

OREGON SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS SERVICES DEPARTMENT POLICY

Section: Operations
Policy: 19.1-2020 REV B
Subject: Pandemic Response Plan (COVID-19)
Approved: Director-Oregon School for the Deaf
Date: 20 August 2021

I. POLICY:

General Information:

This is a requirement to establish a program to effectively respond to a range of public health threats including widespread infectious diseases. This policy will address the level of risk present, the implementation of basic infection control measures, administrative controls utilized to mitigate spread, identification and isolation of infected staff and students, as well as recovery from the threat for the campus. This policy will describe the components necessary to comply with the following government guidance:

1. [CDC Coronavirus Disease 2021 Schools and Childcare Programs](#)
2. [ODE / OHA Ready Schools, Safe Learners Resiliency Framework for the 2021-2022 School Year](#)

II. DEFINITIONS

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

There are many types of human coronaviruses including some that commonly cause mild upper-respiratory tract illnesses. COVID-19 is a new disease, caused by a novel (or new) coronavirus that has not previously been seen in humans. The name of this disease was selected following the World Health Organization (WHO) practice for naming of new human infectious diseases.

The disease that first was discovered in the latter half of 2019 is identified as coronavirus disease 2019, abbreviated as COVID-19. In COVID-19, 'CO' stands for 'corona,' 'VI' for 'virus,' and 'D' for disease. Formerly, this disease was referred to as "2019 novel coronavirus" or "2019-nCoV".

Mitigation

The action of reducing the severity, seriousness, or painfulness of something.

Pandemic

An epidemic of disease that has spread across a large region, for instance multiple continents or worldwide, affecting a substantial number of people.

Physical Distancing

Previously known as “social distancing”, is the set of interventional measures taken to prevent the spread of a contagious disease by maintaining a physical distance between people and reducing the number of times people are in close contact with one another.

III. PROTOCOL

Levels:

The protocol will address the following four scenarios in regard to levels of a coronavirus pandemic and community spread per local and government officials:

1. Preparedness measures for **zero to minimal community spread** of the current COVID-19 virus.
2. Preparedness measures and reaction for **minimal to moderate community spread** in the community of the current COVID-19 virus.
3. Preparedness measures and reaction if there is **substantial community spread** of the current COVID-19 virus.
4. Reactionary measures if a person with the current COVID-19 **virus is present at the OSD** before mitigation or shutdown measures are in effect.

Zero to minimal community spread:

The following measures should be utilized to minimize risk of COVID-19 at OSD:

- Communicate with students and staff about risk of outbreak and essential steps that should be taken to mitigate risk.
- Communicate with parents/guardians of students through the development of a letter with all related information of associated risks to students and necessary steps should their child become sick.
- Identify essential staff that can maintain the health and safety of all students and staff at OSD.
- Implement Physical Distancing Officer position and assign person with associated responsibilities.
- Implement stock check of necessary disinfecting and cleaning items to mitigate risk of spread of virus.
- Implement cleaning and disinfecting measures such as the installation of hand sanitizing stations as well as preventive disinfection measures utilizing the [list of recommended disinfectants for use against SARS-COVID-19](#).
- Implement physical distancing measures such as floor markers to maintain a six foot separation between students and staff in classrooms, dorms, offices and the cafeteria.
- Introduce educational plans to stagger schedules and promote in class physical distancing including desks and seating arrangements.
- Introduce plans for administrative measures to limit staff and students from being on campus through teleworking and distance learning for the continuity of learning.
- Introduce plans for quarantine measures for sick students to be moved into the negative air treatment room in Student Health if needed for reduction of spread of the virus.
- Introduce plans for transportation of sick students and staff if necessary.
- Introduce plans for alternative dining services for Nutrition Services to follow.

- Introduce plans for mental support and counseling to address any emotional impact to students.
- Promote stay home measures for sick staff and students to limit risk of infection.
- Promote sanitary practices of washing of hands with soap, use of hand sanitizers, and reduction of sharing of community items and equipment by both students and staff.
- Promote respiratory etiquette by utilizing mask to reduce personal transmission through droplets present in sneezing, coughing and speaking.

Minimal to moderate community spread:

- Continue to clean and disinfect utilizing recommended disinfectants.
- Implement administrative controls in closing OSD campus to students and staff according to guidance from Oregon Department of Education and local officials.
- Ensure enough material stock for prolonged cleaning and hand sanitizing and maintain sanitizing stations.
- Continue to utilize distance learning measures.
- Continue to utilize stay at home measures to limit spread.
- Continue to practice respiratory etiquette through masks.

Substantial community spread:

- Campus is closed to control spread of infection. Guidance from ODE and local officials will implement community/statewide lockdown measures as needed.
- Maintenance will monitor campus as permitted at a minimal staffing level.
- Continue to clean and disinfect utilizing recommended disinfectants.
- Ensure enough material stock for prolonged cleaning and hand sanitizing and maintain sanitizing stations.
- Continue to utilize distance learning measures on campus.
- Continue to utilize stay at home measures for sick staff members to limit spread.
- Continue to practice respiratory etiquette through masks on campus.

Virus is present at OSD:

1. Staff Member:
 - Immediately notify Student Health Office.
 - Immediately notify local health officials (LPHA/OHA) for confirmation of course of action
 - Isolate the staff member to the isolation treatment room in Student Health if needed or send home immediately to reduce risk of spread.
 - Introduce administrative measures to identify and address all impacted students and staff as needed to reduce risk and allow for contact tracing.
 - Implement sanitation measures by maintenance staff to disinfect known affected areas.
 - Monitor situation for appropriate next steps including plans for absences, extended dismissal or school closure to reduce spread of COVID-19 until regular school classes can resume without fear or risk of transmission.
2. Student:
 - Immediately notify the Student Health Office.

- Immediately notify the parents/guardians of the student to arrange for pickup
- Immediately notify local health officials (LPHA/OHA) for confirmation of course of action
- Isolate the student to the isolation treatment room in Student Health as soon as possible or send home with parents to reduce the risk of spread.
- Introduce administrative measures to identify and address all impacted students and staff as needed to reduce risk and allow for contact tracing.
- Implement sanitation measures by maintenance staff to disinfect known affected areas.
- Monitor situation for appropriate next steps including absences, extended dismissal or school closure to reduce spread of COVID-19 until regular school classes can resume without fear or risk of transmission.

Recovery:

Recovery from the threat of a pandemic will be started when all school, state and national officials determine that resuming normal educational activities at OSD can be resumed. This resumption will be determined upon the following factors:

- The communities represented by the Oregon School for the Deaf are prepared for any outbreak or additional outbreak for COVID-19 with adequate hospital capacity to address any surge in illness.
- A downward trajectory of daily cases occurs over a 14-day period
- Ample testing capacity is available to support contact tracing as well as provide assurances of good public health.
- Local supplies of personal protective equipment is sufficient to protect the community.
- When allowed to shift back to in school learning, directives from ODE and local officials will be followed to ensure safe return to the classrooms.

IV. REFERENCES

[WHO-2019 Considerations for School Related Public Health Measures in the Context of COVID-19](#)

[CDC Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Education and Child Care Guidelines](#)

[State of Oregon: Building a Safe & Strong Oregon-Reopening Oregon Guidelines](#)

V. PROTOCOL ALIGNS TO THE FOLLOWING OSD POLICY

POLICY EB-SAFETY PROGRAM

VI. STAKEHOLDERS

Oregon School for the Deaf Staff
Oregon School for the Deaf Students
Local and Statewide Communities