

# Marcola School District

**American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary  
School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER);  
OAR 581-022-0106 (State Operational Plan)**

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

## District Information

Institution ID: 2094 Institution Name: Marcola School District

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

In order to best support students and families with the safest possible return to school for the 2021 school year, the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) has created an operational plan template to align guidance from the federal and state level in support of local decision-making and transparency of health and safety measures in the communities that school districts serve. The Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan serves the following purposes:

- 1) Replaces the Ready Schools, Safe Learners Operational Blueprint required under [Executive Order 21-06](#); and
- 2) Meets the requirements for:
  - a. An operational plan required under [OAR 581-022-0106\(4\)](#), while aligning the [CDC Guidance](#) on School Reopening with the [Ready Schools, Safe Learners Resiliency Framework for the 2021-22 School Year](#) (RSSL Resiliency Framework);
  - b. [Section 2001\(i\)\(1\)](#) of the ARP ESSER and the US Department of Education's [Interim Final Requirements](#) for Safe Return/Continuity of Services Plan; and
  - c. Communicable Disease Plan and Isolation Plan under [OAR 581-022-2220](#) (Division 22 requirements).

As districts plan and implement the recommendations in ODE's RSSL Resiliency Framework, they will need to consider a continuum of risk levels when all recommendations cannot be fully implemented. For example, universal correct wearing of face coverings between people is one of the most effective preventive measures. However, there will be times when this is not possible based on a specific interaction or a physical space limitation, such as during meal times. It will be necessary to consider and balance the mitigation strategies described to best protect health and safety while ensuring full time in person learning.

ODE remains committed to the guiding principles introduced in spring of 2020 to generate collective action and leadership for efforts to respond to COVID-19 across Oregon. These principles are updated to reflect the current context:

- **Ensure safety and wellness.** Prioritizing basic needs such as food, shelter, wellness, supportive relationships and support for mental, social, and emotional health of students and staff.
- **Center health and well-being.** Acknowledging the health and mental health impacts of this past year, commit to creating learning opportunities that foster creative expression, make space for reflection and connection, and center on the needs of the whole child rather than solely emphasizing academic achievement.

- **Cultivate connection and relationship.** Reconnecting with one another after a year of separation can occur through quality learning experiences and deep interpersonal relationships among families, students and staff.
- **Prioritize equity.** Recognize the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Latino/a/x, Pacific Islander communities; students experiencing disabilities; students living in rural areas; and students and families navigating poverty and houselessness. Apply an equity-informed, anti-racist, and anti-oppressive lens to promote culturally sustaining and revitalizing educational systems that support every child.
- **Innovate.** Returning to school is an opportunity to improve teaching and learning by iterating on new instructional strategies, rethinking learning environments, and investing in creative approaches to address unfinished learning.

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## Mental Health Needs

ARP ESSER & OAR 581-022-0106 Component	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted to ensure continuity of services	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
<p>Devote time for students and staff to connect and build relationships</p>	<p>MSD has adopted a calendar that includes five days for new staff members to become acquainted with our district. Each building plans that will allow for welcome back connections with each student.</p> <p>Elementary school have a built-in morning meetings in their master schedule for a minimum of 15 minutes daily. Grades 6-8 have a weekly homeroom where they will actively focus on SEL learning. Advisory/ Homeroom/9th Grade success, etc. classes are set for high school. This allows for time to connect and support the emotional well being of students.</p>	<p>This follows the RSSL guiding principles around centering on the health and well being of students and committing to make space for students to connect and focus on their well being as well as reconnecting with our families and students after a year of separation from a typical school year.</p> <p>MSD will also host an all community open house for a chance to have the public tour our campus and meet and greet each teachers and ask questions about our increased safety and screening protocols.</p>
<p>Ample class time, and private time if needed, for creative opportunities that allow students and staff to explore and process their experiences</p>	<p>Students will have time through morning meetings or advisory to explore and process experiences as connected to trends or patterns that are occurring in the classroom.</p> <p>Additional staffing has been added in the categories of school counseling and care coordination. In addition at the middle school, additional staff is available for positive-behavioral support and a care room space has been established.</p>	<p>This follows the RSSL guiding principle around centering on the health and well being of our students by building in time to make space for reflection &amp; processing and to support students with additional staffing that is committed the whole child as opposed to just academic needs.</p>

