PPE rather than the 6 feet rule—physical distance is what protects us from getting sick. Masks protect others from our germs.
9. Make sure campus surveillance cameras are working. Surveillance video can help identify close contacts.
10. If the Principal is out of town or unavailable, you will need to leave someone else in charge to report cases. Staff need to be notified regarding who to contact if an employee is exposed or tests positive for COVID-19.

## **EMPLOYEE HEALTH SCREENING AND PROTOCOLS**

To support the health of all employees and students, each employee will complete the COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire daily before entering the work site. A digital version of these questions with a scannable QR code is recommended. If an employee has any of the COVID-19 symptoms or has been exposed to COVID-19, they are to stay home and follow the procedure for notifying their supervisor. Although employees typically come to work even when they feel sick, in this environment, it is imperative that employees stay home, if they exhibit any of the COVID-19 symptoms. Employees are to contact their Primary Care Physician (PCP) to determine if testing is needed. **Voluntary weekly Covid screening will be provided for asymptomatic employees at each school.**

The signs and symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea



Employee medical information must remain confidential. LRSD will not share the name of any employee with a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 diagnosis. However, those who have been identified as probable close contacts of a person who has tested positive will be notified in accordance with the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) guidance.

## HEALTH PROTOCOL

All supervisors will utilize the [LRSD's COVID-19 Incident Communication Guide](#) to determine appropriate course of action in the event of a suspected COVID-19 case. Employees with a potentially infectious disease are to stay home, i.e. symptoms of fever, chills, severe body aches, a new and worrisome cough. Employees with chronic health conditions are expected to work as long as their symptoms are controlled and do not interrupt their ability to work.

## CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASE AND ISOLATION PROTOCOL

**If an employee is diagnosed with COVID-19**, they are to notify their supervisor. The supervisor will then contact the COVID Point of Contact team who will notify the School Hotline for COVID-19. A list of Probable Close Contacts will be identified and provided to the Arkansas Department of Health. Probable Close Contacts will be notified as directed by the Arkansas Department of Health. LRSD will follow the most current guidance from ADH when an employee is identified as a "probable close contact", including any requirements for quarantine and cooperating for contact tracing.

LRSD will adhere to the most current guidance regarding the release from isolation when an individual has tested positive for COVID-19.

Employees returning to work from an approved medical leave should contact Human Resources and will be required to submit a healthcare provider's note before returning to work.

**If a student is diagnosed with COVID-19**, he/she (or the parent/guardian) should contact the school attendance secretary immediately. The attendance secretary will inform the principal and school nurse. The school nurse will then contact the Director of Health Services, Director of Safety and Security, and Director of Employee Relations & Benefits Administration. The Director of Health Services will notify the School Hotline for COVID-19. A list of Probable Close Contacts will be identified and provided to the Arkansas Department of Health. Probable Close Contact is defined as an individual who was likely to have been within **3 feet for 15 cumulative minutes**, with or without a mask, or longer within a 24 hour period to a person who has tested positive for



COVID-19. Probable Close Contacts will be notified as directed by the Arkansas Department of Health. LRSD will follow the most current guidance from ADH when a student is identified as a “probable close contact”, including any requirements for quarantine and cooperating for contact tracing. Parents can call COVID Hotline (800)803-784 in case of a Close Contact case.

### **SUSPECTED COVID-19 CASE AND ISOLATION PROTOCOL**

If an employee or student becomes ill on campus/district, he/she will immediately report to the campus/district **nurse’s isolation room**. The following steps will be followed:

- The nurse, and others attending the suspected infected person, will wear protective equipment including: N95 mask, goggles, gloves and gown while working with the suspected infected person.
- The nurse will direct the ill employee to leave work or call the parent of the student to be picked up and go home.
- While in the isolation room waiting for transportation home, the employee or student will be provided supportive comfort care: rest area and water.
- Employees and student’s parents/guardians will be advised to contact their primary care provider for health guidance.
- The nurse and campus/district supervisor must interview coworkers and/or review seating charts to identify persons who may have come in contact with the suspected infected person and await the confirmation of the test results.
- The isolation area and suspected employee’s or student’s work area/classroom must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected, in addition to all other common surfaces recently touched by the employee or student.
- The nurse must follow the [District’s COVID-19 Incident Communication Guide](#) and call the local health authority to seek advice only when there is a school-related positive case.
- A notification process is being developed so that those who have potentially been exposed to a positive case will be contacted. The ADH protocol will be followed in the notification process.

### **ISOLATION SPACES**

- Evaluate the current school nurse designated space and determine if there is an adjacent space for isolation.
- If an adjacent space is not available, consider moving the school nurse work area to another larger location with a separate adjacent space.
- Consideration of ventilation such as windows and an outside door is preferable to reduce the spread of disease for isolated individuals exiting the building.
- A room with a bathroom is preferred.
- Keep students in line of sight with an adult wearing PPE.
- Prioritize selecting a room location that has a short exit to the building.
- Keep students/staff that are Isolated at least 6 feet apart.
- Isolate individuals for the shortest amount of time possible.

### **GUIDANCE, IF EXPOSED**

**If an employee has been notified as a Probable Close Contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case the revised Arkansas Department of Health guidelines will be utilized by the LRSD POC to determine the need for quarantine.**

**Staff and students who have been fully vaccinated DO NOT have to quarantine, if they meet ALL of the following criteria:**

- **Are fully vaccinated (i.e.,  $\geq 2$  weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or  $\geq 2$  weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine)**
- **Have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure**

**Individuals exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19 will not need to be quarantined if they have no symptoms and both the infected and exposed individual consistently and correctly were wearing a mask.**

Persons who do not meet both of the above criteria should continue to follow current quarantine requirements after exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 including the following:

1. Quarantine in a specific room away from others in home for 5 days, if no test is taken and no symptoms are reported; or 5 days, if the close contact has a negative test( must be collected no sooner than 5 days after exposure) and if no symptoms have been reported.
2. Contact the Building Supervisor and the School Nurse. Report details of exposure to COVID-19, then follow their instructions. The nurses will submit the case report information to the Covid POC.  
Follow testing recommendations.
3. The Director of Employee Relations and Benefit Administration will be included in communication from the POC to determine appropriate next steps.
4. If an employee learns of his or her exposure during the school day, immediately notify the school nurse who will contact other administrators per district protocol.

**If a student has been notified as a Probable Close Contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case please do the following:**

1. Quarantine in a specific room away from others in home for 5 days, if no test is taken and no symptoms are reported; or 5 days, if the close contact has a negative test( must be collected no sooner than 5 days after exposure) and if no symptoms have been reported.
2. Contact the following (in order of priority), notify them of the exposure to COVID-19, then follow their instructions.
  - a. Healthcare provider. Follow testing recommendations
  - b. School attendance secretary.
3. The School Nurse will work with the building administration to determine appropriate next steps.
4. If a student learns of his or her exposure during the school day, immediately notify the school nurse who will contact other administrators per district protocol.
5. Students will need to provide a letter releasing them to return to school. If the ADH doesn't provide the family with a letter, the parent/ guardian may request a letter at:  
[ADH.coronavirus@arkansas.gov](mailto:ADH.coronavirus@arkansas.gov).

