



The following is a draft of the School's plan and it is being made available in an effort to obtain public input on the proposed strategies and whether any revisions to the plan are appropriate. The School will accept public comment on the plan through June 15 and will take comments it receives into account in developing the final plan, which will be posted to the School's website on or before June 24, 2021. Subsequently, the plan will be reviewed periodically, but no less frequently than every six months through September 30, 2023, in order to determine whether any revisions are necessary. The School will seek public input prior to making any subsequent revisions to the plan.

[Academy for Urban Scholars]

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan

(American Rescue Plan – ESSER III)

The following strategies and procedures are established based on CDC safety recommendations for safely returning to in-person instruction while maintaining the health and safety of students and staff:

Mitigation Strategies

A. Universal and correct wearing of masks:

The Academy for Urban Scholars will require consistent and correct use of well-fitting face masks for all students, teachers and staff. Exceptions of this rule will be granted during certain activities (eating, drinking, physical education) and also for those individuals that have provided proof of full vaccination.

In addition, face coverings will be distributed upon entry into the building. Faculty and staff will work to ensure that students are properly wearing face coverings at all times.

B. Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding):

The rate of community transmission will determine the social distancing plan that will be implemented throughout the building.

- **Low to Moderate Community Transmission:** Students will remain at least 3 feet apart in all classrooms. Teachers and staff will maintain 6 feet of distance at all times. When masks cannot be worn, (such as when eating or conducting physical activity) students and staff will utilize spaces in well ventilated areas while following all required social distancing protocols.

- **Substantial to High Community Transmission:** Students will remain at least 6 feet apart in all classroom settings. Cohorting practices will be implemented and students will be scheduled specific days and times to come into the building to control the spread of the virus. On the days that students are not in the building they will be equipped with the necessary tools to conduct their educational learning virtually.
- Non-essential visitors, volunteers and activities will be limited as much as possible. All visitors will be required to wear masks and socially distance themselves from others while inside the building.

C. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette:

All staff and students follow enhanced hygiene protocols including: face covering protocols, frequent hand washing/sanitizing, covering mouth and nose when sneezing and coughing, staying home when ill for any reason, having a temperature at or above 100 degrees, or experiencing any symptom of the COVID-19 virus.

Sanitation Plan:

COVID Resource officer will be employed to implement and facilitate all safety practices and protocols:

- Once school is in session, students will be required to wash hands at Hand Washing stations.
- All classroom equipment will be spray/sanitized hourly
- All door knobs, restrooms, tables, etc... will be sanitized and wiped down hourly
- Plastic shield protectors onto all desk throughout the building
- Mandatory mask uniform policy for students in hallways
- Each class will be equipped with hand sanitizer and air treatment devices that kills viruses, germs etc...

D. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation:

In an effort to ensure that AUS maintains clean healthy facilities, and improve ventilation, the following schedule will be created and followed with fidelity:

- A designated staff member will be responsible for hourly wipe downs of all door knobs, desks, restrooms etc...
- The school will be cleaned by professionals weekly
- The school will undergo deep cleaning with industry standard electrostatic bacteria cleaning on a monthly basis.
- A HEPPA/UV Germ guard device will be installed in all classrooms to kill all airborne germs.

E. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the state, local, territorial or tribal health departments:

During high community transmission AUS will implement a COVID Contact Tracer that will be required by all staff on a daily basis. This form will be utilized to monitor the interactions that each staff member has with any individuals inside or outside of the building.

Teachers, staff and family will be educated on when they or their children should stay home and be referred to a health care facility for testing.

If a positive test is found teachers, staff and families will be required to notify the school and inform them of any other contacts that could lead to further exposure to the virus. Any individuals that have been exposed to the virus should go into isolation, stay home and follow the direction of the local health department.

F. Diagnostic and screening testing:

As a preventative measure, AUS will enforce temperature checks and light screenings (questions related to health) upon entering the building.

In addition, all staff and students follow enhanced hygiene protocols.

If for any reason individuals have a temperature at or above 100 degrees, or experiencing any symptom of the COVID-19 virus or have a positive test result they will immediately be placed in COVID protocol. This status will require the individual to go immediately into isolation and remain home. They will not return to the building until they have received negative test results or until 10 days have passed since the positive test results were received.

If an individual is displaying COVID like symptoms or may have been in contact with someone that has been exposed to the virus it is recommended that he/she remains home and contacts their local health provider to schedule for testing.

G. Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff and students, if eligible:

AUS will work collaboratively with the local health department and other health organizations throughout the community to provide onsite vaccination opportunities for both students and their families. School officials will also work with various agencies and organizations to support messaging and outreach about vaccination for members of school communities. Staff and students will not be penalized for absences that are related to being vaccinated.

H. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies:

AUS will ensure that all outreach, educational material and institutional policy will be provided in a manner that accommodates the specific needs of the population that it serves. The information will be conveyed in a families' home language or mode of communication and in alternate formats that will facilitate effective communication with those that are hindered by disabilities.

Continuity of Services

The Academy for Urban Scholars recognizes the importance of fluidity between all departments and the services provided. Teachers, staff and administrators will conduct departmental and building-wide meetings to ensure that all departments are operating with the same vision and remaining on course to achieve the collective goal.

Prior to finalizing this plan, the School will post draft of the plan on the School's website and provided the public with an opportunity to provide comments. The School will review this plan and, as appropriate, revise the plan, no less frequently than every six months through September 30, 2023.