

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
79085	108779000	Southgate Academy Inc.

How the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

CDC Safety Recommendations	Has the LEA Adopted a Policy? (Y/N)	Describe LEA Policy:
Universal and correct wearing of masks	Y	<p>Pima County 2022-2023 School Year COVID-19 Recommendations for K-12 Schools</p> <p>All staff and students five years or older are strongly encouraged to wear masks indoors unless medical or developmental conditions prohibit their use of regular wear masks when outdoors. The CDC recommends that people who have not been vaccinated wear masks in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people who are not vaccinated. For more information visit the CDC Mask recommendation page for prevention steps to take for face covering based on the latest data for your family.</p>
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	<p>We have modified our facility by adding plexiglass barriers and floor stickers to promote social distancing. Teachers and Support Staff members must maintain a distance of at least 3-6 feet between individuals unless this is not physically possible. Student safety is a priority, so if a situation arises, that requires a staff member to touch a student or another staff member (for instance, if a student has a physical emergency or requires a two-person restraint), call a staff member. Then, resume social distancing as soon as safely possible, wash your hands, and disinfect any surfaces that may have been touched</p>
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	<p>All students are required to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol at the following times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upon arrival at school (use hand sanitizer if there is no sink in the classroom), • after being outside for physical activity, • before and after lunch, • before leaving school for home, and after sneezing, coughing or blowing the nose.

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Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	Classroom Teachers and Support staff have received written procedures outlining the daily cleaning tasks and disinfecting highly frequently touched surfaces in classroom and work areas. Time will be allotted in daily schedules to ensure door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains, desks, and learning tools will be cleaned, and any other shared items will be cleaned between uses by groups of students. All staff is expected to clean and disinfect workspaces when they arrive and just before leaving work. Janitorial staff has schedules for increased cleaning of surfaces and bathrooms throughout the day.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	Our administrative staff for COVID-19 will follow protocols provided by the local health department. We are using the current guidance from Pima County School COVID-19 Response Toolkit for K 12 Schools.
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	Our school refers to staff and families to local medical facilities for diagnostic testing and screening. Pima County offers free COVID-19 testing. Students are encouraged to schedule their free COVID-19 testing. For eligibility information: You CAN get tested for free: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With or without symptoms of COVID-19 • Without a referral to a doctor You CAN NOT get tested for free: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your testing is needed for occupational or work-required reasons • You have had a COVID-19 test administered at a Pima County site within the last 14 days
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	Y	Partnership with local Health Clinic Pennie Gomez, BSN, RN, NCSN Pima County Public Health Nurse Supervisor Theresa Lee Public Health Center 1493 W. Commerce Court Tucson, AZ 85746 Office #: 520-724-3849
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	All staff and students five years or older are strongly encouraged to wear masks indoors unless medical or developmental conditions prohibit their use of regular wear masks when outdoors. Any student who has difficulty breathing, who is incapable of physically removing the face covering on his/her own, or for some other medical reason will not wear face mask coverings, and alternate methods of protection will be discussed by parents and staff

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Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	Pima County Health Department Team Weekly Covid-19 update school support
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How the LEA will ensure **continuity of services**, including but not limited to services to address **students' academic needs** and **students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs**, which may include **student health and food services**

How the LEA will Ensure Continuity of Services?

Southgate is committed to the academic success and the social/emotional well-being of all our students and staff. Students' academic needs will be identified through analysis of benchmark assessment data for classroom interventions and the afterschool tutoring program. To address student's and staff's social, emotional, and mental wellness, staff will continue to receive training on topics specific to post-pandemic trauma, mental health, and inclusivity. Our school will provide the Gator Grab n Go drive-thru to ensure the food security of our students and families.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	Title I After-School Academic Program Academic Focus: The primary focus of this program is for students who need additional assistance in any subject area, particularly in reading and/or mathematics. The program is open to all students at Southgate Academy. After-school teachers and paraprofessionals assist students with homework, work on academic projects to close learning gaps, provide interventions and introduce new and upcoming academic topics to intrigue students and create additional background knowledge
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Student Social Emotional Learning and Mental Wellness are embedded in daily K-12 instruction and support in each social and emotional competency. Southgate Academy uses the CASEL and Purpose Prep curriculum to scaffold teaching and learning with a comprehensive set of teacher and student resources. These resources support the opportunity to engage with students through classroom discussion experiences and provide follow-up activities for further learning and independent practice
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	Our school provides a routine daily health screening check by a designated staff member checking temperatures at the entrance of each building for every student for contact tracing and communicating with parents to maintain a safe and healthy school environment.

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Our school supports our staff by providing information about the District Employee Health benefits, including mental health and counseling services that are available with their insurance plans. The staff has additional resources offered through our local communities on our website for mental health wellness with National Alliance on Mental Health NAMI and Connection AZ. Courses for Social Emotional Learning and Trauma Sensitive Schools, along with its Resources have been provided to all staff through a miniseries of seminars by the Arizona Department of ED.
Other Needs	All staff is strongly encouraged to wear face coverings while on the school campus. Employees have a single-entry point in each building while on campus. Every employee, without exception, is required to enter only through this point and have their temperature recorded daily. Additionally, a sign-in sheet is required to screen employees with questions regarding COVID-19 exposure or symptoms at the beginning of each day.

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The LEA must **regularly, but no less frequently than every six months** (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools), **review and, as appropriate, revise its plan** for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services **through September 30, 2023**

Date of Revision	07/24/2022
Public Input	
Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	<p>The School Leadership Team reviewed the plan to revise and discuss the current conditions in the community at June 16, 2022, Leadership Team meeting.</p> <p>The updated Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service Plan is posted on the school's webpage. Any revisions to the plan will be made and reposted on the district's website for community access and to give Public input by clicking on Contact us or call Sylvia Calmelat, Superintendent, directly at 520-741-7900.</p>