

CHARTER ARTS

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Health and Safety Plan: UPDATED SPRING 2022

Previous Health and Safety Plan Effective Date: July 23, 2021

Date of Last Revision: Feb 4, 2022

Date of Board Meeting for review and approval: Feb 10, 2022

Since March of 2020, the Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts (Charter Arts) has been operating within a three-phase Health and Safety plan to address the rapidly changing needs and evolving guidance related to the COVID-19 pandemic. At first, our state-required Continuity of Education plan was approved in April 2020, and then our first official Health and Safety plan was School Board approved in August 2020. The Charter Arts School Board of Directors approved an updated version of our Health and Safety Plan in April 2021 before launching Plan B - our transition plan to move from fully remote to hybrid learning. These plans are linked below in the Resources section of this document. In July 2021, our Health and Safety plan was updated and geared towards promoting a full return to in-person learning for the 21-22 school year with a focus on providing continuity of education in person to the maximum extent possible.

On January 7, 2022, Charter Arts notified students, employees, and families that we would update our Health and Safety Plan to implement a Modified Plan A, if necessary, which specified expectations for students and employees should our school building need to close for a short period of time for a Covid-related reason, including but not limited to: substitute shortages, teacher absences, transportation issues, etc. Charter Arts also notified all stakeholders that although there was a change in the statewide requirement for masking, we would continue to require universal masking of students, employees, and all visitors to ensure mitigation measures to prevent the spread of Covid, Omicron, and other variants to the maximum extent possible. Additionally, on January 28, 2022, Charter Arts notified families of our Test to Stay (TTS) pilot program launch, which requires consent for anyone under 18 years of age and permits those students and employees to stay in school to learn and work with mild symptoms, if their test result on site is negative. As this pandemic evolves, we will continue to follow the guidance and recommendations of our health partners to ensure the safety of our community.

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 to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?

The health and safety of all Charter Arts students, employees, families, and the community at large remain a top priority for our School Board and school leadership. As outlined in our Emergency Instructional Time Template for the 21-22 school year, Charter Arts will implement in person learning this year, 5 days a week, to the maximum extent possible and may implement asynchronous and synchronous learning as needed depending on a variety of circumstances, including: building and local Covid case counts, staffing shortages, transportation

shortages, etc. Our Certified School Nurse (CSN) and Administration will continue to collaborate with our partners at St. Luke's and Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 (IU20), the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), and the Bethlehem Health Bureau and will monitor the websites, guidance, and resources these partners and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) provide to ensure that we are making decisions in the best interest of our students, employees, and community.

This pandemic is ever-evolving, and Charter Arts mitigation protocols are subject to change and will be revised accordingly by our CSN and Administration when needed. The School Board grants School Administration permission to adjust our day-to-day procedures to align with updated guidance, regional COVID case counts, and in consultation with our healthcare partners, without resubmission of this plan. We will continue to keep our stakeholders informed as changes to this plan or schoolwide procedures are implemented.

To continue to keep our Charter Arts community safe, we respectfully request that all students and employees get a COVID vaccine and provide confirmation to our school nurse via email: nurse@charterarts.org.

In Person Learning Expectations Spring 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Masking is required for all building occupants and individuals, including performers and audience members/patrons. Guidelines may change based on evolving guidance from the CDC and DOH. School Administration reserves the right to update masking requirements as needed.● Students are required to wear masks while riding district-provided transportation and/or contracted bussing for field trips, etc.● We will strive to maintain 3 feet of physical distancing in all spaces, when possible.● We encourage all students and employees to get a COVID-19 vaccine and booster and provide their vaccine records to our school nurse. Vaccines will keep our community safe and streamline contact tracing and communication efforts.● Public performances will be held in person, both at Charter Arts and in the local community. Physical distancing for audience members and performers is encouraged. We plan to offer performances in a variety of formats, including live in-person, pre-recorded, and in some cases, live-streamed based on the nature of the event to maximize viewership when possible.● All students, employees, and visitors are still required to use the daily symptom monitoring tool accessible HERE.
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**COVID-related
BUILDING
CLOSURE
PROCEDURES
AND
EXPECTATIONS
21-22**

“Modified Plan A”

