



## **LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service**

**Pursuant to the Federal American Rescue Plan Act, Section 2001(i)**

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

---

**LEA Name: Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School**

**Date (06/04/2021):**

#### **1. Maintaining Health and Safety**

**For each mitigation strategy listed below (A–H), please describe 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 policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.**

##### **A. Universal and correct wearing of masks**

All students and staff will be required to use masks while indoors unless fully vaccinated as advised by the CDC and current Executive Order. In the re-opening plan, teachers received posters with instructions on how to properly wear a mask, which have been posted in all classrooms and common shared areas throughout the school. The school nurse also displayed to staff the proper way of wearing a mask. AUL will closely monitor and follow any further guidance provided by the CDC and the Department of Health to ensure a safe return to school in September 2021.

##### **B. Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding)**

In order to reduce the student population, two cohorts were established. All students and staff must adhere to a six-feet apart distancing. Students desks have been spaced out, social distancing signs have been posted all throughout the facility along with 'one way traffic' hallways and stairwells to aid in social distancing. AUL will closely monitor and follow any further guidance provided by the CDC and the Department of Health.

##### **C. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette**

AULCS' Reopening plan outlined the protocol for handwashing. All students and staff are encouraged to wash hands as often as possible. Guidance on proper hand washing has been posted in all students and

staff bathrooms. All classrooms have been equipped with additional hand sanitizers to aid with hygiene when hand washing is not available. Each desk has its own hand sanitizer, and teachers are provided with alcohol wipes.

#### **D. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation**

AULCS has hired additional custodial staff to ensure our facility is properly sanitized throughout the day. To fulfill CDC requirements, all sources of ventilation that need to be upgraded or repaired and maintained to increase airflow in classrooms, gyms, auditoriums and offices in both school buildings were identified and action taken to resolve any problems. Upgrades to the mechanical ventilation system is currently in process. The schools' Architect and HVAC contractors reviewed both buildings along with custodial staff to determine the number of windows needed to be replaced and repaired and the upgrades to the mechanical systems. Additionally, all classrooms and offices have been equipped with air purifiers to ensure a constant airflow filtration. Additional air filters have been purchased to ensure they are being replaced every 90 days as advised by the CDC.

#### **E. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments**

As outlined in our AULCS Reopening Plan, prior to entering our buildings both staff and students must complete a Health and Wellness Questionnaire. Any staff member showing symptoms of COVID must notify HR. The school nurse will serve as the primary authority for sending home sick staff and students. Students and staff deemed ill and having Covid related symptoms will not remain at school and should return only after their symptoms resolve and they are physically ready to return to school; they will be required to remain at home for the infectious period. AUL will continue to work with the local and state departments of health to identify and support any student or staff member who may have contracted COVID-19 and/or come into contact with someone who has contracted COVID-19. Contact tracing will be coordinated between the school and the county health department, but governed as per the county health department's protocol.

#### **F. Diagnostic and screening testing**

As outlined in our AULCS Reopening Plan, prior to entering our buildings both staff and students will have their temperature taken. Any student who exhibits any COVID-19 symptom(s) will be safely and respectfully isolated upon arrival to determine the student's health status. . Any student with a temperature of 100 °F and greater will be placed in an isolation area and a parent/emergency contact will be notified for pick up. Students with a potential COVID-19 infection must leave the school as soon as possible. The parent or emergency contact should be available within school hours to come for the child within 30 minutes. The student will exit the school at the closest exit to the isolation area. A staff member experiencing COVID-19 symptom(s) or feeling sick should notify a school administrator immediately for next steps, relief of duty, etc. Anyone leaving school with COVID-19 symptoms is encouraged to get properly tested.

#### **G. Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible**

AULCS partnered with Penn Medical Center to offer vaccinations to staff members. We have also partnered with Walgreens to offer vaccinations for parents and students scheduled for June 19, 2021.

#### **H. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies**

AULCS will provide the necessary Academic, Behavioral, and Social-Emotional support for students and staff, in order to maximize conditions for teaching and learning. All schools are staffed with Social Workers, Guidance Counselors, and a School Nurse to provide various levels of support to students and families. Students in Special Education, English Language Learners (ELL), 504, and Intervention & Referral Services (I&RS) will continue to receive high quality instruction and supplemental services as per their specific educational needs, both on campus and remotely. Staff members in these departments will continuously work to ensure that all services are appropriate and adapted as necessary to address all needs in providing the best possible academic experience.

## **2. Ensuring Continuity of Services**

#### **A. Describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff's social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services. (1000 character limit)**

In addition to Health and Safety, the Academy for Urban Leadership will provide the necessary Academic, Behavioral, and Social-Emotional support for students and staff, in order to maximize conditions for teaching and learning. Wraparound supports will be provided as necessary - (i.e.. Referrals to outside agencies, private counseling, etc.)

Educators will incorporate social and emotional skill building into classroom learning in both school-based and home-based virtual formats. This will help foster a safe and supportive environment. Support staff will collaborate with classroom teachers to provide various lessons on wellness, stress management, anxiety, etc.

Ongoing professional development to be provided to staff on Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Classroom teachers will be provided with activities, lessons and resources to support the mental health needs of students from the School Social Worker.

Multi-tiered system of support, including universal screening for all students in ELA and Math, as well as other core academic subjects, Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS), Response to Intervention (RTI), and counseling. This will be provided in both school-based and home-based virtual formats.

District website to include additional resources and contact information for district staff and crisis hotlines.

### 3. Public Comment

**A. Describe how the LEA sought public comment on its plan, and how it took those public comment into account in the development of its plan. Note, the ARP requires that LEAs seek public comment for each 60-day revision to the plan. (1000 character limit)**

Throughout the process of safely reopening, AULCS has held Stakeholder meetings, sent out surveys to parents and staff through website posts, robocalls and text messages. Survey information was shared with the Board of Trustees at public meetings where members of the community are encouraged to voice any concerns. The reopening plan was presented and discussed during a Board meeting prior to its approval.

**B. Describe how the LEA ensured that the plan is in an understandable and uniform format; is to the extent practicable written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, will be orally translated for such a parent; and upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, will be provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent. (1000 character limit)**

AULCS Reopening Plan can be found on the school's website. It is an outlined and detailed plan. Additionally, the plan along with step-by-step instructions with pictures regarding protocols to follow for students and staff was sent through email. Community members with any questions or concerns are encouraged to call our main office for any clarification. Translations will be made available upon request.