

COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SITE SAFETY PLAN ADDENDUM

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

This Addendum to the Comprehensive School Site Safety Plan is based on guidance to schools from the California Department of Public Health. It is meant to be a guide to help both schools and school districts make informed decisions in case of the spread of any infectious disease with the potential for serious illness and which would put the community at great risk. The Arvin Union School District will follow these guidelines:

- Each school site in the district to include Bear Mountain Elementary, Sierra Vista Elementary, El Camino Real Elementary and Haven Drive Middle School will review and update the comprehensive school safety plans and infectious disease plan annually.
- The plans will be communicated with the school community, teachers and district staff.
- The Public Health Department encourages all persons over 6 months of age to receive the flu vaccine.
- Students, teachers and staff who present with a fever and or respiratory infections symptoms, will be sent home immediately. When feasible, a “sick room” will be identified through which others do not regularly pass.
- The Arvin Union School District will encourage all students stay home when sick and remain at home until a fever has been gone for at least 24 hours.
- All District staff and students will cover their cough with a tissue or sleeve and tissues and other necessary supplies will be within close reach.
- Hands will be washed frequently for at least 20 seconds, especially after using the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.
- Staff and students are to avoid touching eyes, nose and mouths with unwashed hands.
- Surfaces in the classrooms, offices and buses which are touched daily will be cleaned frequently.
- The Arvin Union School District will consider alternatives to congregate or meet in groups within the school and or community activities such as assemblies. Alternate approaches which limit close contact will be developed.
- The staggering of recess time to limit the number of students who are together may be implemented.

- In consultation with the local public health department, District officials may determine readmission criteria for staff and students who are out ill with an infectious disease.
- The staff at each district site will develop a plan for communication with parents and the community in the event a school would need to close, and will maintain regular communication with the local health department and the Kern County Superintendent of Schools.
- The District will consider cancelling or postponing any non-essential event during an outbreak.
- Staff and students will be encouraged to minimize close contact and suggest no handshaking or hugging.
- The district is developing ideas to plan for the continuity of education during a potential school closure.
- Criteria and information on this topic is included in existing board policy and administrative regulations.