

CARL JUNCTION School district

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Accredited by the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education

Communicable Disease and Illness

The Carl Junction R-1 School District recognizes our responsibility to protect the health of students and employees from the risks posed by communicable diseases. Disease transmission prevention measures and responses to outbreaks vary depending on severity and will be implemented in collaboration with state and local health professionals.

Universal Precautions

The district requires all staff to routinely employ universal precautions to prevent exposure to disease-causing organisms. The district will provide the necessary equipment and supplies to implement universal precautions.

Categories of Potential Risk

Students or employees with communicable diseases that pose a risk of transmission in school or at school activities (such as, but not limited to, chicken pox, influenza, COVID and conjunctivitis) will be managed as required by law and in accordance with guidelines provided by the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and local county or city health departments. Such management may include, but is not limited to, exclusion from school or reassignment as needed for the health and safety of students and staff.

Reporting and Disease Outbreak Control

Reporting and disease outbreak control measures will be implemented in accordance with state and local law, DHSS rules governing the control of communicable diseases and other diseases dangerous to public health, and any applicable rules distributed by the appropriate county or city health department.

Everyday Preventative Actions

Staff members should practice and communicate with students about everyday preventative actions at all times.

- Stay home when sick and at least 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicines.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Immediately dispose of the tissue.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use at least a 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects.

Additional Actions

The following additional actions may be taken if advised by public health officials.

- Implement alternative methods of instruction and mechanisms for employees to work remotely if school is canceled.
- Provide flexibility with employee leave for family-related illnesses.
- Increase spacing between students in classrooms to 3 feet if possible.
- Decrease the frequency of contact between individuals, classes and different grade levels as much as possible.
- Modify, postpone or cancel large events and gatherings.
- Postpone or cancel field trips and employee travel.

Communication

Internal and external communication will be utilized to support prevention, plan responses, and inform stakeholders.

- Health messages and materials from credible sources will be used to promote preventative actions among students and staff.
- School nurses and principals will monitor illness and related absenteeism among students and staff. Concerns will be reported to district administrators.
- District administrators will monitor communication from state and local health officials.
- District administrators will communicate directly with state and local health officials when warranted based on the severity of an outbreak.
- District administrators will direct internal and external communication as needed to support school operations, prevention, and response.

CDC Pandemic Flu Checklist: K-12 School Administrators

https://www.cdc.gov/nonpharmaceutical-interventions/pdf/pan-flu-checklist-k-12-schooladministrators-item2.pdf

Adapted from:

Board Policy EBB: Communicable Diseases

Get Your School Ready for Pandemic Flu, 2017. Atlanta, GA: Community Interventions for Infection Control Unit, Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, April 2017.