## **PHYSICAL DISTANCING**

Physical distancing is an effective way to prevent potential infection. Each building will establish a plan to ensure physical distancing to the extent possible. The plan may include: floor

markings, signage, removal of unnecessary furniture, limited transitions, etc. Non-essential/informal congregating and visiting should be avoided at all times.

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

Per the Arkansas Department of Health, PPE (face coverings) is an effective way to minimize exposure to COVID-19; therefore, **LRSD will follow the CDC mask guidance for all schools including on buses and in all buildings.** If needed, parents are encouraged to ensure that students have masks when they arrive at school; however, masks will be provided, if someone forgets to bring them, in the school/office. Schools have the autonomy to purchase any additional PPE items, pending approval from the Executive Directors of Elementary and Secondary Education. ([Guide for proper use of masks/face coverings](#))

The following items have been purchased for use in the school buildings: face shields, face masks, disposable safety gowns (for nurses), hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray and wipes, N95 masks (for nurses), and goggles (for nurses).

Modifications to professional attire expectations will be considered. Personnel staff should inquire about the options with his or her immediate supervisor.

*Please note that physical distancing should still be practiced even with the use of face coverings.*

In addition to physical distancing and wearing face coverings, additional safety precautions will be taken without limitation:

- Good hand hygiene; wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. ([Guide for proper handwashing techniques](#)) Use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, **if soap and water are not available**;
- Avoid touching your face;
- Cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing or use the inside of your elbow;
- Monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.



The District has purchased an additional supply of soap, disinfectant, hand sanitizer, paper towels, tissues, and PPE for all sites. Additionally, each school site will be provided with an [electrostatic disinfectant sprayer](#), to assist with disinfecting surfaces, including hard-to-reach areas.

## PERSONAL WORKSPACE/SHARED WORKSPACE

LRSD is committed to providing a safe and clean environment. The building custodial staff will clean and disinfect workspaces at the designated cleaning time; however, employees are encouraged to disinfect their own personal workspace (teacher desk, phone, etc) throughout the

day, giving special attention to commonly touched surfaces. LRSD has placed alcohol-based hand sanitizer throughout the workplace and in common areas. Cleaning sprays and wipes will be available to clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces such as telephones and keyboards. *Please note that the District will provide the proper equipment such as acceptable disinfectant and PPE.*

## FACILITIES/ TRANSPORTATION CLEANING

Schools and buses have been completely cleaned and disinfected, and the District will continue to adhere to all necessary safety precautions. When onsite instruction resumes, the District’s custodial staff will adhere to the general disinfection measures outlined in the table below. During the day all employees will be responsible for maintaining their space. At the end of each day, custodial staff will follow daily disinfecting and cleaning guidance. [Custodian Checklist](#)

### GENERAL DISINFECTION EXPECTATIONS

Category	Area	Frequency
<b>Workspaces</b>	Classrooms, Offices	At the end of each use/daily
<b>Appliances</b>	Refrigerators, Microwaves, Coffee Machines	Daily
<b>Electronic Equipment</b>	Copier machines, Shared computer monitors, TV’s, Telephones, keyboards	At the end of each use/day and/or between use
<b>General Used Objects</b>	Door handles, light switches, sinks, water fountains, restrooms, elevator buttons, stair handrails, etc.	At least 4 times a day and at the end of each day.
<b>Buses</b>	Bus seats, handles/railing, belts, window controls	Twice a day
<b>Common Areas</b>	Cafeteria, Library, Conference rooms, Gyms, Common Areas	At the end of each use/daily; between groups

## GENERAL DISINFECTION PROTOCOL

General cleaning and disinfection protocols will be **required to be followed daily** by all custodial staff members. Added safety procedures for the disinfecting process during the COVID-19 pandemic include the following:

- Disposable gloves are to be worn to perform each of the following tasks and should be removed immediately after, handwashing is also required before and after wearing gloves:

- **EACH** Classroom cleaning
  - **EACH** Restroom cleaning
  - Floor mopping
  - Office cleaning
- Properly labeled spray bottles (containing EPA, CDC, and the ADH approved disinfectants) are to be utilized to disinfect.
  - Utilize a two-rag/ two-step protocol for disinfection.
  - The following items have been purchased for use in the classrooms and restrooms: hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, paper towels, and soap.
  - Cleaning Checklist will be provided for the custodial staff and school administration; the checklist will be kept in the individual classrooms.
  - All spaces will be cleaned on a daily basis.
  - All water fountains will not be utilized. Staff and students are encouraged to bring water bottles filled with water. Water bottles will be provided by the District, if needed.
  - Buckets used to disinfect mop should be changed after each restroom cleaning is performed.



## DEEP CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PROTOCOLS

Deep cleaning and disinfecting protocols are initiated when an employee or student is identified as positive for COVID-19 based on testing. The District has contracted with an outside cleaning company to provide additional deep cleaning and disinfecting at all District sites.

General disinfection measures will be taken with additional measures to electrostatically fog affected spaces with disinfecting equipment/chemicals will be performed after students and staff have left the building.

## SIGNAGE

Signage will be placed throughout the offices and school. Electronic version of signage is located [HERE](#) (English version) and [HERE](#) (Spanish version) .

## BUS DRIVERS/BUS PROTOCOLS

LRSD will continue to provide bus transportation to students within the LRSD. **All bus drivers will be required to keep an updated roster, and strongly encouraged to maintain a seating chart.** Seating charts will be filed with the LRSD Director of Transportation, and made available to POC, if need arises. **Siblings or students who live together may be assigned to sit together otherwise students will be assigned a seat.** The Transportation Department will be expected to utilize all **available resources and technology** for POC usage as needed.

**All students who elect to ride the bus will be required to wear a face covering**, unless it is determined to be a greater health risk, according to the student’s individual health plan that is on file with the District. **LRSD will follow the [U.S. Department of Transportation guidelines](#).** LRSD will provide face coverings, if needed.

Students are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering and physically distance if possible while at the bus stop. Buses are prepared to run at full capacity, however, if at all possible

parents are encouraged to drop-off/pick-up students, carpool or walk to reduce exposure on buses.

## **FIELD TRIPS**

The LRSD will permit field trips for in-city travel only during the normal school day. . **Face coverings will be required by students and staff at all times (on the school bus and inside the facility) while attending the field trips.**

## **PROCEDURES FOR COMMON AREAS**

We know that common areas at school are dynamic in nature, so it is imperative that all procedures that ensure the safety of stakeholders must be followed. **Physical distancing and wearing masks/face coverings may be required at the appropriate time when inside the building.**

## **RESTROOM USAGE DURING THE WORK DAY**

Each LRSD building will establish maximum capacity for the facility that allows for physical distancing. Facilities will post the maximum capacity sign on the door. Disinfecting supplies will be provided for employees to maintain health and safety in staff only restrooms. Buildings will develop a plan for restroom schedules that will maximize physical distancing to the extent possible.

## **LOCKER ROOMS**

LRSD will adhere to all Arkansas Activities Association and ADH guidelines and directives pertaining to all extracurricular activities and physical education classes.

## **STUDENT LOCKERS**

Each building will determine the extent to which lockers will be used. The District will provide online textbooks, if the subject-area online textbook is available. All teachers will utilize the District's Learning Management System, Schoology, to provide instructional learning and materials.

