

Multicultural Academy
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LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III Fund is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impacts of COVID-19 on the nation's students by addressing students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. This plan describes how Multicultural Academy will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and division staff during and following the return to full in-person instruction. Questions about this plan should be directed to Mrs. Mohana Mukherjee: mmukherjee@macademyk8.com

SECTION 2: MAINTAINING HEALTH AND SAFETY

Multicultural Academy has taken and will continue to take actions to ensure the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and division staff during and following the return to full in-person instruction. A description of actions already taken and additional actions planned is below.

Multicultural Academy developed a Health Mitigation Plan as part of the reopening of schools in August 2020. The plan is a summary of guiding practices and protocols regarding the safety of internal and external stakeholders, including the following:

Personal hygiene for staff and students, including hand washing and respiratory etiquette

- Face coverings
- Physical distancing
- School and classroom protocols, including physical layout and student cohorts
- Health screening guidelines for staff, students, and visitors.
- Cleaning/disinfecting protocols.
- COVID-19 monitoring, reporting, notification and response protocols (contact tracing, isolation, quarantine)
- Vaccinations to school communities in collaboration with the Washtenaw Department of Health.
- All protocols will be maintained during transportation of students.

The plan was developed by COVID Response Team in conjunction with the Academy board members and community stakeholders. The plan was reviewed and updated regularly to reflect current guidance from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), of Education, as well as to conform to requirements in the governor's Executive Orders. The plan is posted on the division's website and is available to the public. Multicultural Academy's Health and Safety Mitigation Plan will be reviewed periodically as required to ensure alignment with CDC and other agency guidance.

Universal and correct wearing of masks

The Multicultural Academy School Board, being aware of the evolving need for mitigation measures to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in a manner that allows schools to open and operate as safely as possible, adopted this emergency policy (Masks and Face Coverings) for all students, staff, visitors, and vendors of Multicultural School on October, 2020. Policy was developed in consideration of the recommendations issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Michigan Department of Health, the Michigan Department of Education, and the Washtenaw Health District, the School Board. Policy requires students and employees to wear a mask or face covering as provided herein in the school

building, on school provided transportation, property and/or campus MA sponsored event(s).

SECTION 3: CONTINUITY OF SERVICES

Multicultural Academy has taken and will continue to take actions to ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs. Multicultural developed an Instructional Plan as part of the reopening of schools in August 2020. The plan is a summary of guiding practices and protocols regarding academics and instruction, including the following:

Instructional models, including social-emotional wellbeing and mental health

- Instructional transportation model & scheduling
- Health & Safety Mitigation plans
- Staff, Student & Family Supports (Nutrition, Technology, Childcare, Classroom arrangement, Training & resources for staff and families)
- Athletics & Extracurricular plans
- Visitor/Volunteer & Community Use of Facilities plan

The plan was developed by School board, MA staff, including administrator and teachers. MA staff also assisted in developing and analyzing surveys, researching best practices, and facilitating focus groups. Data was collected from surveys and focus group meetings with the board members, parents/guardians, and students. The plan was reviewed and updated regularly to reflect current guidance from the CDC, the local health department, and Michigan Department of Education, as well as to conform to requirements in the governor's Executive Orders. The plan is posted on the division's website and is available to the public. MA's Instructional Plan will be reviewed periodically as required to ensure alignment with all protocols.

SECTION 4: OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

In developing the ARP ESSER Plan, Multicultural Academy sought public input and took such input into account as described below.

Multicultural Academy received input and public comment from stakeholders on continuity of services and our safe return to in-person learning throughout the 2020-21 school year. Division and school-level administrators provided regular "Return to Learn" updates at monthly school board meetings and board work sessions, regarding the division's current and future instructional models and academic achievement data, as well as health and safety mitigation strategies and data. Stakeholders provided input and feedback via public comments, emails, and phone calls. Input was also sought from stakeholders during quarterly meetings of the Health Advisory Committee and the Equity Task Force. Input and feedback provided throughout the year was considered during updates and revisions to the division's Instructional and Health and Safety Mitigation Plans. In addition, MA will provide information on the division's website regarding the safe return to in-person learning, seeking consultation and input from all internal and external stakeholders in the development of the ARP ESSER Plan.

SECTION 5: PERIODIC REVIEW AND REVISION OF PLAN

During the period of the ARP ESSER award (until September 2023), Multicultural Academy will periodically review and, as needed, revise its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. The plan will be reviewed periodically as required. Multicultural Academy will seek and consider public input during the review process. Plan revisions will address updated CDC guidance on safely reopening schools, if any are issued.

SECTION 6: MAKING THE PLAN AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

Multicultural Academy has taken the following steps to make this plan available to the public:

- The plan is posted on the school website

- The plan can be available in multiple languages. For a translated version, please contact Mrs. Mohana Mukherjee at mmukherjee@macademyk8.com
- The plan may be orally translated for parents.
- Upon request, a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA may be provided with the plan in an alternative format accessible by contacting Mr. Edward Zilka, Director of Special Education, ezilka@macademyk8.com