

MITIGATION PLAN

for

Roadmap for Reopening Guide
TELESIS PREPARATORY ACADEMY

2020-2021

August 12, 2020



Telesis Preparatory Academy

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Happy Birthday, Telesis!

In this our 30th Birthday Year, we not only want our students to receive the quality education as in the past 30 years, but a safe one as well. Arizona State Health Services Director Dr. Cara Christ said that in Arizona "We're actually trending down with the number of newly reported cases . . . showing that our mitigation measures are working." Telesis Preparatory Academy wants to be part of that continuing downward trend and we have taken great measures to assure that will be the case as we reopen our school as described in this Mitigation Plan to complement our Roadmap for Reopening Guide.

Our hard-working staff proved from the very beginning that this pandemic would not defeat us, but strengthen us in so many ways. From the first notice that Telesis must convert to distance learning, our staff was dedicated, professional, and courageous to ensuring that every student at Telesis receives a high quality education from home in order to remain safe. And our Board of Directors has supported us all along the way.

My good friend, Ildi Laczko-Kerr, wrote an amazing letter to parents who are worried about their children due to the effect this pandemic has caused, but she concluded that they should not worry and here's why:

- ✓ **Children are resilient**
- ✓ **They learn from their environment**
- ✓ **Their brains are incredibly flexible and malleable sense-making machines**
- ✓ **Teachers are working hard to minimize the impact too**
- ✓ **The standards are designed as progression of learning which can span years which means your child will be reviewing information, exposed to it in a different way and building on years of prior learning**
- ✓ **Most curriculum used in schools "spiral" concepts and content to catch students up/fill in gaps that might exist, etc.**
- ✓ **Struggling students can catch up and close gaps with support**

I would like to thank our students for their resilience, adaptability, and spirit; our parents for their support, patience, and understanding during this difficult time. This Mitigation Plan takes our Roadmap for Reopening to the next level by outlining what plans we have put in place at Telesis Preparatory Academy to offer quality education that puts safety first. Our Mission Statement remains the same: **“Telesis is committed to offering a curriculum individually designed and delivered to meet the needs of each student in real preparation for lifelong learning,”** but we have now strengthened our safety standards reaching higher than ever before because it is the right thing to do.

Telesis - Where Character Comes First

Dr. Sandy Breece
 Superintendent/Principal & Founder

BENCHMARKS

Percent Positivity to Determine In-Person Instruction

Since our Roadmap for Reopening Guide was written the high number of COVID-19 cases in Arizona and Mohave County has decreased and continues to trend downward. We have made a successful start of a remote learning environment since August 3rd. The Arizona Department of Health Services benchmark manual includes coronavirus measurements they call “percent positivity levels” of:

Benchmarks	Minimal	Moderate	Substantial
Percent Positivity	<5%	5-10%	>10%

Two weeks with less than 7% positivity is recommended before in-person learning shall begin.

Currently (8/10/20), Mohave County has a 4.1% positivity level. This is very encouraging and we anticipate with continuing mitigation measures in place throughout the county, this could be the beginning of the two-week recommendation from the Arizona Department of Health Services.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

In-Person Preventive Safety Measures

At Home:

This is the first point on the screening continuum. Students and staff must not come to school if exhibiting any of the following symptoms:

- fever of 100.4 degrees or higher
- chills
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- muscle aches
- sore throat
- headache
- fatigue
- congestion or runny nose
- cough
- vomiting
- diarrhea
- new loss of taste or smell



By choosing in-person enrollment, families will agree to follow the student screening expectations for the above symptoms each morning, to self-report symptoms to the school, and keep students at home if any symptoms are present. A courtesy call to school is requested when a student is kept home for any reason please. Students cannot return to school until they have 72 hours without a temperature. Students will have the opportunity to make-up work missed.

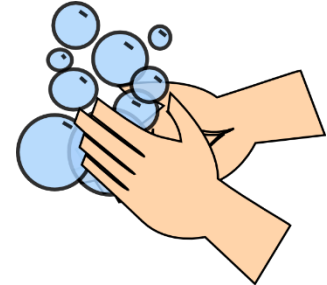
Executive Order 2020-51 requires face masks or face shields for all staff and students over the age of five until the Arizona Dept. of Health Services determines that face coverings are no longer necessary or recommended to contain the spread of the virus.