ARP ESSER & OAR 581-022-0106 Component	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted to ensure continuity of services	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
<p>Link staff, students and families with culturally relevant health and mental health services and supports</p>	<p>MSD has a framework that includes SEL/Trauma Informed Care under the umbrella of Equity. This includes ongoing staff development and enrichment using the CASEL framework.</p> <p>The district has also began construction on a Student-Based Career and Counseling Center. *Completion by Dec 21'</p> <p>Elementary schools have a built-in morning meetings in their master schedule daily to allow for check-in times with students as teachers make connections.</p>	<p>This follows the Ready Schools Safe Learners Resiliency Framework guiding principles around centering on the health and well being of students, with particular attention focused on the mental/social/emotional well being of our marginalized and underrepresented students. The RSSLRF states to commit to making space and opportunities for students to connect and focus as well as reconnecting with their families and students after a year of separation from a typical school year.</p>
<p>Foster peer/student lead initiatives on wellbeing and mental health</p>	<p>Through student leadership and school organizations there are scheduled activities to build and foster positive relationships for all students.</p> <p>Student-led organizations such as MHS Leadership and FFA Leadership are actively involved in empowering the student voices of all so that mental health and wellbeing is being addressed.</p>	<p>This follows the RSSLRF guiding principles around centering on the health and well being of students, with particular attention focused on the mental/social/emotional well being of our marginalized and underrepresented students. The RSSLRF states to commit to making space and opportunities for students to connect and focus as well as reconnecting with our families and students after a year of separation from a typical school year.</p>

## Communicable Disease Management Plan

Please provide a link to the district’s **communicable disease management plan** that describes measures put in place to limit the spread of COVID-19 within school settings. ([OAR 581-022-2220](https://www.legis.or.gov/legislation/bills/2020/0581-022-2220)). The advised components of the plan and additional information are found on pages 20 and 21 of the [RSSL Resiliency Framework](#) and meet the ESSER process requirements of “coordination with local public health authorities.”

Link: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IsZNf21gsMPALX2QQYZpW29JeJ4sKDdaEgF4fqAK164/>

ARP ESSER Component	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted to ensure continuity of services	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
<p>Coordination with local public health authority(ies) including Tribal health departments</p>	<p>The Marcola School District collaborates on a regular basis with the Lane County Public Health Department following their guidance regarding quarantine and isolation. The District consults with the County regarding COVID-19 exposures and positive cases as well as other mitigation measures that help minimize the spread of COVID-19.</p> <p>The Marcola School District also consults with liaisons from LANE ESD in regards to our tribal communities in order to understand the health and safety needs of our students.</p>	<p>This follows the RSSL guiding principles around centering on the health and safety of students by ensuring all the necessary safety protocols and mitigation measures are being followed. The District Communicates with the LPHA on all suspected cases or exposures and completes necessary line list info for the County on all positive cases and close contacts identified.</p>

## Isolation Plan

Please provide a link to the district's plan to **maintain health care and space** that is appropriately supervised and adequately equipped for providing first aid, and **isolates** the sick or injured child. ([OAR 581-022-2220](#)). If planning for this space is in your communicable disease management plan for COVID-19, please provide the page number.

Link: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IsZNf21gsMPALX2QQYZpW29JeJ4sKDdaEgF4fqAK164/>

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## Mitigation Strategies

School administrators are required to **exclude staff or students from school** whom they have reason to suspect have been exposed to COVID-19. ([OAR 333-019-0010](#); [OAR 333-019-0010](#))

Please complete the table below to include the extent to which the district has adopted policies and the description of each policy for each mitigation strategy. In developing the response, please review and consider the [CDC guidance](#) and the [RSSL Resiliency Framework](#) for each mitigation strategy. Additional documents to support district and school planning are available on the [ODE Ready Schools, Safe Learners website](#).

Advised mitigation strategy	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
<p>COVID-19 vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students if eligible</p>	<p>MSD hosted a drop-in COVID vaccine clinic. Marcola Valley Rural Fire Dept has worked in partnership with MSD to assist families in the 2021-2022 school year and will encourage vaccination where appropriate for staff and students.</p> <p>MSD has used social media and district website to help support families in need and to help promote available opportunities and resources. We also created a COVID response task force to assess and respond to the needs of the community.</p>	<p>This follows the RSSL guiding principles around centering on the health and safety of staff and students by encouraging vaccination; assisting our families with accessing vaccination; collaborating with partner agencies to provide vaccination clinics.</p>

Advised mitigation strategy	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
<p>Universal and correct wearing of face coverings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● School busses: Masks required for all persons, regardless of vaccination status. This is a CDC order that remains in effect until lifted by the federal government and cannot be waived by state or local authorities.</li> </ul> <p>In School buildings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● During school hours, masks are required indoors for all persons at all schools when students are present, regardless of vaccination status.</li> </ul>	<p>This follows the RSSL guiding principles around centering on the health and safety of staff and students by staff training on updated face covering / mask guidance and providing information on appropriate types of masks.</p> <p>Additional PPE: Staff, who are performing tasks that require additional PPE per guidance from OHA will be provided them. Additional PPE may include medical grade masks (as defined by ODE as “disposable surgical/procedural face mask or respirator (N95/KN95)”, gowns, face shields, gloves, plastic</p>
<p>Physical distancing and cohorting</p>	<p>Classroom configuration: Return to standard pre-COVID classroom setup with emphasis of maintaining at least 3 ft physical distancing between student desks to the extent possible.</p> <p>Staff and students will maintain as much distance as possible which helps mitigate transmission of COVID-19.</p> <p>Minimize having students stand in Bathroom lines as much as possible. Students will eat lunch in classrooms.</p>	<p>OHA and ODE strongly advise that schools support and promote physical distancing as described below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Support physical distancing in all daily activities and instruction, maintaining at least 3 feet between students to the extent possible.</li> <li>● Consider physical distancing requirements when setting up learning and other spaces, arranging spaces and groups to allow and encourage at least 3 feet of physical distance.</li> </ul>

