

Peotone CUSD 207U Safe Return Plan

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

Pursuant to Section 2001(i) of the ARP Act requires an LEA that receives ARP ESSER funds to develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website, within 30 days after receiving its allocation, a plan for the safe return to in person instruction and continuity of services. Prior to making the plan publicly available, the LEA must seek public comment on the plan and take such comments into consideration when developing the plan. The LEA must also create an ESSER use of Funds Plan within 90 days of receiving their ESSER Funds. This plan should also be made publicly available on the LEA's website and submitted to ISBE. See below for assurances that the LEA must include in the plan's full explanations.

1. Ensure safe learning and working conditions for staff and students in accordance with ISBE and IDPH Guidance.
2. Implement a plan that is responsive to changing conditions and flexibly meets the learning and support needs of every student so that educational services can continue in an uninterrupted manner.
3. Provide high quality instruction and support in an innovative and responsive fashion, including the use of technology where appropriate.
4. Provide tools and resources for every learner that meets the diverse needs of students.
5. Ensure resources are allocated in a way that provides the necessary support for the unique needs of students, staff, and families.

The District's reopening plan was created in collaboration with staff and administration starting in the summer of 2020 and continuing into the spring and summer of 2021 as the District moved towards full day, in-person learning. Additionally, guidance was followed from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), as well as the local Will County Health Department. The District provided the community a chance to contribute to the return to school plans during board meetings throughout the school year, into the summer, and with a dedicated public input forum during the December 20, 2021 meeting.

The District was able to provide students with full day, in-person learning starting in August 2021. In the event that a student, a group of students, a class or a school is closed, the District will continue to provide access to remote instruction to those that are under quarantine and isolation protocols. All grade 4-12 students have a personal device from the school that will allow them to seamlessly transition to remote learning for the required time. Devices for grades K-3 are available when needed (not assigned to a particular student). If access is an issue the District may provide hard copy instructional materials to be used without the need for connectivity services or the student may be provided additional connectivity support. Students with disabilities and English learners will continue to have their needs met through distance learning with the help of either the classroom teacher, interventionist, or special education teacher as applicable.

Peotone CUSD 207U will ensure the safe return to in-person learning with the following strategies meant to reduce risks of the spread of COVID-19. These include but are not limited to the following:

- Provide ample opportunities to receive a COVID-19 vaccination
- Effective masking in all school buildings as required by law
- Physical distancing
- Screening and testing as needed
- Maximize ventilation when possible
- Regular hand washing and practicing respiratory etiquette
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting of school buildings/equipment
- Daily symptom monitoring and reporting by students and staff
- Adherence to IDPH's quarantine and isolation protocols for schools in collaboration with the Will County Health Department