

Student Transportation Pandemic Preparedness Plan

Questions LEA Personnel may need to answer in developing a preparedness plan.

Who is in charge if the transportation supervisor becomes ill? Transportation supervisor and shop foreman become ill? At what suspicion of illness will a staff member (driver/mechanic) be taken off duty? What should bus drivers do should they suspect a student is infected?

What plan will be incorporated should mechanics become ill? What % of mechanics would have to be absent? Could mechanics be “*borrowed*” from other systems? Could SDE personnel be available? Can buses be “*borrowed*” from other school districts?

What if driver illness begins to climb? Who could drive should the substitute list be depleted? What % of drivers must be absent before shutting down transportation? Could drivers be “*borrowed*” from other systems? Could local National Guardsmen be used to drive? What if a particular route begins to experience student illness (shut down just that route)?

Who will be in charge of driver/mechanic pandemic preparedness training? When will transportation staff/students be required to wear PPE? What PPE is needed? Where will it be stored? When will it be distributed? Who will distribute it? What plan will be implemented to ensure the school bus is cleaned for possible disease? How often will it be cleaned (at what Pandemic Levels)?

What LEA official will be responsible for keeping in contact with the SDE, ADPH, and/or the CDC? Who will make decisions on extracurricular trips outside the school district? Will private transportation companies (charter buses) be allowed by LEA’s? What if a driver on an extracurricular trip becomes ill? Will a backup driver be sent on all extracurricular trips?

What plans will be in place if a school uses school buses to transport students to other district sites for meals, vocational classes, etc., and drivers are not available? Will students be transported to “community” areas for after-school programs (daycares, B&G Clubs, etc.)?

Should more specific plans be made for high-contact areas (high-contact areas would include places where a lot of poultry farming is done)?