



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**SHANKSVILLE-STONYCREEK
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **Shanksville-Stonycreek School District**

Initial Effective Date: **August 5, 2021**

Date of Last Review: **August 5, 2021**

Date of Last Revision: **August 5, 2021**

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?

The Shanksville-Stonycreek School District will continue to monitor recommendations, mandates and orders from the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) as it pertains to COVID and regularly update the Board as to recommended or required changes to the Health and Safety Plan at each Board meeting as it did in 2020-2021. It is the District's goal to maintain in-person learning for each school day scheduled while ensuring the safety of our students and staff. The Health and Safety Plan review will be included in the monthly COVID update in each Board meeting for the 2022-2023 school year and beyond as long as it is deemed necessary.

The District successfully provided in-person instruction throughout the 2020-2021 school year with the exception of 14 total (5 weather, 9 COVID) virtual days due to weather and COVID. The District will continue to offer virtual learning days when necessary during the 2021-2022 school year. The District will also continue to provide its BLENDED Program to any student wanting to attend school virtually for the upcoming school year.

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?

The Shanksville-Stonycreek School District will continue its 1:1 electronic device program for all students in Grade 4 – 12. Chromebooks will be issued to students at the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year as we resume in-person instruction on Monday, August 30, 2021. All MS and HS students will be required to complete an internet safety certification program before they will receive a Chromebook for the school year.

The Elementary Student Assistance Program (eSAP) the MS/HS Student Assistance Program (SAP) will continue to be available for any and all students needing assistance, regardless if they attend in-person or participate in the District's BLENDED program. Our PreK-12 Guidance Counselor is also

available to meet with students and parents, when needed, to assist students with any needs they may have. Outside counseling services are also available, if needed.

The Food Service Department will serve meals regularly in the building during in-person instruction following established precautionary steps to help minimize the spread of COVID. Pre-packaged TO-GO breakfasts and lunches will be made available to any students who participating in the District’s BLENDED program. If the District has to move to district-wide virtual learning for more than one (1) consecutive day, the District will make plans for food distribution when needed.

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
a. Universal and correct wearing of masks ;	<p>Although facial coverings were mandated by the PDE/DOH throughout the 2020-2021 school year, the District believes that it was the combination of all preventative measures throughout the District that it had in place last year that allowed the District to continue to operate with in-person instruction. While keeping these preventative measures in place, the District feels that the use of facial coverings can be a parental choice to start the 2021-2022 school year.</p> <p>The CDC does recommend the use of facial coverings indoor for K-12 facilities, however, this is only a recommendation. However, the District feels its social distancing and other preventative measures will still address the issue. Students and Staff will have the choice of wearing a facial covering anywhere on school premises, regardless of vaccination status.</p> <p>The District will continue local and county transmission rates and status throughout the school year to ensure the safety of the Students and Staff. The District will also monitor PDE, DOH and CDC guidelines, mandates, and orders as it pertains to facial coverings and continue to maintain the Health and Safety Plan.</p>
b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	<p>With a total district student enrollment of approximately 280 students and roughly 65 day-time staff members in two physical buildings modified into one large building in 2001 during the school day, our very small, rural school should be able to meet most of the social distancing requirements with all students in attendance within reason. In 2001, the facility was renovated for 550 students, and we are down to 280 students for 2021-2022 putting our physical facility at about 50-51% capacity.</p>

The CDC recommends at least 3 feet of social distancing in a K-12 environment when feasible. The Shanksville-Stonycreek School District will continue to maintain a minimum of 6 feet of social distancing between students in classrooms and all common areas (gymnasium and cafetorium) along with 6 feet of social distancing between students and teachers. The only exception will be in the hallways between classes, which is only a two (2) minute time frame.

For the 2021-2022 school year and with the use of ARP/ESSER III funds, all class sizes are less than 14 students in all grade levels except for Grade 8 in the middle school. The 8th grade students (23 in total) will be all together for a small portion of their daily schedule. These classes will be relocated to larger classrooms as needed to ensure proper social distancing for the class period. Also, with a master schedule change in 2020-2021, the District added a fourth (4th) lunch period to control the number of students and ensure proper distancing during each lunch period.

Classrooms are large enough to allow for a minimum of 6 feet of social distancing between students and 6 feet of social distancing between students and faculty/staff within each classroom. All non-essential furniture in all classrooms was removed in 2020-2021 to maximize social distancing possible in every classroom. Common areas like the cafeteria and gymnasium will be staged to ensure proper social distancing when students are present in the room. Recess time will be staggered to ensure no large groups are outside at one time either. Outside classroom time will be encouraged as long as conditions allow.

