



Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan Continuity of Learning Update 02/19/2024

Introduction

Under the American Rescue Plan: Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III (ARP: ESSER III) local districts are required to develop and maintain a Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan. This plan outlines and details the district's plan for a safe return to, or maintenance of, in-person instruction and must include information regarding the district's implementation of the Center for Disease Control's (CDC's) most current guidance at the time of development. For simplicity, we have referred to this as our Continuity of Learning Plan.

As represented in our Plan, HFA deeply values in-person instruction and has implemented the practices detailed below in order to maintain and enhance the in-person learning environment.

The Plan is to be reviewed and updated every six months during the life of the ESSER III grant and made available for public input.

This Continuity of Learning Update summarizes COVID learning and preparedness/ response activities since September 2023, i.e., the 2023-24 school year to date.

2023-2024 Instruction

HFA has used in-person educational delivery as the primary mode of instruction throughout the 2023-24 school year. Should pandemic conditions force a return to virtual instruction, HFA has the flexibility to do so, and experience from prior years to draw on. Within the overall in-person instruction mode, certain half-days of instruction have been and will be, by design, conducted using the virtual model.

In 2023-24, HFA has continued and/or expanded programmatic enhancements implemented in 2021-22 and 2022-23 to address learning loss, improve instruction, and address student mental health/ well being. These include:

- Paraprofessionals in the 9th grade Math and ELA classrooms, and 10th grade ELA classroom, to provide tutoring/ focused assistance to at-risk students
- Continuation of the “Essentials in Reading/Writing” course introduced in 2021-22 to provide ELA remedial instruction (planned for Trimester 3)
- Continued expansion of the English Learner (EL) program to better serve our growing numbers of EL students
- Continuation of our Senior Credit Recovery Program to better facilitate students’ recovery of credits not earned during COVID; implementation of additional credit recovery capacity in 9th and 11th grade
- Purchase of 95 Chromebooks (and 2 charging carts) to replenish/ increase our fleet and provide more access to students (adding to 256 Chromebooks and 8 carts purchased in 2022-23)
- Expansion of the Mental Health program to increase school-based therapist capacity, as well as add Meditation & Mindfulness, Art Therapy, and Therapy Dog programs

Additional, new programs in 2023-24 include:

- Topics in Algebra remedial Math course
- Attendance Coordinator to help address chronic absenteeism and improve student engagement, with support from our Care Team student monitors
- Geospatial Information System courses in collaboration with Eastern Michigan University, as a component of college/career readiness

In 2023-24, HFA continues to offer the All Virtual School (AVS) option for students. The AVS option was introduced proactively in 2021-22, in large part to accommodate families who were uncomfortable returning to in-person instruction during the pandemic. Under this model, prior to the transition between trimesters, families can choose to enroll (or disenroll) in the AVS program for the upcoming trimester.

HFA once again contracted with Imagine Learning (formerly Edgenuity) this school year for online, teacher supported courses. As done previously, HFA staff work closely with Imagine Learning, to ensure instruction is delivered according to HFA standards. In addition, HFA staff interact directly with HFA AVS students on an ongoing basis, in order to maintain a strong connection between the students and the “HFA family.”

The scale of the AVS operation in 2023-24 has been smaller than that of 2021-22 and 2022-23. In 2023-24, AVS enrollment was 14 and 32 students, respectively, in Trimesters 1 and 2 (Trimester 3 enrollment is currently underway). This compares to 23, 47 and 44 AVS students, respectively, in Trimesters 1, 2 and 3 of the 2022-23 school year, and a peak AVS enrollment of 80+ students in 2021-22.

2023-24 COVID Prevention/Mitigation

As always, our priority is to make HFA as safe as possible. To that end, HFA has followed, and will continue to follow, the most recent COVID-19 guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHSS), and Wayne County Public Health Division (WCPHD).

Over the course of the pandemic, HFA's overall approach to prevention and mitigation has been to layer multiple strategies as prescribed by CDC Guidance. These have included strategies such as screening, spacing, ventilation, handwashing, masking, staying home when sick, contact tracing/ quarantine/ isolation/ testing, cleaning and disinfection. Specific measures were added/ continued/ revised/ discontinued as CDC guidance continued to evolve. HFA's current health and safety protocols are summarized in Table 1 at the end of this section.

In October 2022, CDC issued guidance advocating for in-person instruction to the extent possible, with flexibility for adapting to local/ community conditions. In keeping with that guidance, HFA has been committed to maintaining in-person learning, adapting when necessary to local conditions (e.g., occasional periods of high transmission risk that have occurred in Wayne County).

Any and all HFA COVID-19 prevention/ mitigation measures will be communicated to staff, students, parents, and other stakeholders as they are introduced/ updated/ revised throughout the year.

HFA will comply with any and all local, state, and federal mandates/orders.

Please refer to the following links for COVID guidance and information from CDC, MDHSS, and WCPHD:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

[Operational Guidance for K-12 Schools and Early Care and Education Programs to Support Safe In-Person Learning | CDC](#)

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHSS)

[Coronavirus](#)

Wayne County Public Health Division (WCPHD)

[Home | COVID-19 Resources](#)

Click on the following link for the most up to date information regarding transmission levels in Wayne County.

[COVID-19 by County | CDC](#)

Table 1

HFA Health and Safety Protocols	
COVID-19 Testing	Testing will not be required but test kits may be offered to families if provided by the State. Athletic testing will not be required unless mandated by the MHSAA or a local, state, or federal agency and/or a sanctioning body.
Cohorting	Mixing of student groups will be permitted. HFA may consider temporarily restricting mixing of student groups where feasible as deemed necessary based on local conditions.
Face Coverings (Masks)	Staff, students, volunteers, and visitors may wish to wear a face covering regardless of the current level of community transmission and are supported in doing so. HFA will abide by all laws, lawfully executed orders, regulations, etc., pertaining to facial coverings.
Facilities: Cleaning, Disinfecting, Ventilation	HFA, through services provided by its host facility, The Henry Ford (THF), will follow regular cleaning and disinfection procedures. Additional cleaning and/or disinfection procedures within a classroom or across the school will be implemented as needed based on local conditions. Ventilation within the school buildings will adhere to THF health and safety standards.
Food Services	Normal food service operations will occur as provided by THF. Additional health and safety protocols may be implemented as required by the Wayne County Public Health Division.
Hand Hygiene & Respiratory Etiquette	Proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette are encouraged and expected. Supplies, including hand sanitizer, will be maintained in order to facilitate proper hand hygiene.
Health Screening & Student Illness	Parents/guardians are encouraged to conduct a daily wellness check to ensure students are well enough to attend school. Students should not be sent to school when they are ill. A child who has had a fever or is vomiting cannot return to school until they are healthy for 24 hours. Parents/guardians should follow medical professional and/or health department guidance regarding exclusion periods for communicable diseases.
Isolation & Quarantine	HFA will follow current mandates/orders from federal, state, or local health agencies. In the absence of health department orders, HFA encourages parents/guardians to follow current medical professional and/or health department guidance regarding exclusion periods for communicable diseases.
Vaccinations	HFA does not require staff or students to be vaccinated against COVID-19. WCPHD, MDHSS, and CDC recommend COVID-19 vaccination as the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic as well as keep schools, extracurricular activities, and sports safely operational and in-person.