- **Covid-related building closures are to be 5 days in length or otherwise determined by school Administration.**
- Families will be notified with an Administration Letter via SwiftReachK12 which will include comprehensive instructions, start date of closure, and end date of closure.
- On Day 1 of the building closure, students will follow the FID plan although these days will not officially be FID days. Schedule outlined below^.
- For the remaining days of the building closure (i.e. day 2 and after), students will participate in their classes synchronously. In other words, they will utilize Google Meet links provided by their teachers on Google Classroom to log in for each class they have that day. If students do not log into the live Google Meet sessions, they will be marked absent from class.
- Daily attendance for students will be taken during first period while in Modified Plan A. Students must sign into the live Google Meet session in order for daily attendance to be counted. If a student has study hall first period, they must sign into the Google Meet session provided by their study hall teacher for daily attendance to be recorded.
- On the synchronous learning days, students do NOT need to log in for study hall periods, with the exception of first period study halls as noted above.
- Teachers and departments may discuss specific learning plans, needs, and expectations of students depending on their subject specific curriculum as needed.
- Unless otherwise communicated to students by their teachers, students will be expected to have their cameras ON during synchronous learning.
- Students that have technology access questions, challenges, or concerns should complete [THIS Google Form](#) found on the Charter Arts [Technology Resource Website](#). Student needs will be addressed in the order they are received by our technology department.
- Performances will be held either in person or virtually at the discretion of school administration.

**This plan may be implemented due to recommendation by the Bethlehem Health Bureau or because of staffing, sub, and/or transportation shortages. To ensure students can stay in school in person, and prior to implementing this Modified Plan A and closing down the entire building, Administration will consider moving a specific department or grade level into remote asynchronous or synchronous learning for a specified time period. Should an alternate strategy be implemented, the Administration would provide additional information to students and families impacted.*

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

- We will maintain our partnership with CIU20 and regularly attend the administrative regional Emergency Preparedness meetings where conversations and solutions surrounding student mental health and wellbeing have become a top priority.
- Should a student need to quarantine at home, they should access their classwork and assignments through Google Classroom and may email their teachers to schedule time for 1:1 check-ins as necessary. As a reminder, students can request a meeting with their school counselor [here](#) and will have access to their IEP/504 accommodations and academic support from home. Student work exemptions and extended deadlines will be discussed on a case by case basis. Should students have questions about work assignments, they should email their teachers directly and/or request meetings with their teachers who are available for support as needed.

The table below further explains how Charter Arts will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other employees by aligning our procedures to guidance established by the CDC and PA DOH.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
Universal and correct wearing of masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Masking is required for all building occupants, including students, employees, visitors, and audience members. Masks help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and/or onto other people when the person wearing the cloth face-covering sneezes, coughs, talks, or raises their voice. ● Correct mask-wearing will follow the CDC’s most current guidelines, PA DOH, St. Luke’s Health Network, and the City of Bethlehem Health Bureau. ● Charter Arts administrators reserve the right to update our recommendations regarding masking based upon data and guidance from the Bethlehem Health Bureau and CDC.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Building occupants will be encouraged to maintain physical distancing when possible. ● In the majors of Dance, Vocal, and Instrumental Music classes, students and employees are encouraged to maintain a 3-6’ distance when possible. ● Teachers and students will attempt to maintain 3-6’ physical distancing whenever possible to ensure maximum student participation and safety. ● Whenever possible, Vocal and Instrumental students will limit the number of individuals participating in aerosol-producing activities simultaneously (i.e., singing, playing woodwinds). If this is not possible, alternate locations may be used for this purpose, and masks may be worn (if outside, masking is not required). ● Students are encouraged to wear specialized masks with slits for playing instruments (if applicable) and see-through masks for singing and acting. ● Depending on classroom space, music students may have the opportunity to use PVC barriers between themselves and their peers when participating in aerosol-producing activities.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Building occupants are encouraged to routinely utilize the hand sanitizer stations installed in every classroom and other work and public space. ● Proper handwashing technique signage has been posted in all restrooms. ● Paper towels and sanitizing spray are provided in each classroom to clean student desks and chairs and teacher workstations.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HVAC units exceed standards for air circulation per hour per room. ● Cleaning & disinfecting occurs during the school day and after school hours. ● Electrostatic sprayer and Halo disinfectant machine will be utilized during and after the school day and performances as needed. ● Large mops & disinfectant cleaners will be used in the Dance studios periodically during the school day.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All employees, students, families, and visitors must conduct a daily self-screening to monitor symptoms before reporting to school or work (see screener in the resources section below). ● If an individual is exposed to someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19, they must quarantine unless they are fully vaccinated and do not have symptoms. ● Fully vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine after being exposed (within 6 ft for 15 minutes or more) to someone with COVID-19. Individuals must self-monitor for any possible symptoms of COVID-19 after exposure and report to the school nurse if symptoms occur. ● Unvaccinated individuals are recommended to quarantine at home for 5 days when

