



June 15, 2021

Dear Southern Lehigh School District Stakeholders,

The planning and preparation for the 2021-2022 school year is ongoing. The goal of the Southern Lehigh School District remains clear; return students to classrooms 5-days per week in an environment where they can succeed socially, emotionally, and academically in a safe and consequential manner alongside caring and supportive staff members.

Passed in March of 2021, the American Rescue Plan is intended to provide financial support to school systems across the United States as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. On June 4th, the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) released guidance specific to the American Rescue Plan's required Health and Safety Plan. PDE stated that all local education agencies (LEAs) that receive federal funding under the ARP Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund must develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website a ***Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan or a Health and Safety Plan.***

Feedback from Southern Lehigh School District stakeholders is a critical component in the creation of the American Rescue Plan's required Health and Safety Plan for the 2021-2022 School Year. All interested stakeholders (i.e. parents, teachers, students, and others) are encouraged to provide feedback through the completion of the [SLSD American Rescue Plan Stakeholder Survey](#). **This survey is open now and will close at the end of the day on Tuesday, June 22.** Further, interested stakeholders are able to communicate additional Health and Safety Plan feedback directly via email to the following address, slsdhealthsafetyinput@slsd.org.

Thank you for your continued support.

Thomas Ruhf
Assistant to the Superintendent