



Hope Academy School District
ARP Compliance Requirements
Return to In-Person Instruction
and Continuity of Service Plan
October 2020 – September 2024

Reporting Timelines

I. FISCAL YEARS: October 2020 – September 2022

All students at Hope Academy School District, which includes PreK – 8th grade, were on remote learning beginning in March 2020 through June 2021. All students at Hope Academy School District returned to in-person learning in September 2021. Testing results in 2021 and 2022 revealed learning loss at all grade levels and in all subject areas.

II. FISCAL YEAR: October 2022 – September 2023

As the Hope Academy students continued in their second year of in-person learning, the Continuity of Service Plan continued to be in place and implemented with model fidelity. A comprehensive set of safety protocols, as established by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), were implemented with model fidelity to ensure a safe return to in-person instruction. The focus was now on closing the gap in learning loss and helping students adjust to the in-person learning environment.

III. FISCAL YEAR: October 2023 – September 2024

In-Person Instruction, Continuity of Service Plan, and a comprehensive set of health and safety protocols were updated and implemented in accordance with CDC revisions; and continued to ensure a risk-free and safe environment for in-person instruction. The intensive focus on learning loss, the use of best practice models, staff professional development, and increase in certified teachers is revealing student growth in all grade levels, and in many academic subject areas.

- I. Hope Academy’s Extended COVID Learning Plan embraces a Continuity of Service Plan that is necessary to continue student engagement and learning during the remote learning process. The remote learning process is ensuring continuity of instructional services that embrace the engagement of students, with the goal of achieving measurable academic outcomes. The instructional plan, although remote will address both academic and non-academic needs of all students. The Continuity of Service Plan is designed to emphasize the roles of instructional quality, instructional delivery, and instructional impact on all students during this remote learning process.

Six-Month Review: February

Remote Instructional Services	
Continuity of Instructional Services Plan	<p><u>Preschool – 8th Grade</u></p> <p>Beginning in March 2020, It was the agreement of the Hope Academy Board to support the Governor of Michigan’s requirement to close in-person learning for the safety of all students. All K-8 students received age appropriate academic packages and non-academic resource materials that were provided to the parents on site at the school or through mail delivery. The package was provided to the families prior to the school closing due to the pandemic. Paper copied learning packages were distributed to assess the readiness for the household of students to engage in remote learning.</p> <p>It was assessed and determined that a majority of the households of our students did not have access to devices for remote learning, nor access to internet services.</p> <p>Inasmuch as remote learning was necessary, the school had to assume the financial responsibility for locating and providing both the required devices to the total student population, and the needed internet access for the majority of the households of the student population</p> <p>For several months, Hope Academy students used paper copied academic learning tools and paper copied non-academic resources, and received daily verbal communication with their teachers, paraprofessionals, and other support services that were necessary for each student based upon their needs, including their disability. Additional paper learning materials were provided to families, either through mail or direct delivery. Although the</p>

<p>(CONT.)</p> <p>Six-Month Review February Remote Instructional Services</p> <p>Continuity of Instructional Services Plan</p>	<p>household of the students did not have remote devices or internet connection, nearly 100% did have access to cell phones, which made communicating with the students on a daily basis feasible.</p> <p>However, within a few months, students had access to remote devices and internet services. It was the desire of all family members to continue providing remote learning services Monday through Friday, embracing the regular school hours of Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>During the remote learning process, families were provided, as requested, supplies of masks and hand sanitizing materials, as may be needed in the household.</p> <p>Throughout the process, there were verbal and written communications to parents regarding the importance of face covering, frequency of hand washing, COVID-19 testing, and ongoing encouragement to participate in COVID-19 vaccinations that were available. Also shared with them verbally and in writing were protocols from the Center for Disease Control regarding isolation and quarantine protocols.</p> <p><u>Food Service</u></p> <p>Inasmuch as our students were 100% eligible for free and reduced lunch, and they received their daily meals in the school, we provided daily food distribution at the school for our students and other community children. This funding was made possible by the State.</p> <p><u>Lessons Learned</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The challenge in locating a vendor who had sufficient supply of devices to provide in one shipment, and the high cost of devices due to supply and demand. • Working with local providers of internet services and negotiating specific rates based upon the pandemic and the need to provide access to students to receive instructional services.
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<p>(CONT.)</p> <p>Six-Month Review February Remote Instructional Services</p> <p>Continuity of Instructional Services Plan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children without adult supervision in the home were often a “no show” for remote learning. This required social work intervention and outreach by phone or in person with the families. It was also evident as a lesson learned that the students in their household had increased need for socio/emotional and mental health services, as the pandemic had increased the level of uncertainty and crisis never previously experienced. • A lesson learned from the food distribution was the need to help provide access to get the meals due to a lack of transportation or a need for childcare in the home that was needed in order to access the food that was at the school. • A major lesson learned during remote learning was the challenge of students without adult supervision logging on in a timely manner to engage in remote learning. It required tremendous outreach to students and parents by phone, and reinforcing the importance of engaging in the continuity of instructional services as needed by each student. <p><u>Financial Support to Families</u></p> <p>During the remote learning process, and the environmental and financial conditions created for families due to the pandemic, the families we serve were experiencing tremendous financial needs. We were fortunate that our school was selected by the Family Independence Initiative to provide financial support to families who met the initiative’s eligibility criteria. A large percentage of our families met the eligibility and was able to receive \$500.00 tax free cash that was deposited directly into the family’s bank account.</p> <p><u>Ongoing Communication</u></p> <p>Ongoing communication with Hope Academy’s Board, families, and students occurred throughout the process. Updates were given through verbal communication or in writing on the progress of the school’s remote instructions and plans for return to in-person instruction, and the update on the Community Service Plan.</p>
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- II. Hope Academy’s Extended COVID Learning Plan embraces a Continuity of Service Plan that is necessary to continue student engagement and learning during the return to in-person instruction. The in-person process ensures continuity of instructional services that embrace the engagement of students, with the goal of achieving measurable academic outcomes. The instructional plan will address both academic and non-academic needs of all students. The Continuity of Service Plan is designed to emphasize the roles of instructional quality, instructional delivery, and instructional impact on all students.