	<p>they have been in close contact (less than 6 ft for 15 minutes or more) with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 unless they have had a positive case of COVID-19 in the past three months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In home close contact unvaccinated individuals must quarantine for 10 days and may return to school after day 10 as long as they are symptom free. ● Students required to quarantine per the PA DOH must provide sufficient documentation to the nurse and attendance coordinator. Instructional content will be accessed through the student's Google Classroom. ● If a student or employee exhibits symptoms of COVID-19, they will immediately report to the school nurse's office. Students will immediately isolate until dismissed. Students will only be released to parents/guardians, or student drivers may drive. Students presenting COVID symptoms will not be permitted on school/district transportation or go home via carpool to ensure the health and safety of others. Parents/guardians will be instructed to seek medical evaluation and testing for COVID-19. ● Symptomatic employees will be asked to leave and will be instructed to seek medical evaluation and testing. ● An area of the Nurse's Office will be designated as the sick room (room with resting cots). The door will remain closed while symptomatic students are in the room. Spaces will be cleaned immediately upon vacancy using the electrostatic sprayer and disinfectant. ● The certified school nurse, or their designee, will monitor the temperatures of any symptomatic students and employees. ● Symptomatic students who do not receive a COVID-19 test can return to school if symptom free for 48 hours. ● When a student or employee is diagnosed with COVID-19, Charter Arts will notify close contacts and possible exposures of the confirmed positive case according to the CDC guidelines.
<p>Diagnostic and screening testing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Diagnostic testing is available at multiple local locations and is recommended for all persons with symptoms of COVID-19 (see resources below). ● Charter Arts will pilot PA Department Of Health TTS (Test to Stay) program, a free, K-12 school-based testing program that will include several testing options at no cost to the school or families (see resources below). ● The Test to Stay Program and its testing portal, Concentric by Ginkgo, will be live and up and running by January 31, 2022. Charter Arts Administration reserves the right to continue or discontinue this testing program based upon this pilot. Anyone under the age of 18 is required to have a parent/guardian provide consent to test. Questions should be directed to nurse@charterarts.org.
<p>Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Charter Arts will continue to promote opportunities to receive the COVID vaccination and/or booster through the Bethlehem Health Bureau and will notify families of these opportunities via our weekly eblast. ● The vaccine has been promoted to employees and students. ● In partnership with CIU20, Charter Arts employees were provided an opportunity to attend a vaccine/booster clinic at IU20 during the 21-22 school year. ● Charter Arts requests that all students and employees get their COVID vaccination and/or booster as soon as they are eligible to, and to provide proof of immunization to the school nurse.
<p>Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities concerning health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students who are quarantined per the PA DOH must provide sufficient documentation to the school nurse and Attendance Coordinator. Access to class content can be found on Google Classroom. ● Students with complex needs should schedule a meeting with the school nurse or their IEP/504 team to discuss their diagnosis and/or special needs. Accommodations

<p>and safety policies</p>	<p>will be made on a case-by-case basis depending on the need, diagnosis, and decision of the IEP/504 team members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Counseling and mental health-related services will be available as needed for students. ● Employees who are at high risk for contracting COVID must provide documentation that they cannot perform their job responsibilities as outlined in their job description in person and must contact the Superintendent/CEO immediately to initiate the interactive ADA process.
<p>Coordination with state and local health officials</p>	<p>As previously outlined, Charter Arts will continue communicating with and following guidance and recommendations from the following organizations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Colonial Intermediate Unit 20 (IU20) ● Bethlehem Health Bureau ● St. Luke's University Health Network ● PA Department of Health (PA DOH) ● PA Department of Education (PDE) ● Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Resources:

- [Charter Arts Health and Safety Plan - August 2020](#)
- [Charter Arts Revised Health and Safety Plan - April 2021](#)
- [Charter Arts Self-Screener Checklist](#)
- [Charter Arts School Counseling Resource Page](#)
- [COVID-19 Guidance](#)
- [CDC Cleaning & Disinfecting Protocols](#)
- [CDC Contact Tracing Resources](#)
- [CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Information](#)
- [CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Unvaccinated People](#)
- [CDC Hand-hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette](#)
- [CDC Interim Guidance for Diagnostic and Screening Testing](#)
- [CDC Isolation if you are Sick](#)
- [CDC Vaccine Toolkit for Schools](#)
- [CDC Ventilation for Schools](#)
- [CDC When to Quarantine](#)
- [Daily Symptom Monitoring Self Screener Checklist](#)
- [PA COVID-19 Vaccine Information](#)
- [St. Luke's University Health Network Guidance for Schools](#)
- [PA map of available testing sites](#)
- [PA Unites Against COVID: Safe Workplace Checklist](#)
- [Test to Stay program](#)

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for The Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on February 10, 2022.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

1 Yes
0 No

Affirmed on: **February 10, 2022**

By:



Mario Acerra, Board President (*Signature* of Board President*)



Mario Acerra, Board President (*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 is needed.

