



Mobile Elementary School District No. 86
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Mobile ESD Mitigation Plan

GENERAL INFORMATION

What Is Novel Coronavirus (Covid-19)?

COVID-19 is caused by a new coronavirus. Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are common in people and many different species of animals. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can infect people and then spread between people.

- As a new (novel) coronavirus, COVID-19 is very contagious for a few reasons:
 - There is no immunity in any community.
 - It can be transmitted before a person has any symptoms.
 - COVID-19 is transmitted by droplets from an infected person's cough, sneeze or basically anything that comes from the infected person's mouth.
 - These droplets travel through the air to other people and to surfaces where the virus can remain alive.

Signs and Symptoms of COVID-19

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea

Multi-Symptom Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C) (Associated with COVID-19)

Although children may become severely ill less often with COVID-19 than adults, they may become ill with Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome (MIS-C). Children may get MIS-C after a mild or asymptomatic COVID-19 infection and require immediate medical attention. Symptoms include:

- Fever
- Rashes, especially on the abdomen
- Itchy eyes

- Abdominal pain and/or diarrhea
- Skin discoloration, pale blue, may particularly affect the toes.
- Fatigue
- Headache

GOAL OF MITIGATION PLAN

The goal of planning for and managing infection during a Pandemic is twofold:

1. Prevent the spread of infection
2. Keep students and staff safe

As school reopens for the 2020-2021 school year, it is important to address all methods to decrease the possibility of infection and keep the students and staff safe from infection such as:

- Cleaning and Disinfecting
- School rules and practices to decrease the spread of infection
- Plans for school operations should there be a case of COVID-19

Prevention Protocols

HEALTH AND CLEANLINESS

Cleaning and Disinfecting

Before school begins, all school classrooms will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected, including, but not limited to cupboards, flat surfaces, desks and chairs. All disinfecting products used will kill most, if not all bacteria, fungi, and viruses.

Cleaning will be performed frequently throughout the day by wiping down hard surfaces with soap and water or a sanitizer. This will clean dirt and many bacteria that are on the surface. Cleaning or sanitizing of door handles and push bars will also be performed throughout the day.

Disinfecting needs to be done less often, but will be performed at least once at the end of each day. This includes wiping down hard surfaces with a disinfectant provided by the school environmental services.

All cleaning supplies used at individual campuses will be reviewed to assure they have adequate cleaning and disinfecting power. The goal is to effectively remove most or all microbes during cleaning/disinfecting.

On a daily basis classroom will be cleaned and disinfected, including:

- Desk chairs
- Desk tops
- Door Handles
- Vacuuming or Wet Mopping will be completed as needed
- Counters and hard surfaces

Additional Measures

- No soft toys or stuffed animals since they cannot be disinfected
- Books, school supplies, and lesson materials will not be shared. Each student will have his or her own school supplies, books, and lesson materials.

Disinfecting After COVID-19 in School

If there is a COVID-19 diagnosis of a student or staff member, the school will be closed for 48 hours for disinfecting. Students will distance learn during the closure.

- The campus will be closed for 24 hours before disinfecting to prevent any droplets from infecting the cleaning staff.
- All areas will be cleaned and disinfected.

Classroom Infection Control

Each classroom will have a box with the following items in order to maintain a clean and safe classroom. The items each classroom will have are:

- Hand sanitizer. Each classroom will have a gallon jug, and each student will have a small bottle at his or her desk
- Aerosol spray disinfectant
- Gloves
- Masks
- Disinfectant Wipes
- 99% Alcohol Spray

Each teacher will be responsible for using disinfecting wipes and spray to clean high touch areas of the classroom several times per day.

Handwashing

Staff and students are required to wash their hands with soap and water or to disinfect their hands with hand sanitizer throughout the day. Students will be required to wash or disinfect their hands whenever they enter any classroom. Hand sanitizer will be available at the entrance of each classroom and at designated places throughout the classroom. Placement will depend on the specific set-up of each room so the sanitizer is readily available for all students. If students' hands are visibly dirty, they will be asked to wash their hands with soap and water. Office staff will be required to sanitize their hands when they arrive at their work station. This includes leaving their work area for a few minutes and returning to the work area. Needless to say, staff and students will be required to wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds after using the bathroom. Student and staff must sanitize or wash hands before eating.