## **CAFETERIA AND MEAL PERIODS**

Each building will develop a plan to incorporate physical distancing to the extent possible during breakfast and lunch periods if possible. **Meals will be provided for students who are receiving their instruction digitally. Meal boxes will be provided for students who have to be quarantined.**

## **CLASSROOM SPACE/MATERIALS**

Until further notice, face coverings will be **required** in the classroom. Face shields will be provided to the teachers. Teachers should remove any unnecessary personal items from the room to maximize space available for physical distancing. Middle and High School school students will follow an A/B block schedule to minimize movement/transitions. Protocols for cleaning and accessing library books and resources have been developed by each school site. Additional measures may be implemented such as specialty classes being held in the student's homeroom, minimizing the need to share materials, reduce movement around the building, staggered transitions, etc. Each school site is expected to use large spaces and outdoor space for instructional use, when possible.

## **EMERGENCY SCHOOL DRILL PROCEDURES**

Safety drills will continue to be conducted during the school year. The District's Safety and Security officers will disseminate the revised procedures for conducting the various safety drills, in adherence to the ADH guidance.

## **SOCIAL EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING OF STUDENTS AND STAFF**

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) is the process through which children and adults understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. Counselors and Mental Health professionals will be working to provide a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) for all students, staff and parents in both the virtual and in-person learning environment.

Some students, staff and parents have had support in processing the impact of COVID-19, but some have not and will need assistance in processing to truly come to school ready to learn, teach and parent. Service to parents and teachers are indirect services to students. Parents and teachers must be our eyes and ears as counselors and mental health providers have fewer opportunities to interact with students.

### **Tier I- Support for All Students**

LRSD understands the importance of ongoing professional development for all stakeholders to ensure capacity growth; therefore, the support will be scheduled throughout the school year.

### **Tier II- Intervention**

Some students will need interventions to help them understand and be comfortable in this new normal.

- Counselors will provide personal or group counseling to students based on needs assessment. Ex. Grief, divorce, social injustice, etc.
- Counselors will determine if an additional mental health referral is needed. A referral process has been set up digitally.
- Students who were seeing a mental health provider previously will continue with site-based , home visits, or telehealth service.

### **Tier III- Intensive Support**

LRSD will utilize needs assessments and work collaboratively with families to determine additional needs. For students who may need intensive support, the following will be provided:

- The School-Based Intervention Team (SBIT) will meet to establish next steps to provide intensive support.
- LRSD partners that may be utilized include: Living Hope, Life Strategies, and Centers.

The LRSD School Counseling Department utilizes the following SEL programs based on individual needs of students, school surveys, and grants they might have received. The list of possible programs : Near Pod, Leader in Me, Parenting Partners, PBIS, Ron Clark's Essential 55 Second Step, Quavar, and Counselor created lesson plans. The District SEL Team was recently created and met for a summit in November.

## **STUDENT CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS**

Students in both learning (virtual and in-person) environments will adhere to all expectations/ guidelines that are listed in the LRSD's Student Handbook. If a student refuses to follow safety protocols, including wearing a mask, in the in-person learning environment, the parent/ guardian will be notified, and if the behavior continues, the student will be disciplined according to the LRSD Student Handbook.

## STAFF TRAINING

It is important that all employees understand the safety requirements, protocols and expectations to ensure everyone and their communities stay safe and prevent the spread of the virus. A mixture of personalized and general professional development will be provided to all staff.

## COMMUNICATION METHODS

LRSD will use a variety of methods to communicate to all stakeholders. To stay updated on the most up-to-date information:

1. Check email often;
2. Visit our district website;
3. Follow our social media platforms;
4. Check Schoology daily; and
5. Watch for messages via ParentLink (please ensure your contact information is current with your child's school).

The District's communication plan can be found [here](#).

## SECTION II: ACADEMICS

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One of LRSD's primary concerns is that all students' academic needs are met as we return to instruction. LRSD will offer two delivery options in all PreK-12 classes: Virtual or In-person. All students will have the opportunity to check out a District technology device (parents will be expected to complete a technology agreement) that is to be used to participate in lessons and complete assignments. Connectivity devices will be available for checkout, based upon demonstrated need. Students who receive special services such as Special Education (SPED), Speech, Occupational Therapy (OT), Physical Therapy (PT), English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Dyslexia, and Gifted and Talented (GT) will receive their services in both environments.

Additional instructional support staff such as City Year, tutors, mental health providers, etc. will continue to support students in both environments. In order to provide additional support to students, in both the virtual and in-person learning environments, and educators, the District has established every Friday, starting in January 2021, as district-wide virtual day for all students.

### Pre-K

Students attending the LRSD Pre-K Program will attend in-person **only**. Students will engage in a full day of age appropriate instruction with a teacher and paraprofessional. Pre-K students will have access to the Pre-K Learning Management System, **Seesaw for Schools**. Seesaw is an on-line platform for student engagement. Teachers can empower students to create, reflect, share, and collaborate. Students will have age appropriate assignments to complete and upload to Seesaw periodically.



## K-12

In both learning environments, student engagement and interaction with their assigned teachers is a critical part of an ideal learning environment. Students who are connected to their teacher(s) and peers regularly have a more rounded learning experience and are able to receive support as needed to further their learning.

K-12 teachers will utilize the district's Learning Management System (LMS), Schoology, regularly to enhance instruction and student engagement. Schoology was selected based on stakeholder input because it easily integrates with eSchool, provides a central location for communications between teachers and families, and allows for integration of resources into one place. More information about Schoology can be accessed here: [Getting Started with Schoology](#).

Support for teachers will be provided by the Curriculum & Instruction (C&I) team regularly throughout the school year during collaborative team meetings, virtual support sessions and faculty meetings. Collaborative teams will work together to build common lessons, assessments and share resources.

## IGNITIE DIGITAL ACADEMY

Ignite Digital Academy will be a quality choice, however parents are encouraged to carefully weigh the options of in-person and digital instruction. Students participating virtually will require more direct support from parents or guardians. The school will provide support and instruction, but will not have the same level of direct supervision of students working on assignments. The bullets below further outline the virtual learning experience.

- **Teacher-created lessons:** Teachers will have the autonomy and support to utilize the District-provided and State-provided instructional resources, along with instructional resources of their choice, to develop lessons for both their virtual and in-person students. Lessons and assignments will be uploaded to Schoology. Teachers will cover the Arkansas State Standards in their instructional lessons.
- **Course Selections:** Students will have the opportunity to enroll in the same courses (electives, AP, regular courses) regardless of their mode of delivery and may participate in any extracurricular activities. Electives/Speciality classes will be available in this learning environment. More information is available in the Extracurricular section of this plan.
- **Student/Teacher Interaction:** Video conferencing will be required; Schoology has a video conferencing interface similar to Zoom; this is available for teachers to conduct live instructional lessons or interventions with their students. Students will have interaction with their teachers daily based on a set schedule that will be provided. Teachers will monitor student learning and engagement via Schoology as well as hold virtual sessions with students in whole group, small group or one-on-one settings.
- **Lessons and Grades:** Schoology will be utilized for all resources/lessons/assignments; assignments can also be graded in the platform. Teachers will provide daily assignments and assessments regularly via Schoology. Students will be expected to login to Schoology daily as attendance will be taken based on student access and completion of daily assignments. A student must log in prior to midnight on school days. Grades will be taken on assignments required by their teacher. More information about grades can be found in the Grading section below.

