

Operational Services

Pandemic Preparedness

The Board recognizes that the Cooperative will play an essential role along with the local health department and emergency management agencies in protecting the public's health and safety if an influenza pandemic occurs. A pandemic influenza is a worldwide outbreak of a virus for which there is little or no natural immunity and no vaccine; it spreads quickly to people who have not been previously exposed to the new virus.

To prepare the Cooperative community for a pandemic, the Executive Director or designee shall: (1) learn and understand the roles that the federal, State, and local government would play in an epidemic; (2) form a pandemic planning team consisting of appropriate Cooperative personnel and community members to identify priorities and oversee the development and implementation of a comprehensive pandemic influenza school action plan; and (3) build awareness of the final plan among staff, students, and community.

Emergency School Closing

In the case of a pandemic, any decision for an emergency school closing will be made by the Executive Director in consultation with and, if necessary, at the direction of the Cooperative's local health department, emergency management agencies, and Regional Office of Education.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-16.7 and 5/10-20.5.
Ill. Dept. of Public Health Act (Part 1), 20 ILCS 2305/2(b).
Ill. Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305.
Ill. Educational Labor Relations Act, 115 ILCS 5/.

CROSS REF.: 1:20 (Special Education Cooperative Organization and Operations), 4:170 (Safety), 7:90 (Release During School Hours), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

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