

OPERATIONAL SERVICES**Public Health Emergency**

A "public health emergency"(PHE) is an occurrence or imminent threat of an illness or health condition caused by epidemic or pandemic disease, or a novel and infectious agent or a chemical or biological toxin, whose scale, timing, or unpredictability threatens to overwhelm routine capabilities.

A public health emergency poses a substantial risk of significant human fatalities or incidence of permanent or long-term disability. Such illness or health conditions also include, but are not limited to, illnesses or health conditions resulting from a local, state, national or global disaster.

In the event of a declared public health emergency as determined by the Board of Trustees or a public health service the Board authorizes the Superintendent to take appropriate action to protect the health and safety of all students, staff, and visitors to include but not limited to closure of school buildings, implementation of infection control measures, and other appropriate safety actions.

The Superintendent will communicate with parents, citizens, and other stakeholders about the actions to be implemented per this policy.

Legal References: § 39-71-1501, MCA Montana Safety Culture Act
 § 50-71-111, et. seq., MCA Montana Occupational Health and Safety Act
 § 20-3-324, MCA Powers and Duties
 § 20-9-806, MCA School Closure by Declaration of Emergency
 10.55.701(2)(d)(s) Board of Trustees
 Article X, Section 8 Montana Constitution

Cross References: Policy 7060 School Safety

Policy History:

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Revised on:

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