- **Devices and Connectivity:** LRSD will provide a device for any student who needs one in order for them to participate in virtual learning. The district is currently working with multiple partners to find solutions to broadband connectivity.
- **Student Engagement:** Students who are not engaging in the learning will be supported according to the building's established Virtual Learning protocol. Students who are not successful in the virtual environment for attendance, lack of engagement, or other factors will be monitored and supported or change of delivery mode should be considered.

## **IN-PERSON LEARNING**

K-12: Families who choose in-person instruction will also be choosing to follow the safety protocols established for on-site instruction. This includes the use of face coverings, physical distancing and maintaining a clean environment. **All K-12 students will be required to wear a face covering while in the building or on the bus.** The bullets below further outline the in-person learning experience.

- **Schedules:** Middle and High schools will implement a A/B block schedule to minimize student movement. Teachers will provide instruction based on a set schedule and students will change classes according to the building's plan. Each elementary school will set a schedule for their building.
- **Teacher-created lessons:** Teachers will have the autonomy and support to utilize the District-provided and State-provided instructional resources, along with instructional resources of their choice, to develop lessons for both their in-person students. Lessons and assignments will be uploaded to Schoology.
- **Course Selections:** Students will have the opportunity to enroll in the same courses (electives, AP, regular courses) regardless of their mode of delivery and may participate in any extracurricular activities. Electives/Speciality Classes will be available in this learning environment. Electives will be available in the in-person learning environment, in adherence to the current Arkansas Department of Health guidance. More information is available in the Extracurricular section of this plan.
- **Lessons and Grades:** Schoology will be utilized for all resources/lessons/assignments; assignments can also be graded in the platform. Teachers will provide daily assignments and assessments regularly via Schoology.
- **Devices and Connectivity:** LRSD will provide a device for any student who needs one in order for them to participate in learning.

## **STUDENT LEARNING CHOICE**

Students will be **required** to remain in their chosen learning environment until the end of the semester. Students will be able to request to be moved between digital and in-person instruction. All efforts will be made to provide a smooth transition; however, depending on the grade level and content area, the teacher of record may or may not remain the same. In extenuating circumstances, parents will be allowed to change their student's learning environment at any time by completing the [LRSD's Change of Status form](#).

The following criteria will be considered if a student requests a change in instructional methods (in-person or digital learning) for an extenuating circumstance:

1. The student tests positive for COVID-19;
2. The student has a family member or someone in the home who tests positive for COVID-19;

3. The student has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19;
4. Students with certain underlying medical conditions who are considered at risk for severe for illness from COVID-19 as defined by the CDC; and/or
5. Parent/guardian provides written documentation that the child can no longer be supervised in the home due to parent/guardian work/employment status.

The parent or guardian should make a request in writing to the child's principal requesting the change in delivery method that includes the reason for the requested change. The change request will be reviewed by the principal or designee to determine the feasibility of the requested change. The parent/guardian will be notified of next steps. The child will continue to participate in the original mode of delivery until the request has been finalized and the parent notified of the change.

**Note:** All teaching assignments will be made by the building principal, in consultation with the building-level Ready for Learning Team or interview team as determined by the principal. All teaching assignments are made at the final discretion of the building principal to best serve student needs. HR will intervene in a staff member's placement when the staff member has requested FMLA/ADA or related accommodation. Staffing decisions in relation to FMLA/ADA must be approved by the Executive Director of Human Resources. All teachers will participate in training on the District's Learning Management System, Schoology.

## **TRAINING AND SUPPORT**

Teachers, parents, and students have unique needs and various comfort levels with engaging in virtual learning. The District will provide a variety of training opportunities and supports for each group throughout the month of August and the school year. Parents are always encouraged to reach out to their child's teacher(s) and principal to request additional support.

## **REMOTE LEARNING**

In the event that the district is required to implement remote learning district-wide or in one building, teachers will provide lessons/assignments and monitor student learning and engagement via Schoology as well as hold virtual sessions with students in whole group, small group or one-on-one settings. Teachers will provide daily assignments and assessments via Schoology. Students will be expected to login to Schoology daily and attendance will be taken based on student access and completion of daily assignments. Grades will be taken on assignments required by their teacher. Students who are not engaging in the learning will be supported according to the building's established Virtual Learning protocol. Students will remain enrolled in all their courses and will have interaction with their teachers daily based on a set schedule that will be provided. Students in Pre-K will utilize the on-line platform SeeSaw as their Learning Management System.

## **GRADING POLICY**

### **GRADING AND ATTENDANCE**

LRSD grading policy will be followed for all students. To receive credit for the courses enrolled, students are expected to complete their assignments. Grades will be calculated based on student work completed. Students will receive zeros for incomplete assignments. Teachers are required to enter grades weekly. Teachers will enter grades into Schoology, which will

automatically populate in the Teacher Access Center (TAC). Student attendance will be taken daily, in both the digital academy and in-person environment. In the digital environment, students/parents will have until 12 midnight daily to login to the District's Learning Management System for attendance purposes and complete the daily assignment.

LRSD Pre-K attendance policy will be followed for all students. Excessive absences from students will be documented and a parent conference will be required. Continuous absenteeism will result in follow-up from the Director of Early Childhood and possible dismissal from the LRSD Pre-K Program.

## **COMPLETION PROTOCOLS**

LRSD attendance policy will be followed for all students. Students not making progress or opting not to participate during digital instruction will be provided support from the teacher and principal. If non-participation continues, the student will be subject to failing the year/course. The students will be eligible for summer school or virtual summer school to make up credits. Attendance will be taken daily based on participation in online assignments and access to Schoology.

## **STUDENT SERVICES/ SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

Students who receive special services such as Special Education, 504, English Language Learners, Dyslexia services, or Gifted and Talented services will receive their instruction in both the digital academy and in-person environments. It is important to work with parents and students to identify barriers during this transition.

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

- All students who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) will receive special education services. Parents or guardians are encouraged to contact their child's teacher or school administrator with concerns.
- Secondary special education supervisors will meet with department chairs bi-monthly the first two months of the school year to provide technical assistance as needed.
- Elementary special education supervisors will meet monthly with Sped Teachers for technical assistance.
- Parents/ teachers may request conferences at any time to discuss programming.
- Parent notifications regarding IEPs will follow due process procedures as outlined in Procedural safeguards.
- Parents of children who receive special education services will be notified of any district-wide processes or changes as would all students (Parent Link).

### **RESOURCE SERVICES**

- Resource services will be provided according to a student's IEP. Resource teachers will provide/send modifications to general education teachers. General education teachers are required to implement/apply the modifications to the assigned classwork.
- Co-teachers should plan with the general education teachers in order to assist with instruction and modifications for students.

### **SPEECH AND OT/PT THERAPY**

- Speech and OT/PT therapy will be provided according to the IEPs. Telehealth therapy will be provided for students who choose the virtual instruction.

### **SELF-CONTAINED CLASSROOMS**

- CBI /Functional Curriculum self-contained teachers will implement IEPs and will continue to utilize Unique Learning/N2Y curriculum for instruction.

## **504**

- Building coordinators will provide accommodation plans to teachers. Coordinators will provide individual 504 accommodation plans to his/her teachers, AP, counselor, interventionist, and any other person who serves the student.
- Teachers are expected to follow the accommodation plans as written in both the virtual and in-person environments.
- Professional Development for staff will be provided in the building.

