



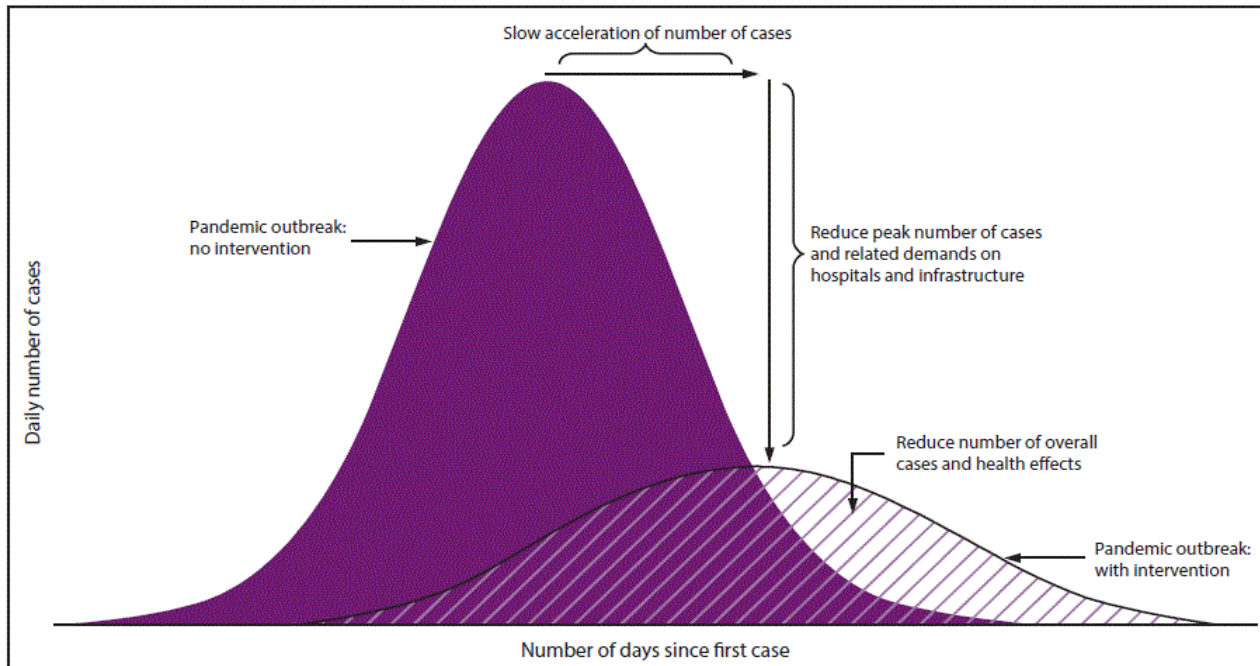
COVID-19 School Updates

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COVID-19 Situational Awareness Update

Approach to COVID-19



- The U.S. response to the outbreak is multilayered -- currently focusing on travelers
- The goal is to **slow the spread and distribute the impact of this virus** so health care system is not overwhelmed
- The current containment strategy is intended to create a window of opportunity to prepare for the virus' possible arrival

Key Messages for Schools

Does having an identified case in Minnesota change the recommendations for schools?

- Not at this time
- Future interventions may include things like temporary school closures, postponing large community gatherings, or working with employers to have more of the workforce work from home.

School Closure Considerations

- School closure is not recommended at this time
- Incredibly complex educational and social implications
- Current evidence does not show that closing schools is effective in limiting spread of COVID-19
- <https://www.washingtonpost.com/education/2020/03/09/is-it-really-good-idea-close-schools-fight-coronavirus/>

Students with Underlying Health Conditions

- Most children are not at high risk related to COVID-19
- Children with underlying medical concerns and their families should plan differently
 - Contact their provider
 - Plan with their IEP or 504 team
 - Consider care spaces at school

- Template parent letter
- Supply list (in development)
- FAQ (in development)
- Medically Complex (in development)
- NASN/NASP Talking Points about COVID-19 Worries
https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/NASN/3870c72d-fff9-4ed7-833f-215de278d256/UploadedImages/PDFs/02292020_NASP_NASN_COVID-19_parent_handout.pdf

- Continue to update and communicate your pandemic plans
- Continue to regularly check MDH COVID-19 (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html>) and CDC COVID-19 pages (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>) as information is continually changing
- Strengthen your attendance monitoring

Action Steps, Continued

- Be sure that your contact information on MDE.org is up to date, in particular:
 - School Nurse
(<https://public.education.mn.gov/MdeOrgView/contact/contactsByContactType?contactRoleTypeCode=NURSE>)
 - District Communications/Media Manager
(https://public.education.mn.gov/MdeOrgView/contact/contactsByContactType?contactRoleTypeCode=DST_COMM_DIR)
 - EDIAM Identified Official with Authority
(https://public.education.mn.gov/MdeOrgView/contact/contactsByContactType?contactRoleTypeCode=EDIAM_IOWA)
 - If there are discrepancies, please ask your site verification coordinator to make those updates.
(https://public.education.mn.gov/MdeOrgView/contact/contactsByContactType?contactRoleTypeCode=SITE_VER)

MDE Updates

School FAQs

Should we be canceling planned student group travel?

- The current CDC recommendations regarding travel: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>
- No domestic travel restrictions at this time
- Avoid nonessential travel to level 3 health notice countries
- For trips without travel restrictions, districts need to make that decision

Should we be canceling large events?

- Not at this time
- Broad cancellations are not recommended

We do not have substitutes for nurses, how should we handle extended absences?

- Establish a protocol for this in your district emergency plan.
- Begin providing training now

Questions from Last Wednesday

- CDC Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>
- List of cleaning products known to fight COVID-19: <https://www.americanchemistry.com/Novel-Coronavirus-Fighting-Products-List.pdf>
- How do I find my local public health emergency preparedness contact?
 - Call your county and they will be able to connect you: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/practice/connect/findlph.html>

- Fever is defined in the Infectious Diseases Manual for Childcare and Schools:
<https://www.hennepin.us/daycaremanual>
- What if a student or staff member meets criteria for self-isolation but still comes to school?

Contact us!

Health.schools.covid19@state.mn.us

Please direct parent questions/concerns to the hotline and reserve the schools inbox for school administration and nursing questions

COVID-19 Hotline: 651-201-3920

Q&A