



# ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan

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**Initial Effective Date: July 31, 2021**

**Date of Last Review: February 19, 2024**

**Date of Last Revision: August 21, 2023**

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?

All IU activities and decisions will be informed by the PA DOH, PDE, and our partner districts & agencies. Depending upon the public health conditions in any county within the Commonwealth, there could be additional actions, orders, or guidance provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) and/or the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH). The IU will practice and support prevention and mitigation efforts in response to the changing conditions.

IU9 is prepared to practice prevention and mitigation strategies along a continuum of most to least restrictive strategies in response to the changing conditions of the Pandemic.

Standard preventative measures such as handwashing and thorough cleaning practices will continue to be encouraged in order to limit transmission within school entities.

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?

With over two years of experience in dealing with COVID-19 we now understand the importance of maintaining in-person instruction for the overall well-being of our students. Remote learning will only be offered under extenuating circumstances such as system wide school closure. In situations such as these, teachers will provide direct instruction, guided support, one-on-one feedback, assessments, progress monitoring and therapies through a variety of in-person and digital tools.

3. Use the table below to explain how the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p><b>a. Universal and correct wearing of masks;</b></p>	<p>Face coverings will be permitted, but not required, to be worn in all IU9 facilities. IU9 staff working or providing services outside of IU9 facilities must follow the masking requirements of those institutions.</p> <p>All implementation strategies will adhere to the student's IEP or 504 Plan.</p>

<p><b><u>distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</b></p>	<p>To the greatest extent feasible, IU9 will follow the current PA DOH and PDE recommendations for physical distancing. Classroom-based IU programs will follow the guidance set forth by the host district or agency.</p> <p>All implementation strategies will adhere to the student's IEP or 504 Plan.</p>
<p><b>c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</u></b></p>	<p>To the greatest extent feasible, IU9 will follow the current PA DOH and PDE recommendations for handwashing and respiratory etiquette.</p> <p>Classroom-based IU programs will follow the guidance set forth by the host district or agency.</p>
<p><b>d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation;</u></b></p>	<p>To the greatest extent feasible, IU9 will follow the current PA DOH and PDE recommendations for cleaning and ventilation.</p> <p>Classroom-based IU programs will follow the guidance set forth by the host district or agency.</p>
<p><b>e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</b></p>	<p>Seneca Highlands IU9 will collaborate with local and state health officials as necessary. Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 should consult with their health care provider.</p>

<p><b>f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;</b></p>	<p>COVID test kits are available at the IU9 Smethport office. Inquiries should be directed to the Assistant to the Executive Director.</p>
<p><b>g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u>;</b></p>	<p>Vaccinations are readily available at health care facilities and drug stores throughout the region.</p>
<p><b>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</b></p>	<p>Follow all IEP and 504 accommodations as documented.</p>
<p><b>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</b></p>	<p>IU9 will consult with McKean County DOH as needed for guidance on responding to specific COVID situations.</p>

**Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement**

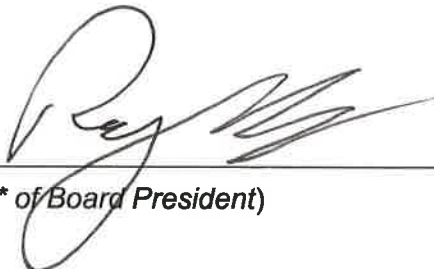
The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Seneca Highlands IU9** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **February 19, 2024**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

11 Yes  
0 No

Affirmed on: **February 19, 2024**

By:



\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature\* of Board President)

Raymond Learn.

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(Print Name of Board President)