Six-Month Review: February

In-Person Instructional Services	
Continuity of Instructional Services Plan	<p><u>Return to In-Person Instructions</u></p> <p>All students of Hope Academy returned to in-person instructions in September of 2021. In preparation for the students’ return, an ample supply of required face masks, cleaning materials, and hand sanitizer were made available to students, staff, families, and all visitors. Wearing face masks was a requirement within the school district, and that requirement was supported unanimously by both staff, parents, and students.</p> <p>Hope Academy students from PreK through 8th grade received in-person instructions in a safe, risk-free learning environment that continues to focus on student engagement. Students, families, staff, and visitors had access to an ample supply of face masks, cleaning materials, and hand sanitizer. Wearing face masks was not a requirement within the school district.</p> <p>A COVID-19 comprehensive prevention strategy was adopted by the Board and shared with all families. The document was entitled, “Prevention is our Focus: Working to Control All That We Can Control”, with a major focus being, “Controlling to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19” (August 2021; rev. October 2023). The requirements of the Center for Disease Control and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services provided a comprehensive protocol for schools to adopt. Both reports can be seen on the school’s website. The documents described: What is COVID?; How does COVID spread?; What are symptoms?; Prevention Strategies; and the Availability of COVID-19 vaccines. The broad levels of protection provided in the school were the</p>

<p>(CONT.)</p> <p>Six-Month Review February In-Person Instructional Services</p> <p>Continuity of Instructional Services Plan</p>	<p>following: availability of vaccinations for COVID-19, mask wearing; physical distancing, screening and testing by the onsite health clinic, and the placement of the NuWave ventilation system in each classroom and throughout spaces in the school building. Other protection strategies included shutting down all the school's water fountains and making bottled water available for students, staff, and visitors.</p> <p><u>Hiring Additional Staff</u></p> <p>Additional maintenance staff were hired on a full time basis with the sole responsibility of sanitizing the building throughout the day. Sanitation involved cleaning all common areas that are touched throughout the day, including doorknobs, bannisters, and tables. Every classroom was sanitized twice a day.</p> <p>A disinfecting machine was purchased that was used to spray an area if anyone contracted COVID-19 and was in the school. The area was sprayed and sanitized using a recommended machine and solution that would attack the COVID-19 virus.</p> <p><u>Clinic Services</u></p> <p>Hope Academy's onsite Clinic, operated by Authority Health, supported random screening of the student population three (3) days per week. In addition, any student or staff who had symptoms or was exposed to COVID-19 was able to be tested onsite in the Clinic.</p> <p><u>Food Service</u></p> <p>During this school year, beginning in September 2022, students once again began to eat in the cafeteria in a safe, supportive environment, where social distancing was not required.</p> <p><u>Ongoing Communication</u></p> <p>Ongoing communication with Hope Academy's Board, families, and students occurred throughout the process. Updates were given through verbal communication or in writing on the progress of the school's remote instructions and plans for return to in-person instruction, and the update on the Community Service Plan.</p>
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Six-Month Review: February

In-Person Instructional Services	
Continuity of Instructional Services Plan	<p>Hope Academy students from PreK through 8th grade continue to receive in-person instructions in a safe, risk-free learning environment that continues to focus on student engagement. During this school year, masking was not required, neither was social distancing, as the school’s updated COVID-19 Prevention Plan was revised in compliance with the new rules from the Center for Disease Control (CDC).</p> <p>We continued, however, to use prevention strategies as recommended by the CDC. We continued to provide masks as requested by staff, students, or parents. And we continued to observe ventilation practices and the frequent use of handwashing and hand sanitizing.</p> <p><u>Food Service</u></p> <p>Students continue to eat in the cafeteria in a safe, supportive environment, as social distancing is not required.</p> <p><u>Ongoing Communication</u></p> <p>Ongoing communication with Hope Academy’s Board, families, and students occurred throughout the process. Updates were given through verbal communication, text messages, the website, or in writing on the progress of the school’s remote instructions and plans for return to in-person instruction, and the update on the Community Service Plan.</p>

March 2024