At School:

By choosing in-person enrollment, the school agrees to follow preventive safety measures while at school throughout the school day:

- Campus will be disinfected regularly in classrooms, gymnasium and offices when students and staff are not on campus. A propellant inside the fogger triggers the release of a fine mist of powerful, disinfecting contents that disperse throughout the room, eliminating germs, bacteria, and other harmful microorganisms on everything the fog touches.
- Each teacher and staff member will have a disinfectant kit to use throughout the day in their classroom or office for doors, desks, and things frequently touched. Every effort will be made to not share materials or supplies.

- Cafeteria will be disinfected between lunch sessions so that next students to sit at cafeteria tables will have a freshly disinfected area to eat. Students will not be allowed to share food or receive food deliveries from outside campus. There will be assigned seating. Cafeteria and gymnasium will be fogged nightly before the next school day.
- Hygiene reminder signs will be displayed throughout our campus to remind students and staff to abide by health and safety standards and to frequently wash their hands.
- Hand sanitizers will be at the entrance of every classroom and office area to use upon entering classroom or office. Hand sanitizers will be at all three gate entrances to our closed campus to be used as students enter our campus every morning.
- Drinking fountains will be replaced with water-dispensing units. Students will need a wide-mouthed plastic water bottle labeled with their name to fill and refill the refrigerated and filtered drinking water throughout the day.
- Plexiglas shields in main office and cafeteria food service line will be present and masks will be required of food service workers and visitors to our main office.
- Executive Order 2020-51 requires face masks or face shields for all staff and students over the age of five until the Arizona Dept. of Health Services determines that face coverings are no longer necessary or recommended to contain the spread of the virus.
- Directional signs will direct students in the way to travel around campus and how far to space yourself when moving around campus.
- Teachers will spread desks within each classroom with seating all facing the same direction. Food service will be in the cafeteria and adjacent rooms with spaced seating all facing the same direction. When weather permits outdoor dining areas will be utilized.
- Teachers will check students' temperature daily upon arrival before entering classroom. Any student with a temperature above 100.4 will be isolated in a supervised room and will then be sent home.



Visitors:

The Telesis campus is a closed campus; therefore, visitors will only be permitted in the main office wearing a face mask and for essential reasons only. **Rule of thumb: Avoid coming to office completely. If you are ill do not come to our office but call instead.**



INSTRUCTION/CONTINUITY OF LEARNING

Overview of Curriculum and Instruction Expectations for 2020-2021

NOTE: Telesis ordered Chromebook computers for students in mid-June, but due to the high demand of these computers that has strained the supply, our order remains on backorder at this time.

Remote Learning:

Due to past high number of COVID-19 cases in Mohave County and across Arizona, the school year began in a remote learning environment on August 3rd for all students. Telesis will abide by the recommendation of the Arizona Department of Health Services carefully watching the two-week consistent percent positivity less than 7%.

Every student in grades 3rd through 12th who does not have access to a computer can check out a Telesis Chromebook upon their arrival to use at home. Children in grades kindergarten through 2nd will have remote and packet learning provided with parent/guardian assistance, as necessary.

Hybrid Learning:

When the 7% positivity level is maintained for two weeks consistently, students will transition to in-person learning on campus with their Chromebook continued to be used at school. Upon their arrival Chromebooks will then be checked out to remaining students (grades 3-12) who did not need them at home so that they too can use them at school and at home each day.

Virtual/Distance Learning Option:

For students and families that do not want to return to in-person learning even if it is deemed safe to open our campuses, a full distance learning option will be available with their Telesis Chromebook (upon their arrival) at home.

The decision to use Chromebooks in the classroom is to ensure Telesis is doing everything possible to keep our students, staff, and families safe. The use of the Chromebooks is to use the online resources, Telesis adopted classroom curriculum, testing platforms, and the school-provided supplemental resources to support their learning. By using these Chromebooks, your students will not be sharing, nor touching resources such as textbooks (most subjects will, have hard copy workbooks along with online option), work packets, passing of paperwork, etc. Rather, the Chromebooks will contain a digital textbook for class, packets and resources usually presented in paper form - now digitally. Additionally, your student will not be bringing home as much paperwork and will be able to submit work electronically. This is for the safety of your students and staff. Teachers will be instructing the curriculum in class. Teachers' instruction will not change - ONLY the delivery of resources will change. Should you

choose to keep your student home and utilize Telesis' Virtual/Distance Learning option - that curriculum is designed for such and not what we use in the classrooms. Please know that in the classroom we will be teaching under the safest circumstances we can provide.



