



FLU PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS PLAN

Divine Mercy Academy's plan for a quick and deliberate response to any pandemic in the future.



DIVINE MERCY ACADEMY

Planning for a Flu Pandemic

Legal Authority:

Wayne County Department of Public Health is the Health Authority for communicable disease emergencies for all residences, businesses and schools within Wayne County. The Michigan Public Health Code provides broad authority to local public health departments to take action to control epidemics and prevent the spread of infectious diseases in communities within their jurisdiction. Michigan Compiled Laws Section 333.2453 states:

If a local health officer determines that control of an epidemic is necessary to protect the public health, the local health officer may issue an emergency order to prohibit the gathering of people for any purpose and may establish procedures to be followed by persons, including local governmental entity, during the epidemic to insure communication of essential public health services and enforcement of health laws.

In the event of a communicable disease epidemic, the Health Officer of the Wayne County Department of Public Health may find it necessary to close schools and forbid public gatherings in affected communities. Isolation, quarantine and movement restriction decisions made by the Wayne County Department of Public Health will be implemented by local law enforcement.

Wayne County Department of Public Health Phone Numbers:

Director/Health Officer:	Mouhamad Hammai
Medical Director:	Ruta Sharangpani 734-727-7100
Emergency Preparedness Coordinator: 734-727-7030
After Hours: 734-727-7400

Oakland County Health Department:

Public Health..... 248-858-0178

Washtenaw County Public Health:

Washtenaw County Health Department 734-544-6700

Collaboration:

Plans, ideas and alternatives have been shared with the following:

Staff of: St. Genevieve/St. Maurice Parish



Communication Planning:

A plan has been created and is located in the Principal's Office and at the Front Desk with the Administrative Assistant. Detailed information regarding how to disseminate information to students, families, staff, board, is included in this plan.

When staff members need to be contacted during an emergency, the following services are indicated:

- Fanout (text/e-mail) to all staff and board members.
- Administrator to contact all family members by text/e-mail).
- Pandemic information will be e-mailed to each staff, family, board member who is on the school listserv.
- Pandemic information will be included on the School's website.

Wayne County Department of Public Health will be the key source for reliable information to the school. They will be used to gain accurate information for students/families/staff and the community regarding how to plan for a pandemic, what to do during a pandemic and how to handle the aftermath of a pandemic. Information will flow to the school through the Emergency Operations Center of Wayne County.



INFECTION CONTROL PROCEDURES

The following measures have been taken to promote sound respiratory hygiene and infection control at Divine Mercy Academy based upon the Wayne County Public Health protocol:

- The school will be thoroughly sanitized at twice a day.
- Classroom area will be restricted to students and staff.
- Visitors will be allowed to enter the office only as far as the counter; the counter will be sanitized twice a day, the office will be sanitized at the end of the day.
- Divine Mercy Academy will continue to train staff about healthy procedures, CPR, First Aid and hygiene practices.
- Parents will receive notice of hygiene practices at school so they can employ these practices at home.
- During a pandemic, disinfecting will take priority over routine cleaning responsibilities.
- Hand washing signs in the restrooms.
- Cover Your Cough posters in school multi-purpose rooms, classrooms and halls.
- Hand sanitizer used in classrooms.
- Facial tissue, receptacles and soap will be stocked in the school.
- Covering sneezes, coughs and use of hand sanitizers are constantly reinforced.
- Hand sanitizers are promoted in classrooms and grant opportunities are being researched to make sanitizers available.
- Ill students and staff will receive a visual assessment by administration. If determined that the student/staff member needs to go home, he/she will be located in a separate room.
- If the school is closed students will take books and assignments home for completion.
- Families that do not have internet access, or would prefer, may have assignments mailed to their home.

SENDING SICK CHILDREN HOME / RETURN TO SCHOOL		
Condition	Stay Home If	Return to School When
Fever	Temperature of 99.9 or higher	Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication; i.e. Tylenol, Motrin
Vomiting	Within the past 24 hours	Free from vomiting for at least 2 solid meals
Diaarhea	Within the past 24 hours	Free from diaarhea for at least 24 hours
Rash	Body rash with itching or fever	Free from rash, itching or fever; evaluated by a doctor, if needed
Head Lice	Itch head, active head lice	Treated with appropriate lice treatment at home and proof is provided to appropriate staff
Eye Infection	Redness, itching, and/or "crusty" draining fluid from eye(s)	Evaluated by a doctor and have a note to return to school
Hospital	Hospital stay or ER visit	Released by medical provider to return to school
COVID19	If tested positive	Released by medical provider to return to school



PANDEMIC RESPONSE LEVELS

Alert Level: Staff, students, families and board members will be informed of pre-developed materials regarding preparedness and pandemic response actions.

