



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

TO: School Nurses
FROM: Lisa White, CPHS Public Health Nurse
DATE: 8/26/20
RE: COVID Procedures for School Re-Opening

Greetings! This memo covers the roles of both school nurses in our member towns and the Cooperative Public Health Service (CPHS) Public Health Nurses, Lisa White, Melanie Zamojski, and Meg Burch.

Our expectation is that we will work collaboratively with school nurses of the towns served by the Cooperative Public Health Service (CPHS) to share information as needed in order to protect the public health, while always maintaining to the fullest extent possible the privacy of personal health information of affected residents.

Public Health Nurse Role:

- Communicate with School Nurses information about suspect, probable and confirmed COVID cases when there is indication of potential exposures within the school environment,
- Lead investigation and reporting of cases including interview of a case (or parent of a case) in order to address household concerns and to identify additional contacts or contacts in the community environment,
- Gather information from School Nurses and other sources and be responsible for reporting that information to MADPH through the on-line MAVEN reporting system,
- Monitor and give guidance for release from isolation and quarantine, updating school staff as appropriate.
- Case follow-up may be assisted by staff of the Community Tracing Collaborative (CTC) who are contracted through the State of Massachusetts to provide contact tracing services assisting Local Public Health.
- Work closely with the Board of Health to understand local conditions and appropriate public health measures.

School Nurse Role:

- Communicate with CPHS staff as needed to address suspect and confirmed COVID cases and potential exposures in the school environment,
- Work cooperatively to investigate potential exposures (students and staff) within the school environment (interview using the tools we provide to you)

- Communicate with parents and staff about isolation and quarantine requirements given the circumstances of a situation in consultation with CPHS staff and with guidance from MA DPH staff as needed.

Attached are the following documents to support our work together in managing potential cases:

- A COVID-19 Interview tool to help you when you interview a student or staff member who is a suspect or confirmed case of COVID infection
- Isolation and Quarantine guidance documents to provide residents information about the orders.
- [Click this link](#) for a contact list for Franklin County Public Health Nurses by community

Melanie, Meg and I look forward to working with you over the coming months to keep our community safe! In the short term, we invite you to join other school and public health nurses on Wed, Sept 2 at 12:30 for the latest regional school re-opening collaboration meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8847805794>. In these meetings we are working to provide a connecting point for school and public health nurses to share concerns regarding school re-opening and COVID case follow up.

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Note: Wondering if your school is in our health district? A map of the CPHS health district towns is below:

