



**Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III  
(ESSER III)**

**December 20, 2021**

**Muskegon Covenant Academy  
State and Federal Programs**

## **Muskegon Covenant Academy**

**Address of School District:** 125 Catherine Ave, Muskegon MI 49442

**District Code Number:** 61906

**Building Code Number:** 002490

**District Contact Person:** Mia Clark-Grissom

**District Contact Person Email Address:** [mclark@mcovenantacademy.org](mailto:mclark@mcovenantacademy.org)

**Federal Requirement: Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services within 30 days of receipt of LEA allocation.**

The Safe Return to In-Person Instruction (Michigan requirement “COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan”) was approved by the Muskegon Covenant Academy Board of Education on the following dates.

- August 11, 2020
- September 29, 2020
- October 13, 2020
- November 10, 2020
- December 8, 2020
- January 12, 2021
- February 9, 2021
- March 9, 2021
- April 13, 2021
- May 11, 2021
- June 15, 2021

Since this plan was approved and allowed open comment since the passage of the ARP, this requirement has been met.

## **Introduction and Background**

In March 2021, President Biden signed the Federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, Public Law 117-2, into law. The ARP Act provides an additional \$122 billion in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) to states and school districts to help safely reopen, sustain the safe operation of schools, and address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the nation's students. As with the previous ESSER funds available under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA), the purpose of the additional funding is to support local educational agencies (LEAs) in preparing for and responding to the impacts of COVID-19 on educators, students, and families.

Section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act requires each LEA that receives ARP ESSER funds to develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website, no later than 30 days after receiving ARP ESSER funds, a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services for all schools (Safe Return Plan). A Safe Return Plan is required of all fund recipients, including those that have already returned to in-person instruction. Section 2001(i)(2) of the ARP Act further requires that the LEA seek public comment on the Safe Return Plan and take those comments into account in the finalization of the Safe Return Plan. Under the interim final requirements published in Volume 86, No. 76 of the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE), an LEA must periodically, but no less frequently than every six months through September 30, 2023, review and, as appropriate, revise its Safe Return Plan.

The LEA 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 Plan for Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services through September 30, 2023**

<b>Date of Revision</b>	
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## Plan for the 2021-21 School Year

Muskegon Covenant Academy will offer in-person learning, five days per week according to the Board adopted 2021-2022 Academic Year Calendar.

<p>How the LEA will <b>maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff</b> and the <b>extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies</b>, on each of the following <b>safety recommendations established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html</a></p>	
<p>➤ <b>Universal and correct wearing of masks</b></p>	<p>MCA is committed to providing students, staff, and visitors with a safe and healthy environment. During times of elevated communicable disease community spread (pandemic or epidemic), the Academy will issue periodic guidance in alignment with public health officials and/or in accordance with government orders.</p> <p>For the 2021-22 school year, masks are required to be worn by all staff and students inside Academy buildings and while riding on Academy vans.</p>
<p>➤ <b>Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)</b></p>	<p>3 feet of physical distance will be encouraged when possible and utilized where feasible.</p>
<p>➤ <b>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</b></p>	<p>Handwashing will continue to be emphasized throughout the school day. Hand sanitizers will be placed throughout the buildings and students will be encouraged to sanitize their hands when entering and again when leaving a classroom. Cough and sneeze etiquette will be taught and reinforced.</p>
<p>➤ <b>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation</b></p>	<p>Cleaning and sanitation will continue to be done nightly with diligence. Ventilation will be continuously monitored to ensure necessary airflow.</p>
<p>➤ <b>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments</b></p>	<p>MCA will follow all local and state regulations and policies with regards to isolation and quarantine and make necessary adjustments through the year when possible/necessary.</p>
<p>➤ <b>Diagnostic and screening testing</b></p>	<p>Families are expected to assess their student(s)</p>

	health on a daily basis prior to attending school and communicate with the school if symptoms of Covid are present or positive test results are discovered. If students/staff exhibit any COVID-19 related symptoms, particularly the loss of taste and/or smell, a temperature of over 100 degrees, and/or any shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, they should stay home. At any time, MCA may take the temperature of students or employees upon arrival at school or at any time during the school day.
➤ <b>Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities</b>	MCA will continue to educate and encourage all staff and students about the importance of vaccination. Clinics will be publicized through the various communication channels if they occur.
➤ <b>Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies</b>	MCA will continue to provide health and safety accommodations in accordance with students' Individualized Educational Plans.
➤ <b>Coordination with State and local health officials</b>	MCA will continue to work with the local and state health departments and will comply with regulations if they are disseminated. MCA will also communicate with these health departments as necessary.

## Ensuring Continuity of Services

How the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address <b>students' academic needs</b> and <b>students' and staff social, emotional, mental health</b> , and other needs, which may include <b>student health and food services</b>	
<b>How will the LEA Ensure Continuity of Services?</b>	
Muskegon Covenant Academy is committed to the highest academic and developmental outcomes for each student. As such, the Academy 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, including student health and food services as detailed below.	
<b>How will the LEA address Students':</b>	
➤ <b>Academic Needs</b>	Muskegon Covenant Academy has returned to in-person instruction, 5 days a week. A reading and math intervention program is running each afternoon after school has been created to help address learning loss in a more targeted and detailed manner. MCA has hired a .5 teacher to allow for more individualized instruction for students and smaller class sizes. For students whose health precludes them from coming into the building and are working virtually, MCA has Chromebooks and HotSpots for home use.
➤ <b>Social, Emotional &amp; Mental Health</b>	Muskegon Covenant Academy is committed to the physical wellbeing of its staff and students. MCA has

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Needs</b></p>	<p>hired a Street Outreach staff who goes out and locates students whose attendance since Covid has fallen off. The staff member works with students and families to break down the barriers that are in the way of coming to school.</p>
<p>➤ <b>Other Needs</b> <b>(which may include student health and food services)</b></p>	<p>MCA has Family Support Specialist whose main responsibility includes connecting students with necessary services in the community. These services include housing needs, medical needs, and food assistance. MCA also has a food pantry, that includes items for infants, that is available to its students. MCA also provides breakfast and lunch at no charge to all students. MCA also contracts a licensed psychologist who provides counseling support to staff and students.</p>

## Semi-Annual Review and Public Comment

<p><b>Public Input</b></p>	
<p><b>Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan.</b></p>	<p>Muskegon Covenant Academy sent out a survey to all stakeholders to get input on how these funds would be best utilized. These survey results were compiled and helped to drive the design of this plan. The Board of Education meetings also include a public comments section in which feedback is welcome. This plan will be reviewed semi-annually through the calendar year 2023. The plan will be available for public comment at the Academy's April and October board meetings. In accordance with federal guidelines, any person electing to provide public comment for review and consideration regarding this plan may contact Mia Clark-Grissom, <a href="mailto:mclark@mcovenantacademy.org">mclark@mcovenantacademy.org</a></p>
<p><b>Understandable and Uniform Format</b></p>	
<p><b>Describe the process by which the LEA will, to the extent practicable, present the plan written in a language that parents can understand. Or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, describe the process for orally translating the plan for such parents; describe the process by which a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, will be provided a version of the plan in an alternative format accessible to that parent.</b></p>	<p>This plan will be available on the Academy's website at <a href="https://www.mcovenantacademy.org/">https://www.mcovenantacademy.org/</a> Hard copies of this plan will also be available at the Academy. MCA will work with its staff to translate - orally or in writing - this plan into a language with limited English proficiency or for an individual whom ADA has determined the necessity of an alternative format.</p>