Advised mitigation strategy	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
Ventilation and air flow	<p>Prior to COVID-19, most schools (along with MSD) used MERV-8 filters in their HVAC systems. In 20-21 we upgraded (with a significant cost increase) to the use of Plasma Air Ionizers. We purchased Plasma Air 601-604, 7100-7400, and a Plazma Bar.</p> <p>INCREASED AIR EXCHANGE: We have been and will continue to work with our HVAC vendors and facilities staff to set our systems up for maximum air exchange of our spaces, as allowed by the constraints of the outside temperatures.</p>	<p>ODE and OHA strongly advise schools to ensure effective ventilation and improve the indoor air quality in schools by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increasing the amount of fresh outside air that is introduced into the system;</li> <li>● Exhausting air from indoors to the outdoors; and</li> <li>● Cleaning the air that is recirculated indoors with effective filtration methods (e.g., HEPA filters) to remove virus-containing particles from the air” (RSSL-RF, June 25, 2021).</li> </ul>
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	<p>Staff and students will be trained on the importance of hand and respiratory hygiene. Hand sanitizer will be available for use upon entering District buildings. Students will be encouraged to wash their hands throughout the day including but not limited to after recess, before and after eating lunch and after using the restroom.</p>	<p>OHA and ODE strongly advise that schools create protocols and systems to ensure access to soap, water and alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Schools will prioritize handwashing with soap and water after students or staff use the restroom” (RSSL-RF, June 25, 2021).</p>

Advised mitigation strategy	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
Free, on-site COVID-19 diagnostic testing	<p>Students and Staff who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 while at school will offered a BinaxNOW test (with signed permission). They will be sent home and directed to get either a rapid COVID test or a PCR test if needed.</p> <p>MSD Sports teams also are able to perform diagnostic testing on student athletes and coaching staff who become ill during at practice or game.</p>	<p>This follows the RSSL guiding principles around centering on the health and safety of staff and students by offering both the Rapid and the PCR COVID test. By providing quick access to COVID testing we are able to get students and staff back to school and work quicker and also the diagnostic testing helps mitigate the spread of the disease.</p>
COVID-19 screening testing	<p>Currently we do not plan to do screening testing but will continue to evaluate whether it could be a useful mitigation tool.</p> <p>Unvaccinated staff have been notified per the govenors latest mandate and we are discussing options with staff.</p>	N/A

Advised mitigation strategy	Extent to which district has adopted policies and description of policies adopted	How do adopted policies reflect RSSL guiding principles?
Public health communication	<p>MSD has support from LESD Liaison for reopening. The Superintendent or designee attends weekly Lane County Public Health meetings. We are currently looking to fill a district nurse position to help support buildings.</p> <p>Staff will receive an updated COVID-19 training outlining newest safety measures and mitigation strategies to prevent the spread of COVID-19. MSD will follow all LCPH recommendations when a staff or student has a positive diagnosis or has been exposed to COVID-19. When a positive case is identified the district will work in calling and/or send notification letter to those affected. If an entire class,</p>	<p>This follows the RSSL guiding principles around centering on the health and safety of staff and students by providing parents, students and families information on signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if they get sick.</p>
Isolation and quarantine	<p>MSD will follow all LCPH recommendations in regards to isolation and quarantine. We also follow the document Planning and Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios in Schools when identifying close contacts needing to quarantine. MSD has support from LESD Liaison for reopening. The Superintendent or designee attends weekly Lane County Public Health meetings. We are currently looking to fill a district nurse position to help support both buildings.</p>	<p>This follows the RSSL guiding principles around centering on the health and safety of staff and students by identifying a space in each school where students exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 or other communicable diseases can be isolated until they can be picked up.</p>

## Accommodations for Children with Disabilities

Please describe the extent to which the district has adopted policies related to appropriate accommodation for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety protocols. Please describe any such policies.

Students are entitled to needed accommodations through documented 504 Plans and Individualized Education Plans. When students cannot follow the health and safety protocols due to disability or health condition, MSD teams obtain a doctor's note, hold manifestation meetings as necessary, and make the appropriate changes to the accommodations on the 504 or IEP.

Marcola School District is familiar with ODE's Planning for Individualized COVID-19 REcovery Services: <https://www.oregon.gov/ode/students-and-family/healthsafety/Documents/Planning%20for%20Individualized%20COVID-19%20Recovery%20Services.pdf>

## Updates to this Plan

To remain in compliance with ARP ESSER requirements, school districts must regularly, but no less frequently than every six months (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools), review, and as appropriate, revise its Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan.

Date Last Updated: August 24, 2021 TA