



Book	Policy Manual
Section	Special Update - Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) - March 2020
Title	Special Update - Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) - March 2020
Code	1 - OVERVIEW
Status	From Neola

INDIANA OVERVIEW AND COMMENTS

Special Update - Epidemics and Pandemics

March 2020

DATE: March 10, 2020

TO: Neola Clients in Indiana

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Policy Implications

FROM: Neola, Inc.

COVID-19

The world has turned its attention to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and its spread to different countries, including the United States. Federal, State, and local health officials are currently taking steps to prevent the introduction and spread of COVID-19 into US communities.

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) has provided solid guidance, recognizing that schools, working together with health officials, have an important role in slowing the spread of diseases and creating plans to minimize disruption to teaching and learning.

To prepare for possible community transmission of COVID-19, the most important thing for schools to do now is plan and prepare. As the global outbreak evolves, schools should prepare for the possibility of community-level outbreaks.

OVERALL PLANNING AND GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS

- [CDC - Interim Guidance for Administrators of US Childcare Programs and K-12 Schools](#)
- ISDH Guidance for Schools
 - [ISDH Guidance Document for Schools \(3-4-20\)](#)
 - [ISDH Letter for Parents \(English\) \(revised 3-6-20\)](#)
 - [ISDH Letter for Parents \(Spanish\) \(3-4-20\)](#)

- [IDOE – COVID-19 Guidance for Indiana School Nurses \(3-5-20\)](#)
- [CDC – Preparing Your School for a Pandemic](#)
- [CDC - Pandemic Checklist](#)
- [NSBA – COVID-19: Preparing for Widespread Illness in Your School Community – A Legal Guide for School Leaders](#)

In addition, it is recommended that schools take these additional measures:

- Remind staff and students that when they are ill, they should remain home; persons who have been ill should be fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication before returning to classes and work.
- Continue to encourage welcoming environments for ALL members of our community.
- Always check reliable sources for up-to-date, accurate information about COVID-19.

At this time, there appears to be no need to cancel school or social events. There are no restrictions on public gatherings. Staff and students should be reminded that part of good health hygiene is staying home from events when they are ill.

The CDC has not issued formal guidance regarding staff or students traveling to countries with reported COVID-19 cases. This is a rapidly evolving situation and schools should refer to the CDC's website for the most up-to-date travel-related guidance.

In light of the continued spread of COVID-19 and its potential impact on schools, Neola undertook an exhaustive review of current policy templates in Indiana related to public health emergencies. At this time, it is not essential that our clients revise any Neola policy templates to address COVID-19. However, we recommend that you review current policies and administrative guidelines that have been adopted and approved by the Corporation. These documents may be downloaded from the Policy Update and Administrative Guidelines Update menu in your BoardDocs console.

If you have adopted a Corporation-specific policy related to public health emergencies, we recommend your staff review those policies to be sure they are current.

Included with this Special Release are the following documents:

POLICY

Policy 8450 – Control of Casual-Contact Communicable Diseases (Current Template Reissued)

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

AG 8420 E – Pandemics and Other Medical Emergencies (Current Template Reissued)

AG 8450 – Management of Selected Casual-Contact Diseases (Current Template Reissued)

Additional Resources

- [Cleaning, Sanitizing and Targeted Disinfecting on the School Bus](#)
- [Coronavirus and School Closures: What Are the Legal, Logistical Issues?](#)

- [How to Respond to Coronavirus: 6 Steps for Schools](#)
- [How US Schools are Preparing for the Coronavirus](#)
- [Schools Should 'Minimize Disruption' Over Coronavirus, CDC Official Says](#)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration: [COVID-19](#)