
Communicable Disease Plan

This *Communicable Disease Plan* includes procedures related to a virus outbreak and contact-tracing so ESD staff can provide limited in-person service or instruction at the ESD location.

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Introduction

The Wallowa Education Service District in coordination with Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), has created the **Communicable Disease Plan**. It is designed to support Oregon's Birth-22 educational settings in the planning and implementation of a variety of programming between May 15, 2020 through the beginning of the 2020-21 school year. While every educational setting operationalizes instructional programming based on community strengths and needs, specific elements require a shared approach to uphold physical distancing and public health requirements. Overall, this plan ensures all in-person instruction minimizes safety and public health risks while maximizing connection and learning.

This plan supports limited in-person, small group instruction and/or summer programming through the start of the 2021 school year.

This provides a framework for a common approach to instruction, health, and safety during a unique and challenging time.

Overall Health and Safety Guidelines

Ensuring Continued Public Health

This plan is built upon Governor Brown's framework for rebuilding a safe and strong Oregon and in partnership with Oregon Health Authority so that education and instruction ensure the public health of all Oregonians. The plan provides for limited in-person instruction, summer school options, and looks towards school in the 2020-2021 school year.

For school staff onsite, the responsibility to maintain public health includes both maintaining their own health and the health of those they come in contact with. They must both follow the guidance for their own health and as an example to help ensure students, families and other staff also follow the guidance for the protection of all Oregonians. The level of self-discipline and awareness needed to maintain and care for these responsibilities is high and comes with painful consequences if we lapse in judgment or consistency. All staff need encouragement, support and clear guidelines to meet what is outlined in this document. For instructional efforts to be successful we must make every effort to maintain the health of students and staff.

As students and staff return to school they will naturally fall into pre-closure routines and habits. Staff must consistently model, teach and reinforce social distancing and hygiene practices until they become an expected and accepted way of being at school.

All educational settings must designate a person or officer to establish, implement and enforce social distancing requirements, consistent with this guidance and guidance from OHA. When in-person interactions are required, social distancing measures must be implemented and enforced to the maximum extent possible. The staff member responsible for this district: David Lund.

Vulnerable Populations

Vulnerable populations should continue to stay at home. Those at high-risk for severe illness from COVID-19 shall not be required to provide in-person instruction. These include:

- People 60 years and older;
- People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma;
- People who have serious heart conditions;

- People who are immunocompromised;
- Many conditions can cause a person to be immunocompromised, including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications;
- People with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher);
- People with diabetes;
- People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis;
- People with liver disease; and
- Any other underlying conditions identified by the OHA or CDC.

Procedures, Planning and Logistics

Planning for Safe In-Person Instruction

- Staff should not report to work and parents should not bring their students to school if the student or staff member has or recently had an illness with fever or cough. They should remain home for at least 10 days after illness onset and until 72 hours after fever is gone, without use of fever reducing medicine, and COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath, and/or diarrhea) are improving.
- Staff should not report to work and families should not bring children who have been exposed to a confirmed or presumptive case of COVID-19. The exposed individual needs to be quarantined for a minimum of 14 days after their last date of exposure to a known case.
- Staff or attendees who have a family member at home with symptoms of COVID-19 who has not been tested need to be monitored for symptoms carefully. The ill family or household member should be strongly encouraged to seek testing.
- All staff and students shall wash hands frequently (e.g., before and after meals, after coming inside, after using the restroom, after sneezing, blowing your nose, or coughing) with soap and water for at least 20 seconds ([CDC guidance](#)).
- Practice and safely promote the avoidance of touching one's face.
- Staff and students should be educated on the importance of respiratory etiquette:
 - Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or elbow;
 - Throw the tissue away immediately into a garbage receptacle; and
 - Clean hands after covering coughs and sneezes, and after throwing away used tissues.
- Provide easy access to soap and warm water for handwashing for all students and staff ([CDC guidance](#)).
- When appropriate and to minimize contact during drop-off and pick-up, parents/drivers shall remain outside of the building for sign-in and sign-out of their children.
- Facilities shall be restricted to essential visitors and volunteers. Non-essential visitors and families are not allowed to use facilities.
- Children over the age of 2 may wear face coverings if under close adult supervision.
- Children of any age should not wear a face covering:
 - If they have a medical condition that makes it difficult for them to breathe with a face covering;
 - If they experience a disability that prevents them from wearing a face covering;
 - If they are unable to remove the face covering independently; or
 - While sleeping.

- Face coverings cannot be required for use by children and should never prohibit or prevent access to instruction or activities.
- To the extent possible and when reasonable, it is requested that adult visitors wear face coverings, which will be available from the ESD.

Screening for Symptoms

- The staff member who is working with a student or student group will be responsible for screening.
- Check for new cough and fever for anyone entering the ESD building or interacting with staff.
- If the parent/guardian cannot attest to temperature, school staff should check the temperature.
- Individuals with a fever over 100.4° F should not be allowed to enter.
 - COVID-19 does not always present with temperature or new cough. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever and new cough, as well as shortness of breath or difficulty breathing; chills; muscle pain; sore throat; and new loss of taste or smell.
 - Individuals who have a cough that is not a new onset cough (e.g. asthma, allergies, etc.) do not need to be excluded from instruction.