## **EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL SERVICES**

Preschoolers suspected of having a disability will follow due process procedures as outlined in Procedural Safeguards.

- All preschoolers who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) will receive identified special education services.
- Parents and teachers will work with the child's therapists to schedule therapy days, times and locations.
- Parents may request a conference to discuss programming and progress at any time.

## **ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL)**

Students receiving ESOL services will continue to receive those in both the on-site and in the digital settings. These services are differentiated based on the student's level of English proficiency as measured with the ELPA 21 Screener or Summative results from 2020. The types of adaptations and modifications individual students receive are articulated in each English Learner's Annual Review. All data and review information is recorded in [Ellevation Education](#). The table below describes the support that may be provided based on the student's EL status. All support resources will be outlined in the student's Language Proficiency Assessment Committee's (LPAC) plan. Virtual teachers will be utilized to provide appropriate instruction for Level 1 students at all grade levels. The district's virtual teachers will be trained in ESOL Methodologies as are appropriate for teaching ELs at different levels of English Proficiency.

## **DYSLEXIA**

Dyslexia intervention will be provided by a LRSD teacher who has received training in providing dyslexia intervention. The dyslexia intervention programs used by the Little Rock School District are targeted intervention with Foundations in K-1 and Wilson Reading System in grades 2-12 with additional phonological awareness instruction with Heggerty and Equipped for Reading Success.

Students with characteristics of dyslexia typically struggle with phonological and phonemic awareness, therefore it is very important for students to see the teacher's mouth position during instruction. To accommodate for this and keep students and teachers safe, LRSD will provide dyslexia intervention providers with a clear face shield to wear during in-person intervention.

In the digital environment, students will participate in live instruction with scheduled video conferencing sessions with their teacher. Physical components of the program may be modified to better meet the needs of virtual learners (ex. Using google slides to display word cards instead of holding paper word cards up to the camera). Students will need the following materials to participate in video conferencing lessons: student portfolio (includes student notebook, vocabulary, and dictation pages), current student reader(s), magnet board with letter tiles, paper, and a writing utensil. **Students who choose the digital option will need to pick**

**up their materials from the Ignite Digital Academy.** In the event of a school closure, teachers will send the materials home with students.

The LRSD literacy team will continue to develop and improve resources to support students with characteristics of dyslexia during this time. We are committed to working with families to meet the needs of their students.

### **GIFTED AND TALENTED**

Students identified for services provided by LRSD Gifted programs in grades K-12 will continue to receive services as aligned with state guidelines.

### **ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM**

LRSD Adult Education will follow the following guidelines:

- Intake forms will be placed online to help reduce the contact time between office personnel and students.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided in the classroom and in various places in the hallways.
- It is imperative that students remain home if they feel ill. Teachers will be provided shields, in addition to the mask.
- The number of test stations in the testing rooms was reduced to allow for social distancing.
- Parents are encouraged to not escort their children in the building, if possible.
- Online platforms will be Khan Academy, Aztec Learning, Burlington English or Rosetta Stone and the addition of Essential Education. As LRSD implements Schoology, teachers in Adult Education will be asked to incorporate this platform whenever possible.
- The schedule of classes is posted on our LRSD website under the LRSD Adult tab.
- Teachers will continue to participate in professional learning on a virtual instructional platform. This will be incorporated into the classes so there can be a seamless transition in the event of a closure of the schools.

### **BEFORE SCHOOL CARE/ AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM**

The District will continue to offer before school care and after school care at the existing school locations. The District will follow the Arkansas Department of Health and Department of Human Services guidelines for program implementation.

## **ALTERNATIVE AGENCIES**

### **DAY TREATMENT FACILITIES (Horizons and Methodist)**

LRSD contracts with day treatment facilities to serve students in their private facilities. LRSD provides transportation as well as OT, PT, Speech Therapy, and School Psychology Specialist services as needed and/or according to the student's IEP. Both facilities will follow LRSD procedures regarding teaching new material, attendance, and grades as well as following IDEA regarding students with IEPs. LRSD Coordinators will continue to provide technical support to the teachers and administrators at these facilities for students who receive services under IDEA or Section 504.

### **CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES (JDC and PCDC)**

LRSD provides educational services as well as services under IDEA for students who are detained in either facility to the age of 18 for general education students and age 21 for students served under IDEA. The Student Services Juvenile Detention Center Coordinator for LRSD will coordinate services with the local correctional facilities. LRSD personnel will continue to serve

students either on-site and/or virtually as allowed by the facility and following CDC, PUCO, and LRSD guidelines.

### **RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES (including Easter Seals)**

LRSD Coordinators will continue to provide technical support to the teachers and administrators at these facilities for students who receive services under IDEA. These facilities employ their own teachers and therapists and provide educational and therapeutic services on a different schedule than LRSD.

### **UAMS PSYCHIATRIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE (PRI)**

LRSD employs a teacher who is placed at UAMS in the PRI program. This is a 10-bed unit and while it serves students from PK – 6th grade or ages 3 – 12, the teacher is only responsible for students who are school aged. The program runs for 28 days then students return to their previous school placement.

Social Distancing is not possible in the current classroom due to such a small space. The students are split into 2 groups of 5 each and each group receives instruction once in the morning and once in the afternoon.

Should in-person instruction not be allowed, the teacher will work with LRSD Coordinators and UAMS-PRI administration to create a plan for continued education for the students.

## **SECTION III: HUMAN RESOURCES**

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### **COVID-19 LEAVE AND PROTOCOLS**

LRSD will continue to propose resolutions to the Board of Directors regarding paid COVID-19 leave and/or COVID-19 incentive options as is determined needed and warranted. On July 22, 2021, the Board of Directors approved the: Little Rock School District Board of Education Resolution on COVID-19 Vaccination Incentive and COVID-19 Sick Leave.

All employees providing proof of COVID-19 full vaccination no later than October 1, 2021, will receive a one-time \$300 vaccination incentive. Further, all employed will have access to paid leave for the time it takes to obtain the COVID-19 vaccine and to recover from COVID-19 related illnesses.

Qualifying conditions for COVID-19 sick leave (COVID leave): Retroactive to July 1, 2021, the Board will provide up to 10 workdays or 80 hours of paid leave to full-time employees who are unable to work or telework because the employee:

- a. Is subject to a federal, state, or local health department quarantine or isolation order related to the COVID-19 virus or is ordered by the LRSD Point of Contact (POC) Team or a medical professional complying with Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) guidelines to quarantine or isolate due to COVID-19;
- b. Has been advised by a healthcare provider to self-quarantine because the employee has or may have COVID-19;

- c. Is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and is seeking a diagnosis from a healthcare provider; and
- d. Is caring for a child, spouse or parent who is subject to a quarantine or isolation order or has been advised to self-quarantine by a healthcare provider because the individual has or may have the COVID-19 virus. For this resolution, the term “spouse, child or parent” has the same meaning as the terms that are given under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).
- e. Provide a full-time employee up to 4 hours of COVID-19 Vaccine Leave to obtain each COVID-19 vaccine injection, and up to 8 hours of COVID-19 Vaccine Leave to recover from any vaccination related side effects. This time is inclusive and is not separate and apart from the allocated maximum of 10 workdays for full-time employees. Employees must provide written verification of receipt of a COVID-19 vaccine in order to receive payment for COVID-19 Vaccine Leave.

