



SPRING MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE MANAGEMENT PLAN
Summer 2020

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INTRODUCTION

In the school environment, communicable diseases can be transmitted from one individual to another. This can occur between students, school staff, and visitors. Effective prevention measures include education, avoidance of risk factors, sanitation, early recognition of symptoms, health assessment, prompt diagnosis and appropriate isolation or treatment.

At unpredictable intervals, a novel (new) virus, such as the novel coronavirus, appear in humans for which there is no immunity. If the novel virus is transmitted easily from person to person and causes significant illness, this creates the setting for a pandemic, a large-scale outbreak of illness with the rapid spread from person to person and country to country.

It is expected that a pandemic may have a worldwide impact with an unpredictable timeline, comprising multiple events or waves, and spreading quickly from one urban area to another. Major disruptions are likely for health care, transportation, and other public services. The education of students may be severely impacted.

As more information and response strategies develop and become available, this Communicable Disease Management Plan will be updated. Should you have questions or concerns related to the information shared within this document please contact the office of the Spring Mountain Elementary Campus (12152 SE Mather Rd).

PURPOSE

Spring Mountain Christian Academy's (SMCA's) Communicable Disease Management Plan serves to provide the overarching guidance in developing response plans and subsequent activities, leading to pandemic preparedness.

SMCA's community has an obligation to be responsive as with any community and even more, given the social nature of our campus. Further planning, collaboration and training will prove to be essential in reducing the impact of a pandemic outbreak and while maintaining the critical operations of the school. This plan is a dynamic document and will be revised as dictated by circumstances or changes in information.

OBJECTIVES

The greatest effect on SMCA will be absenteeism and campus closure due to an outbreak. The focus of this plan is to prepare the school to respond to high absenteeism and the possible curtailment of specific activities. This plan is guided by the following principles:

- Protect and support the health, safety, and welfare of our staff and students, as well as the assets of the school;
- Maintain a commitment to the school mission to provide instruction and services;
- Provide resources and services to address the diverse needs of the school community;
- Maintain business and administrative operations;
- Recover as quickly and efficiently as possible if any activities are interrupted or suspended;
- Ensure multi-modal communications within the school community, the local communities, and with stakeholders;
- Establish benchmarks or “triggers” to prompt prudent actions.

AUTHORITY

The State of Oregon has the primary responsibility for public health matters within its borders, including isolation and quarantine authority. That authority is usually exercised locally by the Clackamas County Department of Public Health. In a pandemic situation, each county's Department of Public Health collects and analyzes health information, conducts epidemiologic investigations, institutes isolation and quarantine measures, and may close any facility if there is reasonable cause to believe that the facility may endanger the public health.

Additionally, the school administration has authority under Board Policy to take actions to minimize the impact of a pandemic on the school.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE OUTBREAK COORDINATION TEAM

The school principal, VP of operations, VP of instruction, and other key staff (as appointed) will act as the coordination team (“Coordinators”) for the school. The coordinators are responsible for monitoring and managing the day-to-day response for the school, as well as providing information to the Board and the school community via emergency communications protocols.

Should an infectious disease outbreak become more severe than anticipated, it will be the responsibility of the Clackamas County Public Health department to issue quarantine orders, direct facilities closure, and provide critical information designating key healthcare facilities as well as the distribution of anti-viral medications.

RISK ASSESSMENT

As a novel (new) disease spreads throughout the world, people have little or no immunity and there will be limited vaccines available during the initial onset, which may result in a pandemic. The assumptions used in this planning process are as follows:

1. A pandemic is a public health emergency that takes on significant political, social, and economic dimensions and will be governed by factors that cannot be known in advance.
2. A pandemic could last from 18 months to several years with at least two peak waves of activity. In an affected community, a pandemic wave may last about 6 to 8 weeks.
3. Vaccinations and antiviral treatment are anticipated to be a highly effective medical treatment, but they may be in limited supply.
4. Non-medical containment measures will be the principal means of disease control until immunity is more prevalent.
5. High absenteeism rates (students and staff) constitute the greatest challenge to the school.

