

King William County Public Schools



Plan for the Safe Return to In- Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

May 2023

(Updated August 16, 2023)

**King William County Public Schools Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction
and Continuity of Services**
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King William County Public School
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Section 1: Introduction

The purpose of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III Fund is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impacts of COVID-19 on the nation's students by addressing students' **academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs**. This plan describes how King William County Public Schools (KWCPS) will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and division staff during and following the return to full in-person instruction. Questions about this plan should be directed to Dr. Stephanie D. Bassett, Director of Curriculum and Instruction at sbassett@kwcps.k12.va.us.

Section 2: Maintaining Health and Safety

King William County Public Schools has taken and will continue to take actions to ensure the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and division staff during and following the return to full in-person instruction. A description of actions already taken and additional actions planned is below.

In addition, King William County Public Schools has adopted policies on each of the following safety recommendations established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

- **Handwashing and respiratory etiquette**-Hand sanitizing dispensers are installed in every classroom in the high school and middle school, and the common area spaces in all schools. Additionally, the majority of classrooms at Cool Spring Primary and Acquinton Elementary Schools have sinks located within the classroom for handwashing. Hand sanitizing dispensers are mounted in the classrooms that do not have sinks. Students have been taught proper handwashing techniques.
- **Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation**
 - Restrooms are cleaned multiple times per day.
 - Custodians have checklists for cleaning during the day and night shifts.
 - Drinking stations where students can fill water bottles are installed in each school.
 - Buses are sanitized between and after each run.
 - Each school has an electrostatic disinfectant sprayer that can be used as needed.

- **Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments**-KWCCPS is no longer identifying close contacts through school initiated contact tracing.
- **Diagnostic and screening testing**-Self-tests or “at-home tests” are available at each school to detect current infection. Tests are located with the school nurse and are available to students, teachers, staff and families.
- **Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities**-KWCCPS continues to maintain working relationships with the Three Rivers Health District to provide vaccinations to the school community
- **Coordination with state and local health officials**- KWCCPS continues to maintain contact with the Three Rivers Health District

Section 3: Continuity of Services

King William County Public Schools has taken and will continue to take actions to 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.

Academic

KWCCPS is addressing and will continue to address unfinished learning by:

- employing educational staff to provide academic support (tutoring) during and after the school day, and extended school year services for some students;
- providing staff for summer school in order to support anticipated increases in summer school attendance;
- realigning formative and summative assessments with content standards to use real-time data to inform classroom remediation;
- employing board substitutes to assist with continuity of instruction;
- offering professional learning opportunities to teachers on research-based instructional strategies that address remediation practices in the classroom; and
- purchasing software and instructional materials used to offset learning loss.

Social, Emotional, Mental Health

KWCCPS will help to ensure social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic (disadvantaged, minorities, English learners, children with disabilities, and students experiencing homelessness).

KWCCPS used funding to assist with the employment costs of a social worker. Through other grants, we have received funds to assist children with disabilities, and English Learners. We have also been granted funding for a Student/Family Engagement Liaison. This liaison supports students/families in addressing truancy, mental health, behavioral, and academic issues/concerns that arose during the COVID pandemic.

School Nutrition

Meals will be offered to all students on days they attend school in person.

Section 4: Opportunity for Public Comment

In developing the ARP ESSER Plan, King William County Public Schools sought public input and took such input into account as described below.

King William County Public Schools provided opportunities for public comment at its school board meeting on May 16, 2023. Input received from all stakeholders including community, administrators, and teachers were utilized to consider the needs of all students including special populations.

Section 5: Periodic Review and Revision of Plan

During the period of the ARP ESSER award (until September 2023), King William County Public Schools will periodically review and, as needed, revise its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. The plan will be reviewed at least every six months, and King William County Public Schools will seek and take into account public input during the review process. Plan revisions will address updated CDC guidance on safely reopening schools, if any are issued.

Section 6: Making the Plan Available to the Public

King William County Public Schools has taken the following steps to make this plan available to the public:

- The plan is posted at https://www.kwcps.k12.va.us/parents_students/c_o_v_i_d-19_information;
- The plan may be orally translated for parents. Contact Dr. Stephanie Bassett, Director of Curriculum and Instruction at sbassett@kwcps.k12.va.us to request translation; and
- Upon request, a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA may be provided with the plan in an alternative format accessible by contacting Mrs. Shellie Waldron, Director of Special Programs at swaldron@kwcps.k12.va.us.