Physical Distancing

- Daily activities and curriculum should support physical distancing, striving to maintain at least six feet between individuals. Considerations to adjust programming for social distancing:

Activity	Adjustment for Physical-Distancing and Sharing
Room Set Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Limit the number of students in each classroom to a stable cohort no larger than 10. ● Space seating/desks to provide at least six feet between students.
Instructional Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Plan activities that do not require close physical contact between multiple students.
Item Sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Designate equipment solely for the use of a single cohort and sanitize between uses. If this is not feasible, change your planned approach. Avoid item sharing. If items must be shared, remind students to wash their hands (CDC guidance) and not to touch their faces after using these items. Shared items should be sanitized between uses. ● Ensure adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high touch materials to the extent possible (art supplies, equipment etc. assigned to a single student) or limit use of supplies and equipment by one group of children at a time and clean and disinfect between use.
Visitors & Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Restrict all non-essential visitors and volunteers; this includes families visiting or volunteering in the school.

Manage Students' Belongings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Keep each student's belongings separated from others' and in individually labeled containers, cubbies or areas.
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Healthy Hygiene Practices

- Schools/school staff shall:
 - Reinforce protocols and provide handwashing and/or hand sanitizing facilities ([CDC guidance](#)), tissues and garbage receptacles that are easily accessible to both students and staff.
 - Reinforce covering coughs and sneezes among children and staff.
 - Reinforce use of cloth face coverings among all staff. Face coverings are most essential in times distancing is not possible. Staff should be frequently reminded not to touch the face covering. Information should be provided to all staff on proper use, removal and washing of cloth face coverings.
 - Have adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol (for staff and older students who can safely use hand sanitizer), tissues and no-touch trash cans.
 - Post clear signs (available at healthoregon.org/coronavirus) on how to stop the spread of disease, particularly COVID-19, properly wash hands, promote everyday protective measures and properly wear a face covering.

Cleaning, Disinfection and Ventilation

Schools Shall:

- Clean, sanitize, and disinfect frequently touched surfaces (e.g., door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains, transport vehicles) and shared objects (e.g., toys, games, art supplies) between uses multiple times per day. Maintain clean and disinfected environments ([CDC guidance](#)), including classrooms, and restrooms.
- Encourage students to bring their own reusable water bottle and refill from the water fountain instead of drinking from the water fountain.
- Ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep these products away from students following labeling direction as specified by the manufacturer.
- Ensure that ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors, using fans, and other methods. Do not use fans if they:
 - Pose a safety or health risk, such as pollen allergies or exacerbating asthma symptoms.
 - Doors and windows are closed and the fans are recirculating the classroom air.
- Take steps to ensure that all water systems and features (e.g., drinking fountains, decorative fountains) are safe to use after a prolonged facility shutdown to minimize the risk of Legionnaires' disease and other diseases associated with water.

Supporting Student Transportation

- During limited in person contact with students, the ESD and its staff will not transport students.

Conducting Limited In-Person Instruction During Pandemics

Use of limited in-person instruction and small group instruction

- *Limited in-person instruction and small group instruction* should be prioritized for students earning credit for on-time graduation, completion of a high school equivalency program, completion of Dual Credit or accelerated learning programs, or certification for career and technical education (CTE) or similar programs.
- *Limited in-person instruction and small group instruction* is to be used **only** when Distance Learning cannot support or approximate the requirements for required instruction or assessment, including, but not limited to:
 - A secure testing environment for a General Education Development (GED) exam;
 - Access to limited-engagement, small group instruction, where online and offline Distance Learning **cannot** be supported, as determined by the district (intended for small districts with families with no/limited internet/phone access).
 - Assessments for Special Education eligibility requirements that can be completed with the six foot physical distancing measures.

Safety Procedures & Supports for limited in-person instruction, small group instruction, Summer School, Extended School Year and Compensatory Education Programs

In addition to the health and safety requirements outlined in the Ensuring Public Health Section of this plan, the following procedures must also be implemented for situations where limited in-person or small group instruction is warranted:

ESD Staff Responsibilities

- Fill out Contact Log each time a student is served in the ESD building.
- Require student (if 16 or over) or parent read and sign Liability Statement each time a student is served in ESD building.

Supporting limited in-person instruction and small group instruction

- *Limited in-person instruction and small group instruction* should be limited to one or few sessions, rather than daily or multiple sessions per week.
- Students and staff should only be together in the classroom space for the limited amount of time required for the activity (instruction, assessment, etc.).

Appendix A – Liability Statement

Liability Statement

I attest that I do not have any of the following symptoms of COVID 19 (check all that apply):

Parent/Adult Volunteer or Guest

Yes	No	Symptom
		Fever 100.4 or above
		Cough - new
		Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
		Chills
		Muscle Pain
		Sore Throat
		Loss of taste or smell -new

Student (if 16 or under, must be filled out by Parent/Guardian)

Yes	No	Symptom
		Fever 100.4 or above
		Cough - new
		Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
		Chills
		Muscle Pain
		Sore Throat
		Loss of taste or smell -new

I understand that I will be asked to wear a mask while visiting the Wallowa ESD facility. If I do not have a mask, one will be provided to me.

ESD staff meeting with students will wear masks when doing so does not interfere with the ability to deliver service to your child.

Print Name

Signature

Date

Appendix B – Contact Log

Contact Log

Completed by ESD staff

Date	Student? Yes/No	Name	Phone	Time In	Time Out	Staff Member contact name(s)	Location

Appendix C – ESD Staff Checklist

ESD Staff Checklist

- Contact Log completed
- Liability Statement signed and dated
- Wear mask
- Offer mask to contact
- Sanitize station and all items after each contact
- Notify cleaning staff if additional cleaning/sanitizing is needed