RESPONSE GUIDELINES

The complete clinical picture regarding new viruses is not fully understood. Reported illnesses have ranged from mild to severe, including illness resulting in death. Older people and people with certain underlying health conditions like heart disease, lung disease and diabetes, for example, seem to be at greater risk of serious illness and death.

Below are three (3) scenarios that should be considered in order to protect students and staff. The scenarios were based on current conditions relating to COVID-19 virus. Conditions may change based on new information received. SMCA has more completely outlined its prevention and response protocols in its Operational Blueprint for Reentry and the corresponding handbooks for parents and staff.

Scenario I: Measures to prevent the spread of a new coronavirus such as COVID-19.

Campus administrators will take the following steps to slow the spread of respiratory infectious diseases, including COVID-19.

- Review and update emergency operations plan, including continuity plans for teaching and learning if students are excluded from campus.
- Exclude students, faculty, or staff who have been in close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 from the campus for 14 days from the day of their last exposure.
- Students, faculty, and staff who present fever and/or respiratory infection symptoms should stay home and consult with a healthcare professional and the Campus Health Coordinator for guidance.
- Develop a communications plan to use with the school community and all constituencies.
- The school pandemic coordinators will contact county emergency operations center or the local public health department immediately if any concerns arise about clusters of respiratory disease or spikes in absenteeism.
- Encourage all students and staff to take everyday preventive actions:
 - Practice regular and thorough hand washing/sanitizing
 - Stay home when sick and remain at home until fever has been gone for at least 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicines
 - Seek immediate medical care if symptoms become more severe, e.g., high fever or difficulty breathing
 - Use “respiratory etiquette” by covering cough with a tissue or sleeve.
- Provide adequate supplies within easy reach, including tissues and no-touch trash cans.
- Clean hands frequently.
 - Encourage hand washing by students and staff through education, scheduled time for handwashing, and the provision of adequate supplies.
 - Provide alcohol-based hand sanitizers to supplement hand washing.
- Enhance cleaning consistent with CDC guidance.

Scenario II: Measures to be taken if one student or staff member tests positive for the coronavirus and exposed others on campus.

- Isolate the student or staff member and immediately contact your local public health department.
- Determine areas on campus where the student or staff have been and thoroughly clean those areas.
- Based on the recommendations of the Clackamas County Public Health Department, cohorts and/or campuses may be closed for additional cleaning or quarantine while students and staff shift to at-home learning.
- Implement communication plans for campus closure to include outreach to students, staff, and the community.

- Provide guidance to students, faculty and staff reminding them of the importance of community social distancing measures while campus is closed, including discouraging students or staff from gathering elsewhere. Community social distancing measures will include canceling group activities or events and sporting events.
- Initiate the plan for continuity of instructional and support services and establish alternate mechanisms for these to continue.
- Maintain regular communications with the local public health department.
- Consult CDC guidelines to determine what additional cleaning protocols, if any, should be deployed at the campus prior to reopening the campus.

Scenario III: Measures to be taken if multiple students or staff test positive for COVID-19 on campus.

If three or more students or staff on campus test positive for COVID-19, the school pandemic coordinators should consult with local public health officials for guidance on closing the campus.

- In consultation with the local public health department, the school health coordinators along with the school administration may determine the extent of the campus closure and what length of time is warranted based on the risk level within the specific community as determined by the local public health officer.
- Initiate communication plans for campus closure to include outreach to students, staff, and the community.
- Provide guidance to students, faculty and staff reminding them of the importance of community social distancing measures while campus is closed, including discouraging students or staff from gathering elsewhere. Community social distancing measures include canceling group activities or events and sporting events. Continue the plan for continuity of instructional and support services, adjusting as needed and establish alternate mechanisms for these to continue.
- Maintain regular communications with the local public health department.
- Work with the local public health department to determine what additional cleaning protocols, if any, should be deployed at the campus prior to reopening the campus.
- Determine the timing of return of students and staff, and any additional steps needed for the campus to reopen, in consultation with the local public health department.
- Contact local area stakeholders to inform them of any closure plans that might affect concurrent services.
- Please note that there have been reports of students and others being stigmatized. We must ensure students' and staffs' privacy to help prevent discrimination.

