



WWPS Epidemic/Pandemic Plan

Preliminary Preparation

- Prepare for a possible communications platform to relay important information to parents, staff and community (e.g. website, email, phone messenger, social media).
- Prepare an education information campaign for students (e.g. “Cover the Cough,” hand-washing, general information about preventative measures).
- Ensure sufficient cleaning supplies such as gloves, anti-bacterial and waterless hand soap & dispensers, are available.

The next steps are identified as **Stage responses**.

Stage One - This stage would be initiated if/when an epidemic/pandemic virus mutates to person-to-person transmission and arrives on the West Coast of the US.

- WWPS officials consult with local health department on preparation and response plans.
- Custodians emphasize classroom and hard surface disinfecting techniques.
- Initiate communications platform to relay important information to parents, staff and community (e.g. website, email, phone messenger, social media).
- Implement education information campaign for students (e.g. “Cover the Cough,” hand-washing, general information about preventative measures).
- Distribute to parents and staff information regarding personal preparedness and prevention strategies.
- Develop continuity of operations protocols to ensure critical functions remain intact (e.g. life-safety, payroll, facilities, technology, communications).

Stage Two – This stage would be initiated when a presumptive positive case appears in eastern Washington and/or northeastern Oregon.

- Begin outreach and consultation with medically-fragile students/faculty and those with serious underlying health conditions.
- WWPS officials consult again with local health department on preparation and response plans.
- Begin “Social Distancing” practices in school and classroom settings.
- Continue education information campaign with students and families.
- Postpone select assemblies/gatherings where higher-risk circumstances (e.g. food being served or close physical contact conditions of guests are present) or when it relies/necessitates higher-risk population attendance (e.g. elderly or those with severe underlying health condition).
- Consult with WIAA and other agencies related to out of area travel implications and considerations.
- Prepare for the possible closure of schools, continuity of learning/services, and subsequent recovery actions.

- Consider nutrition service, 504, and IDEA coordination and implications for fragile families/students should schools be closed.

Stage Three – This stage would be initiated when a presumptive positive case appears in a Walla Walla Community Member and probability of person-to-person transmission is likely to occur in the local area.

- Continue outreach and consultation with medically-fragile students/faculty and those with serious underlying health conditions.
- WWPS officials continue consultation with local health department on preparation and response plans.
- Ensure robust “Social Distancing” practices occur in school and classroom settings.
- Continue education information campaign with students and families.
- Postpone all assemblies, events, and outside use of district facilities.
- Finalize and communicate processes should closure of schools be necessary and continuity of learning/services plans.
- Begin recovery action planning.

Stage Four – This stage would be initiated when either state or the county officials instruct one or more schools to close, or a seminal event occurs involving a student, staff or community member that necessitates school and/or district closure.

- Schools and all school activities are closed/cancelled.
- Deep cleaning of sites in accordance with County Health recommendations.
- Depending on the length of closure, measures to support educational learning, nutritional services availability, and other continuity of student supports will be deployed (e.g. transitioning learning to an online environment, ensuring student accessibility to the learning platform, deployment of technology resources to students/families, development of web-based learning portals to support parents/students, lunch and breakfast pick up sites for students).

Recovery Stage – This stage begins when schools are re-opened.

- WWPS works with OSPI related to make-up day guidance resulting from school closure and lost instructional time.
- Communication with unions, parents, and community regarding implications stemming from school closures.

This plan will be reviewed and modified as new information and guidelines become available. Agencies and circumstances beyond the District’s control will determine many of the District’s responses.

Respectfully,



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Superintendent