Until exhausted, COVID-19 sick leave may be used for subsequent qualifying conditions as outlined above. COVID-19 sick leave will expire on December 17, 2021, but subject to an extension upon Board approval. Employees will not be compensated for used COVID-19 sick leave. If an employee has exhausted available COVID-19 Leave, the employee must use personal leave, vacation, sick leave, or leave without pay during the quarantine period.

## **SECTION IV: EXTRACURRICULAR**

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LRSD will follow the most current ADH guidance related to extracurricular activities. All students will be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities.

### **ATHLETICS**

The Arkansas Activities Association is preparing to follow the athletic calendar for all fall athletics. The District will follow the [guidance](#) from AAA and ADH regarding all protocols. Students who participate in the virtual instruction option are able to participate in the District's Athletic program.

### **FINE ARTS**

The Arkansas Activities Association and officials at the Arkansas Department of Health have established [guidelines](#) governing instrumental music, marching band, concert band, ensemble or inside rehearsals.

#### References:

- Performing Arts Aerosol Study Preliminary [Report](#), for a summary click [here](#).
- Singing [demonstration with mask](#)
- Face mask with [flap for wind instrument](#)
- Bell [covers](#)
- Trombone [air flow](#)

The District will utilize the Quaver program to provide Fine Arts' instruction to students in the digital learning environment. QUAVER's Beyond Marvelous General Music Curriculum for grades PreK-8 is a comprehensive, fully customizable, fully-digital program with engaging



content that meets State and National Music Standards at every grade level. Powerful teacher tools (*lesson plans, assessments, compatibility integrations*), resources (*Essentials: a topic-driven video series with interactive classrooms; ClassPlay: interactive song catalogue and additional song-based lessons; Choral Resources; Bach's Brain and World Music*), and project-based learning for Gr. 6-8 (*active and creative aspects of music, presentations, life skills, cross curricular connections, technology as a tool for music exploration*).

Elementary and Secondary art instruction will be offered on-site and digitally. Digital Learning visual art students will be provided minimal home art kits to accommodate a modified virtual art curriculum called ArtofEd Flex Curriculum. This curriculum will provide thousands of premium curriculum materials, including lesson plans (*objectives, strategies and time requirements*), resources (*student-facing worksheets, reference materials, lists, planning sheets, etc.*), videos (*high-quality animated videos to capture student attention and scaffold learning around critical art concepts*), assessments (*targeted and open-ended assessments including formative, summative, reflections, critiques*) and artist bios (*biographies to help students connect with a diverse set of historical, contemporary and living artists*). It curates state standards and district initiatives aligned into customized classes and units. (*51 thematic collections, including STEM and STEAM, which are added monthly to cover new artists, current events, and cross-curricular connections K-12.*) Teachers and students can access the instructional material from any device, at any time, by downloading, printing, screen sharing or uploading to Schoology.

LRSD will continue to monitor for the most updated guidance on music instruction and will provide District guidance once ADC has issued the guidelines.

## **CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION COURSES**

Students, in both the digital and in-person learning environments, will be able to enroll in CTE courses. Due to the interactive nature of some of the CTE courses, students who are in the virtual learning environment may be required to attend courses in person that are held at Metropolitan Center. Students should speak with their counselor to see if they will be required to attend face-to-face CTE classes and determine if they should request a schedule change. Transportation will not be provided for virtual students to attend face-to-face CTE classes, digital students must provide their own transportation or choose a different elective course.

## APPENDIX:

### WEAR A MASK TO PROTECT OTHERS



- Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth to help protect others in case you're infected with COVID-19 but don't have symptoms
- Wear a mask in public settings when around people who don't live in your household, especially when it may be difficult for you to stay six feet apart
- Wear a mask correctly for maximum protection
- Don't put the mask around your neck or up on your forehead
- Don't touch the mask, and, if you do,

wash your hands or use hand sanitizer to disinfect

### UNDERSTANDING THE TERMINOLOGY

**Point of Contact (P.O.C.)** - A district employee appointed by the Superintendent to be responsible for contacting the School Hotline when a Confirmed Positive is identified within the district (LRSD P.O.C.). This person will work with other school personnel to identify Probable Close Contacts within the district and share information with and be the liaison between the school district and ADH. This person must be accessible after hours and weekends.

**Probable Close Contact** - District identified individuals that have likely been within **3 feet for 15 cumulative minutes** or longer within a 24-hour period to a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, during the infectious period. This person(s) will be expected to self-quarantine immediately for 5 days from the last date of contact with the positive case and await their Close Contact status to be confirmed by ADH Contact Tracing. A quick response to identify and quarantine will slow the possible transmission of the virus. P.O.C. will notify probable close contacts initially.

**Close Contact** - An individual confirmed by ADH Contact Tracing who was within **3 feet for 15 cumulative minutes** or longer within a 24-hour period a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 during the infectious period.

**Secondary Contact** - An individual who has had contact with someone identified as a Close Contact to a person who has tested positive for COVID-19. In most instances, these individuals do not require quarantine, but are encouraged to monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

**Quarantine** - Required for someone identified as a Close Contact to a positive case of COVID-19.

**Isolation** - Required for someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. This person must attempt to completely separate themselves from others for a minimum of 5 days; however, other criteria may apply when the person is either symptomatic or asymptomatic. The ADH Case Investigator will issue an official ADH letter of release when the individual is ready to return to work or school.

**Case Investigator** - A nurse from the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) will be assigned to the case of the confirmed positive. This nurse will maintain communication with the positive case throughout the isolation period, and issue an official ADH letter of release when the individual is ready to return to work or school.

**Contact Tracing** - ADH Case Investigators and Contact Tracers reach out to COVID-19 patients after a positive test result is confirmed in order to identify the patient's close contacts. The P.O.C. will not be responsible for contact tracing, but will work with other school personnel to identify Probable Close Contacts within the district and share that information with the ADH for the purpose of Contact Tracing.

**Incubation Period** - The period between exposure to an infection and the appearance of the first symptom.

**Infectious Period** - The two days prior to the onset of symptoms or the two days prior to the test date, if asymptomatic, until the individual is released from isolation by ADH.

**Symptomatic** - Exhibiting or involving symptoms of an illness. Symptoms for COVID-19 may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus.

**Asymptomatic** - Testing positive, but not exhibiting any symptoms. COVID-19 transmission in the absence of symptoms reinforces the value of measures that may prevent the spread by infected persons who may not exhibit symptoms despite being infectious.

**Community Spread** - People have been infected with the virus in an area, including some who are not sure how or where they became infected. The level of community spread within the State of Arkansas will be determined by the ADH. Factors used in determination may include active cases or growth rate within the community or region. Schools are encouraged to consult with ADH for guidance when determining a response level.

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

[Daily-Home Screening Guide](#)

[COVID19 Symptoms vs.other Illnesses' Symptoms' Guide](#)

[LRSD Change of Status Form](#)



LITTLE ROCK  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



# ESSER Funds

Elementary and Secondary  
School Emergency Relief

# REPORT



RESOURCES, SUPPORTS, & FUNDING PLANS

*(Revised) March 10, 2022*

The LRSD plans to use the CARES Act - Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 to safely operate schools, measure and effectively address learning needs, and take other actions to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the students and families who depend on our public schools. The attached plan has been developed by our school teams and supported by our District team. This plan will be a living document that will be revised as circumstances and needs arise. With all expenditures, there will be a program tool used to measure the level of need and impact.