RECOVERY GUIDELINES

Community assessment after a highly infectious illness outbreak/pandemic requires completed surveillance data and feedback of operations. Any damage done to the community from this highly infectious illness outbreak/pandemic will be defined and analyzed for proper future planning.

It is crucial that SMCA enforces resources and guidance for all staff, students, parents, and community members to focus on “getting back on track.” Stress the importance of returning to normal practice and procedures for the health and safety of everyone. Return as quickly as possible to normally scheduled school days including all scheduled events. Spring Mountain Christian Academy will assess the need of additional mental health support resources and provide as much as possible to staff, students, parents, and the community.

SMCA will communicate when it is safe to return to school and what precautions, if any, will need to occur. All school grounds and property will be cleaned and equipment may need to be sterilized. SMCA will establish a “return to learning” program to get students who have missed several days of instruction back on track.

SMCA will continue to monitor the illness and provide data as needed to continue the transparency of communication to the community. Success and failures will be discussed in transparency to determine the proper planning in the future.

LETTER TO PARENTS REGARDING ALL ILLNESS



SPRING MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
12152 SE Mather Rd.
Clackamas, OR 97015

Dear Parent/Guardian:

DO NOT SEND AN ILL STUDENT TO SCHOOL.

Please call the school office to notify us if your student is ill. The box on the back of this page gives examples of when your student should not be in school.

If your student's symptoms are related to a chronic condition, contact the school and follow school policies for chronic condition management.

Please contact your health care provider about serious illness, including any fever of 103°F or higher. If you need help in finding a health care provider, you may contact your local health department.

Notify school staff if your student requires medication during school hours. Follow school protocols for medication at school. Unless otherwise instructed, if your student's illness requires antibiotics, the student must have been on antibiotics for 24 hours before returning to school. Antibiotics are not effective for viral illnesses.

To help protect all students, please notify the school if your child is diagnosed with any of these diseases: *chickenpox, COVID-19, diphtheria, E. coli diarrhea, hepatitis, measles, mumps, pertussis, rubella, Salmonella, scabies, shigellosis, tuberculosis, or another disease as requested.* The school will protect your private information as required by law. [OAR 333-019-0010]

With consent, the school administrators may consult with your doctor about your student's health in order to keep your student safe, healthy, and ready to learn.

GENERAL ILLNESS EXCLUSION GUIDELINES

When Should I Keep My Student Home?

NOTE: These are school instructions, not medical advice. Please contact your doctor with health concerns.

Student's Symptoms or Illness	Student May Return to School When*
Fever: temperature by mouth greater than 100.4 degrees	No fever for at least 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine.
Skin rash or open sores	Rash is gone; sores are dry or can be completely covered by a bandage; or with orders from doctor to school nurse.
New Cough illness	In general, when symptom-free for 72 hours. If pertussis (whooping cough) is diagnosed, after taking 5-day course of prescribed antibiotics, or when cleared for return by local public health authority. If COVID-19 is diagnosed, with orders from local public health authority.
Diarrhea: 3 loose or watery stools in one day OR newly not able to control bowel movements	Symptom-free for 48 hours.
Vomiting	Symptom-free for 48 hours.
Headache with stiff neck and fever; OR with recent head injury	Symptom-free or with orders from doctor to school nurse.
Jaundice: (new) yellow color in eyes or skin	After orders from doctor or local public health authority to school nurse.
Red eyes or eye discharge: yellow or brown drainage from eyes	Redness and discharge is gone OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
Acting different without a reason: unusually sleepy or grumpy OR acting differently after a head injury	After return to normal behavior OR with orders from doctor to school nurse.
Major health event , like surgery OR an illness lasting 2 or more weeks	After orders from doctor to school nurse.
Student's health condition requires more care than school staff can safely provide	After measures are in place for student's safety.