Transportation routes have been reviewed and will continue to be monitored to ensure equal number of students on each bus. Our average assigned number of students will be 40-45 students per bus. Student and parent drivers will minimize the number of students on the buses even further. District morning arrival and afternoon departure procedures have been modified to accommodate the potential increase in parent/student vehicles in the parking lot with school buses and vans to ensure the safety of all in the parking lot and those entering/leaving the school building. This will include preventing any parents from entering the school building during these times to limit the number of different people in the building. Seating charts will be established on each bus keeping students grouped by family/cohort and distanced as safely as possible throughout the route. Defined seating charts will allow for better contact tracing when needed.

Visitors and volunteers will be limited and used on an as-needed basis and with administrative approval. Plexiglass sneeze guards will remain in all office areas to provide additional protection for staff. Visitors will be evaluated upon arrival and will have the option to wear approved face coverings in order to enter the building.

Adjustments to social distancing practices will be made accordingly on an ongoing basis as PDE/DOH/CDC continue to offer updated recommendations, mandates and orders.

c. [Handwashing and respiratory etiquette](#);

Elementary students will be given opportunities to wash their hands during planned restroom visits. MS/HS students will be encouraged to do the same. Hand sanitization stations have been installed in every classroom, common areas and offices for students and staff to use. Students will also be encouraged to wipe down desks and shared surfaces prior to each use.

Cleanliness and sanitation of common areas will be addressed by additional day maintenance staff throughout the school day. Unique classrooms used for subjects like in-car instruction will have their own procedures for cleanliness and mitigation.

The District will also have an evaluation of the 21-year-old HVAC system completed to ensure proper air ventilation is provided to all learning areas to identify problem areas in the building and address any issues associated with equipment of this age. The District does have a semi-annual preventative maintenance program in place for all HVAC equipment to ensure proper functionality of the system.

d. [Cleaning](#) and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving [ventilation](#);

The Maintenance staff continues the deep cleaning of the entire facility as part of their summer and school day cleaning duties. The District has procured a hospital-grade sanitizing steam/spray machines to treat each room on a regular basis and more frequently as potential exposures are identified. The maintenance staff has developed a routine cleaning schedule with the sanitization equipment to keep the building as clean as possible.

Procurement of cleaning supplies and additional sanitizing machines have already started in preparation for the new school year. Additional vendors have been sought out to help eliminate any potential supply demands. Sanitizing steam/spray machines will become part of daily building and bus cleaning routines. Ventilation systems are maintained semi-annually and are reviewed regularly for any issues.

Maintenance staff will be trained on any procedures that are new and need to re-occur on a daily, class period or regular basis. Faculty and support staff will be trained on how to properly keep their classroom/office areas as clean as possible during the school/work day. Students will be trained and reminded on personal cleaning steps to also take throughout the school day.

e. [Contact tracing](#) in combination with [isolation](#) and [quarantine](#), in collaboration with the State and local health departments;

As in the previous school year, the District will continue to monitor cases, individuals and exposures with students and staff in collaboration with PDE/DOH and CDC guidelines and consider any quarantining recommendations given by these agencies.

The District will continue current contact tracing and use proper District communication methods to communicate potential COVID exposures when needed.

The District will continue to monitor the level of community spread through PDE/DOH and CDC data. Should changes to the Health and Safety Plan be deemed necessary, this plan can be reviewed and revised regularly depending on the safety and educational needs of our school and community.

f. [Diagnostic](#) and screening testing;

The District will still continue to expect parents/students and staff to self-monitor for COVID symptoms before arriving to school each day. Individuals identified as showing COVID symptoms will be referred to the School Nurse right away for evaluation. Individuals who are considered symptomatic will be sent home immediately and proper preventative steps will be taken in the building to eliminate any possible exposure.

The District will continue to work with state agencies in providing additional availability to testing when needed for the students, staff and community.

g. Efforts to provide [vaccinations to school communities](#);

The District has and will continue to provide vaccination opportunities to students, staff and the community as they become available including using the facility to host vaccination clinics.

Students and Staff are not required to be vaccinated against COVID in order to attend or work at the District unless required by law.

h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and

Student IEPs or 504 teams will be convened as needed to determine any additional provisions be made to each individual student in the District to ensure a free and appropriate education.

i. Coordination with state and local health officials.

The District has consistently partnered with state health officials to ensure a safe school environment for students and staff, and has been a model for the safe operation of schools in Somerset County, Pennsylvania and the nation.

The District will continue to work closely with local and state health officials to ensure a safe and positive educational environment for all students and to provide parents and guardians with regular updates on safety protocols enacted by the District and educational programming options available to parents.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **SHANKSVILLE-STONCYREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **AUGUST 5, 2021**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

7 Yes
1 No

Affirmed on: **AUGUST 5, 2021**

By:



(Signature* of Board Vice-President)

Chris Brant, Board Vice-President

(Print Name of Board Vice-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.