LRSD, along with the guidance from the DESE, will focus on five areas for expending the ESSER funds. The four focus areas for ESSER I (food security, direct student support/continuous learning opportunities, technology, and systemic procedures) plus a new focus area (facilities) will apply to ESSER II fund.

<u>Funds</u>	<u>Obligation Timeline</u>
ESSER I	September 30, 2022
ESSER II	September 30, 2023
ARP ESSER	September 30, 2024

## ESSER I: The Cares Act For The Elementary And Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund

Total Amount: \$6, 763,781.44

Remaining Funds \$0

	<b>Original</b>	<b>Revised</b>
Little Rock School District	\$ 5,554,987.07	\$ 6,763,781.44
Catholic High School	\$ 191,315.67	\$ 39,568.16
Christ the King Catholic School	\$ 155,049.79	\$ 2,473.01
Our Lady of Holy Souls	\$ 123,777.03	\$ 20,773.28
The Huda Academy	\$ 36,791.47	\$ 9,892.04

Mount St. Mary Academy	\$ 126,404.99	\$ 7,419.03
St. Theresa Catholic School	\$ 60,180.34	\$ 39,568.16
Pulaski Academy	\$ 346,628.25	\$ 0
TOTAL	\$ 6,595,134.61	\$ 6,883,475.12

## LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT EXPENDITURES

Item	Quantity	Per Price	Total
Medical Facilities Day Camp			\$ 563,222.78
Schoology Learning Mgmt System	1	\$165,438.00	\$165,438.00
Child Nutrition Disposable Trays w/lids	275,000	\$0.19	\$52,096.55
SocketScan Scanner & Honeywell Scanner	42	\$2,600.00	\$16,265.90
Docking Stations	2,000	\$151.51	\$303,020.00
Laptops	2,000	\$868.73	\$ 1,737,460.00
Chromebooks	4,000	\$243.30	\$973,184.06
Amplified Systems	1,311	\$ 1,383.24	\$1,813,423.19
4oz Spray Sanitizer	900	\$3.82	\$3,433.50
1000ml Sanitizer	3,000	\$ 7.05	\$21,156.90
1000ml Sanitizer	2,880	\$5.67	\$ 16,323.84
1 gal Sanitizer	750	\$31.65	\$23,734.75
Staff Face Shields	3,400	\$ 3.04	\$ 10,339.74

Eye Goggles	120	\$4.20	\$503.58
3 Ply Mask - Reg Size	3,000,000	\$0.22	\$ 645,825.00
3 Ply Mask - Child Size	500,000	\$0.47	\$234,350.00
N95 Kits	60	\$80.25	\$ 4,815.00
Disposable Gowns	1,000	\$3.99	\$4,349.00
Sanitizer Wipes 80 Count	2,520	\$2.73	\$ 6,867.00
Sanitizer Wipes - 80 Count	2,520	\$6.92	\$17,440.00
Sanitizing Wipes - 80 Count	10,080	\$2.91	\$29,368.79
Electrostatic Backpack Sprayers	55	\$1,711.29	\$ 94,120.90
Bioesque Disinfectant Solution (1gal)	55	\$ 23.15	\$ 1,273.34
Bioesque Disinfectant Solution (55gal)	10	\$ 926.49	\$ 9,264.89
Bioesque Disinfectant Solution (5gal)	55	\$101.90	\$ 5,604.73
Non-Contact Infrared Thermometers	200	\$ 54.50	\$ 10,900.00
<b>TOTAL COST</b>			<b>\$6,763,781.44</b>

**ESSER II: The Cares Act - Coronavirus Response And Relief**  
**Supplemental Appropriations Act**

Total Amount: \$28,600,359.19  
 Expended Funds Total: \$23,341,885.08

Remaining Funds: \$5,258,474.11

**Little Rock School District Plan**

Five Focus Areas:



- Food Security
- Direct Student Support/ Continuous Learning Opportunities
- Technology
- Systemic Procedures
- Facilities

**DIRECT STUDENT SUPPORT/ CONTINUOUS LEARNING PLAN**

<u>School/ Department</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Elementary Summer Academy (# of Sites)	Summer 2021	\$2,964,771.00	All programs will utilize diagnostic and evaluative tools to assess the level of impact on student growth.
Secondary Summer Academy	Summer 2021	\$4,526,955.25	All programs will utilize diagnostic and evaluative tools to assess the level of impact on student growth.
Secondary Learning Loss Plan	FY 21	\$1,562,184.25	All programs will utilize diagnostic and evaluative tools to assess the level of impact on student growth.
Gifted & Talented Support Program	Summer 2021	\$36,000.00	All programs will utilize diagnostic and evaluative tools to assess the level of impact on student growth.
Fine Arts Support Program	Summer 2021		All programs will utilize diagnostic and evaluative tools to assess the level of impact on student growth.
Social Work		\$710,000.00	Assist with the social and emotional support for K-12 students.
Counseling Services		\$86,051.00	SEL Digital Programs: Quaver (Elem.) , Second Step (MS), Kognito (HS)
Curriculum & Instruction	95% Group Turnitin	\$13,365.00 \$64,679.18	All programs will utilize diagnostic and evaluative tools to assess the level of impact on student growth.
Personnel	Instructional Technology Coordinators	TBD	Exact Cost Amount has not been determined.
Personnel	Educators- Digital Learning	TBD	Exact Cost Amount has not been determined.

	Academies		
Personnel	Additional Compensation Pay	TBD	Exact Cost Amount has not been determined.
		Total	<b>\$9,964,005.68</b>

### TECHNOLOGY

Just Jamz Headphones SORA Overdrive- Digital Books	LRCHS	\$1,891.66 \$22, 712.80
iPads (300)	District-wide	\$162, 431.00
Laptops (500)	District-wide	\$239, 687.00
Chromebooks (820)	District-wide	\$217, 860.11
Chromebooks (1000)	District-wide	\$304, 110.00
SMART Panel Boards	District-wide	\$11,773,776.70
	Total	<b>\$12,722,469.27</b>

### FACILITIES

Replacement Air Unit	J.A. Fair	\$95,050.88
	Total	<b>\$95,050.88</b>

### SYSTEMIC PROCEDURES

LRSD COVID-19 Leave	Substitute Cost	\$560,359.25
LRSD COVID-19 Leave		
	Total	<b>\$560,359.25</b>

