

Administrative Procedure 166

INFLUENZA PANDEMIC EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Background

The Division is committed to the safety and well-being of all students, staff, volunteers, contractors and visitors. Working closely with health partners and community and provincial stakeholders, the Division will help to minimize the spread of disease and societal disruption during a pandemic. The Division's Influenza Pandemic Plan includes creating awareness of prevention and infection control measures, as well as sustaining core educational activities in our communities throughout the pandemic in order to minimize societal disruption.

Procedures

1. The priority during a pandemic is to keep students and staff safe and to keep schools open as long as it is safe to do so or unless otherwise advised or directed by public health authorities or government agencies.
2. In the event that the health and safety of all interested parties, as noted above, is at risk, the Division will consider school and site closures.
3. The Associate Superintendent, Human Resources and Administration, will develop, implement and monitor a Division Influenza Pandemic Plan to facilitate student and staff health and safety, business continuity, student education, communication, training, and staff coordination (refer to Appendix).
4. The Associate Superintendent, Human Resources and Administration, will report regularly on the status of plan implementation in the event of an influenza pandemic outbreak in North America.
5. The Division will take direction from Alberta Health Services, the Chief Medical Officer of Health and Alberta Education.
6. Inform the school community of Division plans.

Reference: Section 33, 52, 53, 196, 197, 222 Education Act
Communicable Disease Regulation 238/1985
Emergency Medical Aid Act
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
Health Information Act
Occupational Health and Safety Act
Personal Information Protection Act
Public Health Act