

Health and Safety Plan Summary: West Branch Area School District

Initial Effective Date: June 24, 2021

Date of Last Review: January 23, 2023

Date of Last Revision: July 25, 2022

School District Website URL: <http://www.westbranch.org>

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?

1. 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?

The West Branch Area School District (WBSD) offered in-person instruction for the majority of the 2020-2021 and 2021-22 school years in conjunction with and as the result of prevention and mitigation policies as set forth by the CCCDC and DoH. WBSD plans to continue to implement select best practices for the 2022-2023 school year as deemed needed by local and school COVID data.

WBSD will implement an instructional plan that provides for both in-person and remote learning as documented on PDE Instructional Time Template (520.1). Opportunities to close the learning gap will be incorporated at the elementary, middle and high school levels to supplement the regular program of study. Through the district's student services program, students will have access to services designed to address social, emotional, and mental health along with physical health (counselors, social worker, SAP, school nurse). Employees will have access to similar services through supplemental programs provided by the insurance consortium. The district will continue to implement food services through the National School Breakfast & Lunch program.

2. 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 |
|--|---|
| a. Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u> ; | WBSD will comply with all requirements as mandated by PDE, DoH, CDC, and/or any other authoritative agency, for all district facilities and transportation. Further, WBSD may consider CDC recommendations in response to local and/or school outbreaks. |
| b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding); | WBSD may maintain cohorts for social distancing at the elementary for class instruction, lunch and recess at the class or grade level. WBSD may maintain social distancing at the middle and high school for class instruction and lunch. Further, WBSD may consider additional CDC recommendations in response to local and/or school outbreaks. |
| c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u> ; | WBSD may maintain existing handwashing and respiratory etiquette throughout the school day and during extra-curricular events. Supplies may be made readily available within all student and employee areas. |
| d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u> ; | WBSD may maintain existing cleaning protocols as it relates to student desks, cafeteria tables, bus seating, and high touch areas within the general setting. Further, WBSD may consider additional CDC recommendations in response to local and/or school outbreaks. |
| e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u> , in collaboration with the State and local health departments; | WBSD may maintain contact tracing protocols in consultation with DoH, including the need for isolation and quarantine for positive cases and exposures. |
| f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing; | WBSD may maintain diagnostic and screening protocols, including temperature checks and health room screenings at all grades and levels. |
| g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u> ; | WBSD will disseminate and promote vaccination opportunities to both our employees and student families as made available. Further, WBSD may offer vaccination clinics upon request by eligible agencies. |
| h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and | WBSD will comply with the provisions of student IEPs as it relates to health and safety accommodations up to and including remote instruction. |

| ARP ESSER Requirement | Strategies, Policies, and Procedures |
|--|---|
| i. Coordination with state and local health officials. | WBSD will comply with all requirements as mandated by PDE, DoH, CDC, and/or any other authoritative agency, for all district facilities and transportation. WBSD will provide all required documentation as directed. |

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **West Branch Area School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on January 23, 2023.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

8 Yes
0 No

Affirmed on: January 23, 2023

By: Stacey Guenot (WBASD Board Secretary)



(Signature of Board President)*

Chad Diviney

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.