### FOOD SECURITY


## **ARP ESSER III: The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act**

Total Amount: \$64,303,054.11

Remaining Funds \$64,303,054.11

### Little Rock School District Plan

#### **DIRECT STUDENT SUPPORT/ CONTINUOUS LEARNING PLAN**

School Learning Loss Plans		

#### **FACILITIES**


#### **TECHNOLOGY**


#### **SYSTEMIC PROCEDURES**


## FOOD SECURITY

Topic	ESSER Fund (CARES Act)	ESSER II Fund (CRRSA Act)	ARP ESSER (ARP Act)
Authorizing Legislation	Section 18003 of Division B of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act	Section 313 of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act	Section 2001 of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act
Period of Funds Availability, excluding 12-month Tydings Amendment period	May be used for pre-award costs dating back to March 13, 2020, when the national emergency was declared.  Available for obligation by State educational agencies (SEAs) and subrecipients through September 30, 2021.	May be used for pre-award costs dating back to March 13, 2020, when the national emergency was declared.  Available for obligation by SEAs and subrecipients through September 30, 2022.	May be used for pre-award costs dating back to March 13, 2020, when the national emergency was declared.  Available for obligation by SEAs and subrecipients through September 30, 2023.
SEA Deadline for Awarding Funds	An SEA must award the funds within one year of receiving them, which will be April through June 2021, depending on an SEA's award date.	An SEA must award the funds within one year of receiving them, which will be January 2022.	With respect to making local educational agency (LEA) subgrants (90% of the total ARP ESSER allocation), the SEA must allocate ARP ESSER funds in an expedited and timely manner and, to the extent practicable, not later than 60 days after the SEA receives those funds.  An SEA must award ARP ESSER funds not allocated to LEAs within one year of the date the SEA receives those funds.
Definition of "Awarded"	For the 90 percent of funds for LEAs, funds are generally considered "awarded" when the SEA subgrants the funds to an LEA.  For the SEA reserve (see section 18003(e)), funds	Same as ESSER: For the 90 percent of funds for LEAs, funds are generally considered "awarded" when the SEA subgrants the funds to an LEA.  For the SEA reserve (see section 313(e)), funds are "awarded" when the SEA	Same as ESSER: For the 90 percent of funds for LEAs, funds are generally considered "awarded" when the SEA subgrants the funds to an LEA.  For the funds that the SEA reserves (section 2001(f)),

Topic	ESSER Fund (CARES Act)	ESSER II Fund (CRRSA Act)	ARP ESSER (ARP Act)
	are "awarded" when the SEA awards a contract or subgrant, or when it retains funds to provide direct services.	awards a contract or subgrant, or when it retains funds to provide direct services.	funds are "awarded" when the SEA awards a contract or subgrant, or when it retains funds to provide direct services.
LEA Uses of Funds and Reservations	<p>The CARES Act includes allowable uses of funds related to preventing, preparing for, and responding to COVID-19.</p> <p>ESSER funds may be used for the same allowable purposes as ESSER II and ARP ESSER, including hiring new staff and avoiding layoffs.</p> <p>No required reservations of funds.</p>	<p>ESSER II funds may be used for the same allowable purposes as ESSER and ARP ESSER, including hiring new staff and avoiding layoffs.</p> <p>Note that the "additional" LEA allowable uses of funds under the CRRSA Act (addressing learning loss, preparing schools for reopening, and testing, repairing, and upgrading projects to improve air quality in school buildings) already are permitted under the CARES Act.</p> <p>No required reservations of funds.</p>	<p>An LEA must reserve not less than 20 percent of its total ARP ESSER allocation to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, or extended school year programs, and ensure that such interventions respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups.</p> <p>The remaining ARP ESSER funds may be used for the same allowable purposes as ESSER and ESSER II, including hiring new staff and avoiding layoffs.</p> <p>Note that section 2001(e) specifically authorizes an LEA to use ARP ESSER funds to develop strategies and implement public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies in line with guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff. An LEA may also</p>

Topic	ESSER Fund (CARES Act)	ESSER II Fund (CRRSA Act)	ARP ESSER (ARP Act)
			use its ESSER and ESSER II funds for this purpose, although it is not expressly listed in the CARES or CRRSA Act.
Equitable Services	An LEA that receives ESSER funds under the CARES Act (section 18005) must provide equitable services to non-public school students and teachers in the same manner as provided under section 1117 of Title I, Part A of the ESEA.	The CRRSA Act (section 312(d)) includes a separate program of Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools under which eligible non-public schools may apply to an SEA to receive services or assistance. Consequently, LEAs do not provide equitable services under ESSER II.	The ARP (section 2002) includes a separate program of Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS). Consequently, LEAs do not provide equitable services under ARP ESSER.  Under EANS, an SEA provides services or assistance to non-public schools that enroll a significant percentage of children from low-income families and are most impacted by COVID-19. EANS funds may not be used to provide reimbursements for costs incurred by non-public schools.
Maintenance of Effort (MOE)	Under the CARES Act (section 18008), there is a State MOE requirement for each of fiscal years (FYs) 2020 and 2021 (based on dollar levels of State support for education).	Under the CRRSA Act (section 317), there is a State MOE requirement for FY 2022 (based on percentages of the State's overall spending used to support education).	Under the ARP (section 2004(a)), there is a State MOE requirement for each of FYs 2022 and 2023 (based on percentages of the State's overall spending used to support education).
Maintenance of Equity	Not applicable	Not applicable	The ARP (section 2004(b) and (c)) contains both State and LEA maintenance of equity requirements for each of FYs 2022 and 2023. The Department intends to provide additional guidance on these important requirements.
Reporting	An SEA must meet the reporting requirements of section 15011, which are satisfied through the Federal Funding Accountability and	An SEA must meet the CARES Act reporting requirements that apply to ESSER funds and submit a report to the Secretary within six months of award that contains a detailed	An SEA must comply with all reporting requirements at such time and in such manner and containing such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

Topic	ESSER Fund (CARES Act)	ESSER II Fund (CRRSA Act)	ARP ESSER (ARP Act)
	Transparency Act (FFATA) reporting, and other reporting as the Secretary may require.	accounting of the use of ESSER II funds, that includes how the State is using funds to measure and address learning loss among students disproportionately affected by the coronavirus and school closures, including: children from low-income families, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care.	FFATA reporting requirements apply.
Tracking of Funds	ESSER funds must be tracked separately from other funds (including from ESSER II and ARP ESSER funds).	ESSER II funds must be tracked separately from other funds (including from ESSER and ARP ESSER funds).	ARP funds must be tracked separately from other funds (including from ESSER and ESSER II funds).

Of the total amount allocated to an LEA from the State’s ARP ESSER award, **the LEA must reserve at least 20 percent of funds to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions and ensure that those interventions respond to students’ social, emotional, and academic needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student subgroups** (each major racial and ethnic group, children from low-income families, children with disabilities, English learners, gender, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care).

**Remaining LEA funds** may be used for a wide range of activities to address needs arising from the coronavirus pandemic, including any activity authorized by the ESEA, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA), or Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (Perkins CTE). Specifically, ARP ESSER funds may be used to develop strategies and implement public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies in line with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on reopening and operating schools to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff, as well as:

- coordinating preparedness and response efforts with State, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19;
- training and professional development on sanitizing and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases;
- purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the LEA’s facilities;
- repairing and improving school facilities to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards;
- improving indoor air quality;

- addressing the needs of children from low-income families, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth;
- developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of LEAs;
- planning for or implementing activities during long-term closures, including providing meals to eligible students and providing technology for online learning;
- purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, connectivity, assistive technology, and adaptive equipment) for students that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including students from low-income families and children with disabilities;
- providing mental health services and supports, including through the implementation of evidence based full-service community schools and the hiring of counselors;
- planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental after-school programs;
- addressing learning loss; and
- other activities that are necessary to maintain operation of and continuity of and services, including continuing to employ existing or hiring new LEA and school staff.

### **LEA Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan**

An LEA that receives ARP ESSER funds must, within 30 days of receiving the funds, make publicly available on its website a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. Before making the plan publicly available, the LEA must seek public comment on the plan.