

## **Operational Services**

### **Pandemic Preparedness**

#### Definition

A pandemic influenza is a worldwide outbreak of a virus for which there is little or no natural immunity and no vaccine; it spreads quickly to people who have not been previously exposed to the new virus.

#### Preparedness Procedures

The Board recognizes that the District will play an essential role along with the local health department and emergency management agencies in protecting the public's health and safety if an influenza pandemic occurs.

To prepare the District community for a pandemic, the Superintendent or designee shall:

1. learn and understand the roles that the federal, State, and local government would play in an epidemic;
2. form a pandemic planning team consisting of appropriate District personnel and community members to identify priorities and oversee the development and implementation of a comprehensive pandemic influenza school action plan; and
3. build awareness of the final plan among staff, students, and community.

#### Emergency School Closing

In the case of a pandemic, any decision for an emergency school closing will be made by the Superintendent in consultation with and, if necessary, at the direction of the District's local health department, emergency management agencies, and Regional Office of Education.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7 and 5/10-20.5.  
115 ILCS 5/1 et seq.

CROSS REF.: 1:20 (District Organization, Operations, and Cooperative Agreements), 2:20 (Powers and Duties of the School Board), 4:170 (Safety), 7:90 (Release During School Hours), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

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