

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Western Area Career & Technology Center

Initial Effective Date: August 4, 2020

Date of Last Revision: June 21, 2023

Date of Last Review: June 12, 2024

1. **How will the LEA, to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?** The LEA will monitor the latest recommendations from the Governor of the Commonwealth, PDE, PA DOH, and the CDC. Plans will be presented to the governing Board for information and approval if required, when changes are necessary. Facilities and practices will be adapted to the extent possible to ensure that appropriate prevention and mitigation processes are followed. Every effort will be expended to maintain the best educational practices and student experiences in a safe, healthy educational environment.

2. **How will the LEA ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services?** Educational models will be adapted to the needs of the students as appropriate including virtual if needed. Western Area CTC will provide in-person and remote learning options when necessary and dictated by home school closures. Social, emotional, mental health, and other needs will be monitored and provided by school health providers, social workers, and other mental behavior specialists when needed. All resources will be exhausted to provide an effective educational experience for all students.

3. **The following table explains how Western Area CTC will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.**

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>Universal and correct wearing of masks</p> <p>Education will be provided to staff and students on proper wearing of masks for students that still want to wear them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The LEA will monitor the latest mandates from the Governor of the Commonwealth, PDE, PA DOH, and the CDC. The guidelines will change as the mandates change. ▪ Western Area CTC will recommend face coverings for students and staff on the school campus. The school will be mindful of the most recent PDE, PA DOH, and CDC guidance. ▪ Masks are required on all school transportation (bus or van) whenever the students are being transported under supervision of the school entity for academic, curricular, co- curricular, or extracurricular activities. ▪ Ensure that any policy regarding face coverings for students and staff that opt to wear a face mask or any other parts of the health and safety plan should be sensitive to the needs of students and staff with medical issues. Appropriate accommodations in compliance with federal and state laws should be made for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and procedures. ▪ Scheduling of mask breaks for students who decided to wear a mask will be at the discretion of the instructors.
<p>Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts / podding)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No food will be allowed in shops. Drinks are acceptable. ▪ The LEA will monitor the latest recommendations from the Governor of the Commonwealth, PDE, PA DOH, and the CDC. The guidelines will change as the directives and recommendations change. ▪ Determine the maximum capacity for each room. ▪ Turn desks in the same direction. ▪ Balance class numbers as much as possible – remove unused desks and furniture in classrooms; maximize social distancing (to the extent practicable). ▪ Limit physical interaction through partner or group work. ▪ Identify and utilize large spaces for social distancing, including café. ▪ Hand sanitizer will be provided throughout our building.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The LEA will monitor the latest recommendations from the Governor of the Commonwealth, PDE, PA DOH, and the CDC. The guidelines will change as the directives and recommendations change. ▪ Daily cleaning of schools with soap and water to decrease how much of the virus is on surfaces and objects, which reduces the risk of exposure. Apply to frequently touched surfaces and objects including door handles, sink handles and drinking fountains. ▪ At least daily and throughout the day disinfecting schools and transportation vehicles using EPA-approved disinfectants against COVID-19 to reduce the risk. ▪ Use of routine cleaning practices for indoor areas that have not been used for 7 or more days. ▪ Follow standard protocols to clean surfaces that are not high touch. ▪ Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible. Do not open windows and doors if doing so poses a safety or health risk (e.g., risk of falling, triggering asthma symptoms) to students using the facility. ▪ Verify filters are installed correctly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop schedule for frequency of filter replacement and type of filters to be utilized. • Select filtration levels (MERV ratings) that are maximized for equipment capabilities, use MERV 13 if equipment allows, while assuring the pressure drop is less than the fans capability. • See Filtration Upgrades. • Adjusting to maximize outdoor air or disabling operation of DCV if it will not adversely impact operation of overall system. ▪ Mechanical systems should operate in occupied mode for minimum period of one week prior to students returning (may be completed at same time as teachers start returning to building) while assuring the outside air dampers are open. ▪ Maintain proper indoor air temperature and humidity to maintain human comfort, reduce potential for spread of airborne pathogens and limit potential for mold growth in building structure and finishes (refer to ASHRAE Standard 55). ▪ Maintain recommended temperature ranges of 68-78 degrees F.
<p>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with State and Local Health Departments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The LEA will monitor the latest recommendations from the Governor of the Commonwealth, PDE, PA DOH, and the CDC. The guidelines will change as mandates change. ▪ Work with school administrators and school nurses to identify an isolation room or area to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms. ▪ School nurses and other healthcare providers should use Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions when caring for sick people. ▪ Establish procedures for safely transporting anyone who is sick home or to a healthcare facility. ▪ School nurse will work with DOH to perform contact tracing in response to a known or suspected communicable disease and when a parent/guardian/caregiver notifies the school of potential exposure by a student, staff member, or school visitor. ▪ The Weekly Aggregate Case and Close Contact numbers will be filled out and submitted to DOH through the FRCPD survey link. ▪ Contact parents, building staff and students with the appropriate information as needed. ▪ Work closely with the DOH to follow up and complete contact tracing. ▪ Develop policies and procedures based on CDC guidelines. Ensure that staff and students meet all requirements before returning to school safely.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
Diagnostic and screening testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parents are asked to continue health screens prior to sending students to school and to notify our school nurse if their child presents with symptoms and/or a person in their household is getting tested or has tested positive and your child is not vaccinated. ▪ Consider a process to address privacy concerns of monitoring practices and the potential stigma associated with monitoring and confirmed exposure or cases. ▪ Encourage staff and students to stay home if they are sick. ▪ Student and staff quarantine period will be 5 days. Following quarantine, masks must be worn for 5 days upon return to school. If exposure is through a household member and the household member cannot fully isolate, quarantine for an additional 5 days after the person with Covid-19 is released from isolation.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information as to when and where staff and students can receive vaccinations will be available.
Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure that any policy regarding face coverings or any other parts of the Health and Safety Plan should be sensitive to the needs of students and staff with medical issues. Appropriate accommodations in compliance with federal and state laws should be made for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and procedures.
Coordination with state and local health officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LEA will work together with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Governor's Joint Task Force, PA DOH, CDC, PDE, and community health agencies and County Emergency Management Agencies to coordinate resources in accordance with their Health and Safety Plan.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affiliation Statement

The Joint Operating Committee of the Western Area Career & Technology Center reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan as presented on June 12, 2024, by a vote of:

- 6 Yes
- 0 No
- 3 Absent.

Affirmed on June 12, 2024 by:

Melissa P. Secco, JOC President