Health Screenings

At the beginning of each day, staff and students may have their temperature checked with a no-touch thermometer at designated entry sites at each school. Staff will self-check upon entry. Students with a temperature of 99 degrees F. or above will be sent to the Health Office for further evaluation. Staff or students with a temperature at or above 99 degrees F. will be asked to return home until they are fever free for at least 72 hours without the use of fever reducing medications. Students of staff with a positive or

suspected case of COVID-19 must stay home for 14 days or until a negative COVID-19 PCR test result is provided to administration.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

All staff and students will maintain as much social distancing as possible throughout the school/work day. This will require a review of classroom set-up, recess, meals and require students to honor these requirements.

The Front office is closed to visitors and will have a plexi-glass barrier installed around for further staff protection. Hand sanitizer will be placed for easy access by the public in order to sanitize their hands.

Parents and/or student must wait for assistance outside of the office. The office door will remain locked throughout the day. Chairs in the front office will also be placed for proper social distancing.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Face Coverings/Masks

Face Coverings/Masks are required for ALL staff and students in all areas on campus, on the bus, or when using school vehicles. The use of plastic face shields in addition to cloth face coverings or masks is highly encouraged. Use of simple cloth face coverings are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected but does not have symptoms.

- All employees will be provided with cloth face coverings and will be required to wear a mask at all times on campus, on the bus, when using school vehicles, or when participating in off campus activities during work hours. The only exception is for eating and drinking, or when you are alone in your work area.
- Teachers will teach and reinforce the use of cloth face coverings.
- Students will be provided with a mask if they do not have one. Students will be required to wear a mask at all times on campus, on the bus, when riding in a school vehicle, or when participating in off campus events during the school day. The only exception is for eating and drinking. Masks must be worn during recess and P.E.
- Cloth face coverings should not be used for students younger than 2 years old.

SCHOOL ARRIVAL

Upon arrival at school, students will be checked for proper mask wear and also have temperature checked. Students with temperature over 99 degrees F. will be sent home. Students will go directly to their distanced assigned desk in the cafeteria for breakfast.

SUPPLIES/MATERIALS

All student belongings will be kept with the student at the desk or placed in an individual cubby as available. Belongings will not be stored in a communal area, such as a coat rack or in a box for lunches. Each child will receive his/her own supplies to be kept at his/her desk. Students' materials and manipulatives will be cleaned after each use.

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

Classroom Set-Up

Classrooms will be set up to best maintain social distancing. Guidelines are that whenever possible desks should be at least 6 feet apart or as far apart as possible within the space available. How this is accomplished will be decided by individual classroom teachers in conjunction with administration. Partitions between student desks are required. Students may not participate in group instruction at a table or in group or partner activities.

Each classroom will have an anti-microbial air purifier. When the room is occupied, this purifier must be left on. Air filters will be replaced regularly. Computer Lab is closed. Students may not share computers.

In order to maintain classrooms and all classroom items properly cleaned and disinfected, the following items are not allowed in the classrooms:

- Blankets
- Bean Bag Chairs
- Stuffed animals
- Fabric Sofas
- Manipulatives that cannot be properly disinfected
- Any shared supplies
- Toys from home

MEALS

Breakfast and Lunch

Each student will be assigned a desk in the cafeteria. The desk is distanced 6 feet apart from any other student. The desk is for that student only. Breakfast and lunch will be brought to the student at the desk and may not share any food. At the conclusion of each meal, students will be dismissed one at a time to throw away trash. Students will be dismissed one at a time and line up six feet apart to return to class or for recess.

PLAYGROUNDS AND RECESS

Recess will be held as decided by the teacher of each classroom. Options include having recess outdoors or indoors as space for social distancing is available. The following infection control guidance will be considered during recess:

- No more than 5 students allowed on play structure at a time
- A large field sprayer of disinfectant will be placed next to the library. It is each teacher's responsibility to disinfect equipment and play structure before and after each use.

- Playground equipment and structure will be disinfected daily at the end of the lunch recess period.
- Students may play together, but they must maintain social distancing and have masks on during recess and at all times while on the playground.
- Swings must be sanitized between each user.
- Equipment may not be shared and must be disinfected between users.

SPECIAL AREAS

Art and PE

ART

- Art will be held in the cafeteria, using art on a cart model.
- Students will sit in their assigned desk in the cafeteria.
- Students will not be allowed to share materials.
- Lessons will use minimal supplies; projects may be minimalized to teach the same concept with the fewest materials.
- All projects and their execution need to consider infection control as part of the lesson planning process.
- The teacher is responsible to disinfect materials and desks before and after class.
- Anti-Microbial air purifier must be on during classes.

