

**PANDEMIC DISEASE POLICY
(Students)****Pandemic Disease Policy**

A Pandemic is a global disease outbreak. A pandemic occurs when a new disease emerges for which there is little or no immunity in the human population, begins to cause serious illness, and then spreads easily person-to-person worldwide.

Local Educational Agencies play an integral role in protecting the health and safety of district staff, students, and their families. To that end, the Marlborough Public School Committee, in concert with the local Board of Health, the Marlborough Emergency Management Department and the State Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE) is committed to working together to develop a readiness plan for schools.

District guidance during a pandemic includes school procedures, a pandemic planning checklist, public health instructions, factual information about disease and processes for expeditious communication to the public during a pandemic. This guide is integrated into existing local district emergency plans and operational procedures.

In the event of a pandemic, any decision for an emergency school closing will be made by the school district with consultation, or at the direction of the local health department, Marlborough Emergency Management Department and State DESE.

The expectations and management processes will be communicated by the Superintendent to the entire school community, as necessary.

Approved by the School Committee 2/10/15
Approved 9.8.20