

EBCF – SCHOOL CLOSINGS AND OTHER ACTIONS FOR HEALTH EMERGENCY

The Superintendent is empowered to close school and/or take other actions to address health emergencies which threaten the health or safety of students and personnel.

Notification of Health Emergency – School Principals shall immediately notify the Superintendent of the incidence of communicable disease resulting in high student and/or staff absenteeism and/or other health concerns potentially impacting the school.

Liaison with Local and State Agencies – The Superintendent shall notify the NH Department of Education of the school district's health emergency and coordinate the district's plan with the NH Department of Education.

The Superintendent shall also designate one or more school staff to serve as a liaison between the school district and local and state health officials. The liaison staff shall work with local and state health officials in developing and implementing the school district's emergency health plan.

Information - The principal working in coordination with district administration shall notify parents of the health emergency. The designated liaison staff working in coordination with school and district administration shall provide parents, students, and staff with information on the health emergency and the steps one can take to stay healthy and prevent the spread of communicable disease.

Response – The school district's response to a health emergency will include, but not limited to the following:

1. Individuals with a communicable disease will be isolated, sent home, and not be permitted to return until they receive medical clearance from a health care provider.
2. Local and state health and education officials shall be notified immediately.
3. In conjunction with local and state health and education officials, the Superintendent shall ascertain whether the schools need to be closed. As soon as such a decision has been made, the school district shall notify the parents of all students.
4. If schools are closed, the Superintendent shall determine when the schools shall re-open.
5. The Superintendent shall notify all proper authorities and agencies and seek their assistance.
6. In the event of prolonged school closing and/or extended absences, the Superintendent shall work with School Principals to determine if education may be provided by alternative means. The Superintendent is authorized to amend the traditional class schedule and schedule of days. Such a plan may include extending the school day, having school days held on Saturdays, the use of previously scheduled vacation days, and/or extend the school year beyond the previously established end of school year.

Statutory/Regulatory/Policy/Handbook Cross References

Handbook (Referenced in Student and Personnel Handbooks)

APPROVED/REVISED: June 14, 2007, December 4, 2014

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PREVIOUS POLICY: None

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