The expectations for learning: Attendance will be marked every day of the adopted school calendar whether attendance is in-person or with flexible remote learning. The same requirements for parents excusing students from school prior to 2020-2021 will continue to be in place. Virtual/Distance Learning students must meet the accountability requirements established. Student ownership of learning will be critical in this

learning environment. Navigating the possibility of working within two learning environments will require discipline and commitment. This responsibility will need to be supported by families, teachers, and support staff. Progress monitoring of academic achievement will be available through communication accessible on the ParentVUE and StudentVUE platforms.

Participation in daily assignments, end of unit exams, performance/exhibitions, and class participation will all be part of students' evidence of learning and documented in Gradebook for ParentVUE and StudentVUE. Assessment of student achievement will be recorded according to District policies and practices.

In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order, assessment of students (K-12) to measure learning levels will be in place. These benchmark assessments for English/Language Arts and Mathematics must be administered within the first six weeks of school.

INSTRUCTION/CONTINUITY OF LEARNING

Overview of in-person Special Education Services

Services will be provided according to the student's IEP. Virtual IEP and MET meetings will be utilized as much as possible.

Special education interventions and specially designed instruction will continue in our Learning Lab with immersion in traditional classes as much as possible.

While receiving services (resource groups and related services), students may be coming from multiple classrooms.

Paraprofessionals will provide academic and behavioral support to students throughout the school day.

INSTRUCTION/CONTINUITY OF LEARNING

Overview of in-person Counseling Services

Small group counseling and individual counseling will be provided as necessary as well as support of families with referrals to outside agencies for supports and resources when available.

Assist teachers in assessing student social emotional needs and support as needed.

Develop and present classroom-based guidance lessons designed for student achievement of skills in career, academic, personal, and social development (particular to high school students).

College/career readiness supports and guidance for high school students.

Accommodation plans, support, and guidance will be shared with teachers.

Annual reviews of plans will take place with 504 teams remotely as necessary.

Considerations for re-evaluations will take place in a timely manner with 504 team.

INSTRUCTION/CONTINUITY OF LEARNING

Emergency Plan for Outbreak

Monitor the local and state COVID-19 levels to heed all warnings using the County Health Dept. as our first consultant.

Protocol is in place for any student who shows COVID-19 symptoms with staff member supervision using masks and gloves in isolation room until parent can be notified and pick up arranged.

All household members of someone confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19 should not physically attend school and quarantine at home for 14 days. Should a student become sick, families should notify school of any household contact that is at school so that student may be sent home too.

Chromebook will immediately enable this infected student to work from home online throughout the quarantine period of 10 days plus 4 additional days symptom free.

In the event that school closure is necessary, all students will have their assigned Chromebook on loan from Telesis to continue online instruction off campus until school closure is lifted.

OPERATIONS AND SCHEDULES

Class Size, Substitutes, After School Tutoring and Enrichment Program and Extra-curricular Activities

Offering two models of instruction (in-person or virtual/distance learning) allows parent/student choice and impacts the number of students who may attend in-person at school. Parents/Guardians will have the opportunity to indicate their preference for each student so that classroom rosters, schedules, and staff assignments can be adjusted to lessen the number of students in classrooms to the extent possible prior to the first day of in-person learning. Once the choice has been made it will not be possible to change it until the beginning of second semester.

Telesis has always offered small class size and individualized instruction and will work to decrease class size to allow for more physical space between students in classroom settings whenever possible. It is critical that students do not arrive more than 15 minutes before a student's class starts and that he/she gets picked up at dismissal time promptly as congregating inside or outside campus is not allowed, nor safe for the students gathering.

Substitutes are always in short supply! In order to provide immediate release of a teacher not feeling well to leave for home, we ask for your assistance in referring individuals you may know to be interested in substituting to call our office to inquire about information regarding substitute requirements and salary benefits.

The After School Tutoring and Enrichment Program will be available for in-person students only who need afterschool care that includes academic help up until and no later than 6:00 PM. All health and safety measures will apply for this program as well. For more information on this program, please contact the Telesis office.

All clubs and afterschool activities will need to be conducted remotely until it is determined to proceed in safe ways to conduct meetings and activities following all protocol described in this guide.

Approved by the Telesis Board of Directors.
Board Approval on August 12, 2020.at 3:56PM

**WHATEVER
IT TAKES**