PE

- PE classes will be held outdoors except for the case of inclement weather.
- PE teacher will allow for frequent hydration. Water bottles will be kept separated.
- Physical Education classes will need to be held with maximum space possible between students.
- Lessons need to be adjusted depending on the amount of space available in order to provide for maximum social distancing.
- Students must wear masks during all PE activities. The teacher will allow for breaks.
- PE will not include any contact sports.

BUS SAFETY

Bus Operations, Cleaning, and Disinfecting

- Students must wear masks on the bus, since maximum social distancing will not be possible in this confined space.
- Students will have a temperature check and screening before being allowed on the bus.
- All bus drivers and bus aides will wear masks when students are on the bus.
- Students will sanitize their hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer when entering the bus.

- After each route, the bus will be cleaned and disinfected.
- When cleaning and disinfecting the bus, high touch surfaces, including, but not limited to seats, windows, and step rails will be a priority.

VISITORS, MEETINGS, GATHERINGS, GROUP EVENTS

- Any nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups will be limited. Office will be open to guests by appointment only.
- Hand sanitizer will be available at several locations on campus.
- Virtual activities and events will be held in lieu of field trips, student assemblies, school-wide parent meetings, and parent teacher conferences.
- Traditional Events at Mobile Elementary will be on hold until further notice.

POSTING SIGNS

- Signs will be posted in high traffic areas throughout the school to promote safety.
- Signs will be posted at the entrance and classroom doors to promote safe practices.
- Signs will be posted throughout the school to promote social distancing.
- Posters will be placed in bathrooms and classrooms to promote hand washing and other hygiene practices.
- Social distancing guides will be placed at student line areas inside and outside classrooms to help student distance safely.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES GUIDELINES RESPONDING TO COVID-19 IN SCHOOLS

What to do When Someone on Site has COVID-19 Symptoms

Schools should set a low threshold for sending students or staff members home if illness is suspected and encourage the collection of backup emergency contacts. Any of the symptoms listed above that are not related to an already diagnosed condition or illness (as known by the school healthcare personnel) could be COVID-19. The student or staff member may not physically attend school until clearance from isolation criteria have been met or an alternative diagnosis is made. As with other infectious diseases, if a student or staff member develops any symptoms at school, they should be immediately removed from any group setting. They should be placed in a separate room with a face covering on, as tolerated. If a separate room is not available, place the sick student or staff member in a location where they can be at least 6 feet away from others. Staff tending to the care of the sick individual should use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) including surgical mask, gloves and eye protection (goggles or face shield). If they are in direct contact with the sick individual, they should wear a gown. Contact the emergency contact for the individual to be picked up from school as soon as possible, ideally within 1 hour. Call 911 if the individual is exhibiting any serious symptoms, including difficulty getting enough air, change in alertness or responsiveness, bluish lips or face. **All household members of someone confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19 should not physically attend school and**

quarantine at home for 14 days. Keep in mind, siblings may be at the same school or at another school (age dependent). Should a student become sick, families should notify the schools of any household contact. If a sick student's household contact is in school, the contact's school should be notified and they should be removed from the classroom and sent home as soon as possible, even if not displaying symptoms. If the household contact is also sick, follow steps as above.

Verifying that a student or staff member meets criteria for release from isolation will be up to the school medical staff or administration. The following dates should be collected for verification:

- Date of test collection (if tested);
- Date of onset of symptoms;
- Date of resolution of fever.

Quarantining Classes or Closing School Buildings

Schools must report any outbreaks of COVID-19 to their local health department. Having more than one case within a school does not constitute an outbreak. An outbreak is defined as two or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases among students or staff with onsets within a 14-day period, who are epidemiologically linked, do not share a household, and were not identified as close contacts of each other in another setting during standard case investigation or contact tracing. Similar to determining when to reopen school buildings, the decision to quarantine a class, close a portion of the school, or close the school entirely should be made in close coordination with your local health department. Both the context of local spread as well as the school's mitigation practices should be considered. Schools should begin preparing for virtual learning when one or more benchmark categories fall within the substantial spread category.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS REGARDING RETURN TO WORK OR SCHOOL

In addition to criteria outlined by AZDHS above, if staff or students have tested positive for COVID-19, have a family member who is ill, or a close contact who is ill, or have been exposed to the disease, they must quarantine for 14 days before returning to school or work.