Standby Level: During this level parents, students, staff are encouraged to follow disease prevention protocols, and guidelines, provided by the Wayne County Department of Public Health for making disease specific decisions.

Activate Level: Decisions at this level, including but not limited to cancellation of extra-curricular activities, dismissing students, closing school, closing public gatherings, infection control protocol, isolation and quarantine will be guided by information provided by public health officials.

Response Level	Details	DMA Response	Resources
<i>Alert</i>	Arrival of annual flu season	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage and publish resources for annual flu vaccinations Review infectious control protocols Post “Pandemic Influence Preparedness Plan” on Web Site Send parents the “Pandemic Influence Preparedness Plan” 	Wayne County Dept. of Public Health CDC MI Dept. of Health
<i>Standby</i>	New virus causes human flu cases in North America and/or confirmed report of a pandemic outbreak in North America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue daily functions Review “Pandemic Response Plan” Principal monitor student and staff attendance Scrutinize field trip destinations Consult with Wayne County Dept. of Public Health prior to embarking on fieldtrip destinations outside Wayne County Required approval from Wayne County Health Department before enrolling students from or near infected areas Share pandemic information with parents and staff 	School Pandemic Team
<i>Standby</i>	Pandemic Spreads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Pandemic Team on alert Updated information sheets about the pandemic, its symptoms and prevention guidelines are provided to staff and parents. Information is posted on the Web Site/List Serv 	School Pandemic Team
<i>Activate</i>	Pandemic hits SE Michigan Schools likely to remain open	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Pandemic Team fully activates Pandemic Response Plan Fieldtrips and extra0curricular activities are halted Classrooms are sanitized Continual communication with staff, students, families, board All sick students, staff, are advised to stay home. If students/staff become ill during school exclude immediately. All ill students/staff with flu-like symptoms will immediately be reported – via WCDPH designated communication means. Review “Continuity of Operations” and “continuity of Student Learning” plans. Inventory infectious control items such as tissues, soap, etc. Enhance school-based surveillance. Students/staff/visitors wear masks while in the building (as deemed appropriate and advised by medical professionals). 	Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Plan Website Director



Response Level	Details	DMA Response	Resources
<i>Activate</i>	School may close after pandemic hits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School closes via legal directive Pandemic team fully activates “Pandemic Response Plan” 	See Continuity of Core Operations and Student Learning Plans
<i>Activate</i>	School may close after pandemic hits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operationalize the “Continuity of Student Learning Plan” and the “Continuity of Core Operations” found in the Pandemic Response Plan Continual communication with community, staff, family, board 	Continuity of Core Operations Continuity of Student Learning Plan
<i>Post Activation</i>	Post activation: School prepares to re-open	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal implements a “start of school” re-opening plan. Personnel conducts a staff availability assessment. Staff returns prior to re-opening for orientation. Principal monitors and identifies school needs. School staff available to work with students. Continued communication with families, students, staff and board. Once school is fully functional and the crisis has passed DMA staff and board will convene a debriefing to assess the “Pandemic Influenza Plan” and its implementation. Obtain parental feedback for the debrief 	School Pandemic Team
<i>Recovery Level I</i> (0-90 days without a new flu case)	School Re-opened	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearance to re-open school from appropriate health officials. DMA remains active. 	
<i>Recovery Level II</i> (90+ days without a new flu case)	School remains re-opened	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once the school is fully functional and the crisis has passed the Pandemic Team will converse for a debriefing to assess the “Pandemic Influenza Plan” and its implementation. Team will obtain feedback from families, board. Continue school-based surveillance. 	



CONTINUITY OF STUDENT LEARNING AND CORE OPERATIONS

The main function identified as imperative to Divine Mercy Academy's daily expectations are the safety and education of its students.

Should a pandemic become severe, school may close. Educational programming will continue by the following:

1. Guidelines provided by the Wayne County Health Department to assess student/staff health will be implemented.
2. Principal will develop a plan to meet the appropriate/required hours of instruction.

In the event of DMA's dismissing classes, DMA functions that will remain operational are:

- Information technology (phones and computers)
- Office operations (remotely)
- Community relations – regular communities with staff, families, board (remotely)
- Staffing functions (remotely)
- Maintenance – maintenance of the building