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The World Health Organization monitors influenza cases and outbreaks world-wide. Factors that affect the seriousness and risk of the influenza are: the type of viral strain, the spread rate, transmission medium (bird-to-animal, animal-to-human and human-to-human) and human reaction to vaccine or medical treatment. The WHO will issue six Alert Levels based on the severity and threat to the general public. The six levels are:

World Health Organization (WHO) Pandemic Alert Scale

- Level 1 Low risk of human cases
- Level 2 Higher risk of human cases
- Level 3 No or very limited human-to-human transmission
- Level 4 Evidence of increased human-to-human transmission
- Level 5 Evidence of significant human-to-human transmission
- Level 6 Efficient and sustained human-to-human transmission

Prairie Rose School Division will follow recommendations and procedures that may be issued from time to time by credible organizations when the Pandemic Alert Level increases to Level 4 or higher. Credible organizations are those associated with: World Health Organization, Government of Canada, Government of Alberta, Alberta Health Services, Public Health Authorities, etc.

Pandemic Alert Levels 1 and 2

No action necessary.


Pandemic Alert Level 3

No immediate action necessary.
 Review plans for Alert Level 4.

Pandemic Alert Level 4

- 1) Provide to all employees:
 - a) Information on the Pandemic Alert Level
 - b) Recommendation to heighten personal hygiene procedures and reduce face-to-face contact (hand washing, coughing, shared workstations, meetings, hand-shaking, etc)
 - c) Recommendation that employees stay at home if feeling ill
 - d) Recommendation that employees seek medical assistance if they think they may have been exposed and are ill with flu-like symptoms.
- 2) Ensure hand washing hygiene posters are posted in all washrooms.
- 3) Ensure adequate amounts of janitorial supplies are in stock
- 4) Keep updated on the pandemic situation.
- 5) Implement other actions as deemed appropriate by health or other authorities.
- 6) Review plans for Alert Level 5.

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Pandemic Alert Level 5

- 1) Notify employees of heightened Pandemic Alert Level (communications to all employees to reflect heightened risk to employees and students).
- 2) Provide information to post in school facilities identifying the pandemic situation and the need for increased personal hygiene.
- 3) Ensure building HVAC filtration systems (filters) are clean (replace if necessary)
- 4) Keep updated on the pandemic situation.
- 5) Implement other actions as deemed appropriate by health or other authorities.
- 6) Review plans for Alert Level 6.

Pandemic Alert Level 6

- 1) Notify employees of heightened Pandemic Alert Level (communications to all employees to reflect heightened risk to employees and students).
- 2) Increase janitorial cleaning standards to clean/sanitize/disinfect transfer touch points (door hardware, handrails, etc).
- 3) Recommend to Senior Management Team that they consider the following actions:
 - a) Working-at-home as an option for those employees who can.
 - b) Suspending school instruction (send students home).
 - c) Going to minimum manning and/or working-at-home for key employees to continue minimum business operations.
 - d) Closing schools (complete shutdown . send all employees home).
- 4) Consider temporarily placing on hold or stopping all non-critical work done by contractors/suppliers/consultants.
- 5) Keep updated on the pandemic situation.
- 6) Implement other actions as deemed appropriate by health or other authorities.
- 7) Review plans to resume business for post-pandemic.

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