Employer Health & Safety Requirements for Schools

Craig Blackwood, Dept. of Labor & Industries
Lou Flores, Dept. of Labor & Industries
Ryan Allen, Dept. of Labor & Industries
Jeff Killip, Dept. of Labor & Industries

Lacy Fehrenbach, Dept. of Health
Jamila Thomas, OSPI
Michaela Miller, OSPI

October 5, 2020
Introductions
Housekeeping Items

- The recording of this webinar will be posted to OSPI’s website soon.

- Please post your questions using the Q&A feature.
- Questions will be collected and answered through follow-up communication.

October 5, 2020
Purpose of the Guidance

• General guidance to protect employees in common school scenarios under existing conditions.
• For school districts as they develop required COVID-19 safety plans and procedures.
• Guidance focus is on PPE, assuming other required safeguards (cleaning, hygiene, etc.) are present.

*The guidance does not replace local decisions based on specific conditions.

October 5, 2020
How the Guidance was Created

• Developed by a workgroup with representatives from OSPI, DOH, L&I, the Governor’s Office, local superintendents, and labor organizations.
  • Public School Employees of Washington
  • Washington Education Association
  • Washington Association of School Administrators
• The workgroup met from August – September 2020.
Key Points

• The typical instructional setting is classified as low risk.
  • There are other scenarios where the risk is lower or higher.
• Low risk PPE: Cloth face covering.
• Medium risk PPE: Face shield + cloth face covering, surgical mask, dust mask, KN95 mask, or KN90 mask.
• High or extremely high risk PPE: N95 respirator or equivalent.
  • If an employer cannot reasonably obtain an N95 or equivalent, they may use a face shield + an FDA-approved surgical mask, procedural mask, or a KN95 mask until a respirator can be obtained.
Measures That Work Together to Keep Students & Staff Safe

- Masking
- Hand Washing
- Physical Distancing
- Disinfecting Surfaces
- Screening

October 5, 2020
Negligible Transmission Risk

Examples

• When working alone in a classroom or office
• Band and choir (remote only)

Mask Requirements

• A mask is not required
Low Transmission Risk

Examples
• General group instructional setting
• In a classroom or office; 6 ft. distance easily maintained
• Food service; 6 ft. distance easily maintained

Mask Requirements
• Cloth face covering that fully covers the mouth and nose
  —OR—
• Face shield with a cloth extension attached to the entire edge of the shield

October 5, 2020
Low Transmission Risk Requirement

Cloth Face Covering

October 5, 2020
Medium Transmission Risk

Examples

• Small group instructional setting; 6 ft. distance
• Transportation (driver & staff); 6 ft. distance mostly maintained
• Food service; 6 ft. distance mostly maintained

Mask Requirements

• Face shield with a cloth face covering
  –OR–
• Non-cloth disposables: dust mask, KN95 or other filtering facepiece respirators, or non-FDA approved procedural masks
Medium Transmission Risk: Examples

From left to right: Face shield with cloth face mask, dust mask, surgical mask

October 5, 2020
High Transmission Risk

Examples
• Small group instructional setting; without 6 ft. of distance, sustained close contact
• Transportation; without 6 ft. of distance, sustained close contact

Mask Requirements
• Half- or full-face respirator with filter –OR– powered-air purifying respirator with filter
  –OR–
• Industrial use N95, R95, or P95 or non-NIOSH approved filtering facepiece respirator
  –OR–
• Face shield plus an FDA-approved KN95 mask, surgical mask, dust mask, or procedural mask (if a respirator cannot be reasonably obtained)

October 5, 2020
High Transmission Risk: Examples

From left to right: N95 filtering respirator, face shield with surgical mask, elastomeric half-facepiece with particulate (HEPA) filters

October 5, 2020
Extremely High Transmission Risk

Examples
• Health/isolation room

Mask Requirements
• FDA-approved surgical mask or N95 filtering respirator
  –OR–
• Elastomeric respirator with filter
  –OR–
• Face shield plus a KN95 mask, surgical mask, dust mask, or procedural mask (if a respirator cannot be reasonably obtained)
Extremely High Transmission Risk: Examples

From left to right: N95 mask, surgical N95 filtering respirator, elastomeric half-facepiece with particulate (HEPA) filters

October 5, 2020
Questions

With specific questions about a situation in your district, please request consultative services from L&I:


October 5, 2020
Thank You!

Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

Washington State Department of Health

Washington State Department of Labor & Industries

October 5, 2020