



BERKS COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT

HEALTH + SAFETY PLAN

Approved August 19, 2021 | Effective August 20, 2021 | Approved/Revised March 17, 2022 |
Acknowledged June 16, 2022 | Updated August 18, 2022 | Acknowledged/Approved/Revised January 19, 2023
| Acknowledged/Approved/Revised June 15, 2023 | Acknowledged November 16, 2023

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **Berks County Intermediate Unit**

Initial Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Date of Last Review: November 16, 2023

Date of Last Revision: June 15, 2023

1. How will the LEA, to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?

The health and safety of the Berks County Intermediate Unit (BCIU) and the Pennsylvania Key staff and students remain, as always, the top priority for the organization. The BCIU Leadership Team and Pandemic Team continue to take critical steps in making decisions that protect the health and safety of our organization.

Organizational standards and expectations are based on the latest mandates issued by the Governor's Office, the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), the Department of Human Services (DHS), the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The BCIU Leadership Team and Pandemic Team will continue to monitor communications.

2. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services?

The BCIU educational programs and services will operate full in-person instruction and/or shift between in-person and virtual instruction depending on certain circumstances in accordance with program regulations. And in accordance with OCDEL, teleintervention will remain an ongoing option for delivering services by a student's IEP Team.

The BCIU continues to make resources available through its employee assistance provider, online training system, and intranet site containing additional resources to include wellness information.

3. Use the following table to explain 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 policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
a. Universal and correct wearing of masks ;	The BCIU will comply with any face-covering mandate initiated by the state or federal government in accordance with general statutes.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	The BCIU will adhere to the latest mandates provided by PDE, DOH, CDC, and OCDEL relative to physical distancing.
c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ;	Staff are expected to follow best practices relative to handwashing and respiratory etiquette.
d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation ;	The BCIU will adhere to the latest mandates provided by PDE, DOH, and CDC related to cleaning and ventilation.
e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine , in collaboration with the state and local health departments;	The BCIU will contact the DOH and follow their guidance. Guidance may include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Disease information; o The distribution of appropriate letters and communications; o Identification of high-risk individuals; o Appropriate action and treatment; and o Ongoing support and assistance.
f. Diagnostic and screening testing;	Staff are required to follow the recommendation of their attending physician and/or DOH directive(s) as it relates to diagnostic and screening testing.
g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities ;	Staff are required to follow the recommendation of their attending physician and/or DOH directive(s) as it relates to vaccinations.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	Special accommodations or health care needs of students with disabilities will be addressed through the IEP process. Accommodations may include but are not limited to adapted service delivery models (i.e., teleintervention, individualized services, when appropriate), and/or other health and safety precautions as outlined in an individualized health plan.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	The BCIU will continue to maintain existing partnerships with local and state agencies.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors / Trustees for **Berks County Intermediate Unit** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on August 19, 2021.

The Board of Directors of the **Berks County Intermediate Unit** reviewed and approved the updated Health and Safety Plan on June 15, 2023.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

15 **Yes**

0 **No**

Affirmed on: **June 15, 2023**

By:



(Signature* of Board President)

Gary McEwen

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.

**APPROVED BY THE BERKS COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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