

EOP AR TO PANDEMIC- EPIDEMIC POLICY

COVID-19

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) virus, and we are learning more about it every day. There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. At this point, the best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes it.

Watch for symptoms, the following symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

If you develop emergency warning signs for COVID-19 get medical attention immediately. Emergency warning signs include:

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Persistent pain or pressure in chest
- New confusion or inability to arouse
- Bluish lips or face

Plan, Preparation and Prevention:

- Monitor and plan for addressing fear and bullying related to COVID-19.
- Communicate early and repeatedly with parents directly what the policies and procedures will be to allow parents (guardian) to assure proper guardianship and care of children.
- Review the usual absenteeism patterns at your school among both students and staff.
- Alert superintendent and principal/teacher about increases in absences, particularly those that appear due to respiratory illnesses.
- Keep sick students and staff separate from well students and staff until they can leave.
- Schools are NOT expected to screen students or staff to identify cases of COVID-19.
- Routinely clean frequently touched surfaces (e.g., doorknobs, light switches, countertops)
- Provide disposable wipes so that commonly used surfaces (e.g., keyboards, desks, remote controls) can be wiped down by students and staff before each use.
- WASH YOUR HANDS with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Follow these five steps-wet, lather (make bubbles), scrub (rub together), rinse and dry.
- If you don't have soap and water you can use a hand sanitizer with 60% or higher alcohol content.

- Encourage students to stay home if they are sick with any illness.

If your school is dismissed:

- Implement a plan to continue educating students through digital and distance learning(if applicable)
- Temporarily cancel extracurricular group activities and large events.
- Discourage students and staff from gathering or socializing anywhere.
- Meals are NOT provided to students or staff during a dismissal.
- Seek guidance from your school superintendent to determine when students and staff should return to schools.

Iditarod Area School District

Date of Adoption: June 2020