

# COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan

(Executive Order 2020-142 District Preparedness Plan)

Revised 7:15 a.m.  
07/30/2020

**Name of District:** Wakefield-Marenisco School District

**Address of District:** 715 Putnam St.

**District Code Number:** 27070

**Web Address of the District:** [www.wmschools.org](http://www.wmschools.org)

**Name of Intermediate School District:** Gogebic Ontonagon Intermediate School District

## Preparedness Plan Introduction

Governor Whitmer's [Executive Order 2020-142](#) "provides a structure to support all schools in Michigan as they plan for a return of pre-K-12 education in the fall. Under the order, school districts must adopt a COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan laying out how they will cope with the disease across the various phases of the [Michigan Safe Start Plan](#). In turn, the accompanying Michigan Return to School Roadmap offers a guide to the types of safety protocols appropriate during each phase. There's no one-size-fits-all solution: What works in Lansing may not work in Sault Sainte Marie. Districts will retain the flexibility to tailor their instruction to their particular needs and to the disease conditions present in their regions." (EO-2020-142)

Each district (public, public school academy (PSA), nonpublic, and intermediate school district (ISD) that educates pre-K-12 students) shall submit a single completed Assurance Document and Preparedness Plan to its Board in time for approval by August 15 or seven days before the first day of school, whichever comes first. This template, when completed, serves as a single Assurance Document and Preparedness Plan.

The Preparedness Plan will be collected by the Intermediate School District for public school districts, the authorizing body for public school academies, or the chief/designated school administrator for nonpublic schools for transmission to the State

Superintendent of Public Instruction and State Treasurer by August 17, 2020. Additionally, this Preparedness Plan must be posted on the district's/PSA's, or nonpublic school's public website home page no later than August 17, 2020. A single application should be filed by the district rather than multiple applications for individual schools within a district.

## Preparedness Plan Assurances

The District agrees to meet all of the following requirements of Executive Order 2020-142

- The District assures that when it provides in-person instruction to its students without disabilities, the district must also provide in-person instruction to its students with disabilities, consistent with their individualized education programs (IEPs).
- The District assures that when schools are closed to in-person instruction, districts must strive in good faith and to the extent practicable, based upon available resources, technology, training, and curriculum, as well as the circumstances presented by COVID-19, to provide equal access to any alternative modes of instruction to students with disabilities from birth through age 26. This assurance includes the provision of auxiliary services under section 1296 of the Revised School Code, MCL 380.1296.
- The District assures that while any state of emergency or disaster related to the COVID-19 pandemic continues, it shall comply with guidance from the United States Department of Education, including its Office of Civil Rights and Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, and the Michigan Department of Education concerning the delivery of alternative modes of instruction to students with disabilities in light of the impact of COVID-19.
- The District assures that it shall, to the extent practicable and necessary, make individualized determinations whether and to what extent compensatory services may be

needed for students with disabilities in light of the school closures during the 2019–2020 school year.

- The District assures that during **Phase 1, 2, or 3** of the *Michigan Safe Start Plan* it will close its buildings to anyone except: (a) District employees or contractors necessary to conduct minimum basic school operations consistent with a Preparedness Plan, including those employers or contractors necessary to facilitate alternative modes of instruction, such as distributing materials and equipment or performing other necessary in-person functions. (b) Food-service workers preparing food for distribution to students or their families. (c) Licensed child-care providers and the families that they serve, if providers follow all emergency protocols identified by the state.
- The District assures that during **Phase 1, 2, or 3** of the *Michigan Safe Start Plan* it will suspend athletics, after-school activities, inter-school activities, and busing.
- The District assures that during **Phase 1, 2, or 3** of the *Michigan Safe Start Plan* it will provide for the continued pay of school employees while redeploying staff to provide meaningful work in the context of the Preparedness Plan, subject to any applicable requirements of a collective bargaining agreement.
- The District assures that in **Phases 1, 2, or 3** of the *Michigan Safe Start Plan* it will provide for the continuation of food distribution to eligible students.
- The District assures that during **Phase 4** of the *Michigan Safe Start Plan* it will prohibit indoor assemblies that bring together students from more than one classroom.
- The District assures cooperation with the local public health department if a confirmed case of COVID-19 is identified, and agrees to collect the contact information for any close contacts of the affected individual from two days before he or she showed symptoms to the time when he or she was last present in school.

## Preparedness Plan

Every district must develop and adopt a COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan (“Preparedness Plan”) that is informed by [Michigan’s 2020-21 Return to School Roadmap](#) (“Return to School Roadmap”) from the COVID-19 Task Force on Education and Return to School Advisory Council.

In accordance with Executive Order 2020-142 a plan must include all the following parts:

- A.** The policies and procedures that the District will follow when the region in which the district is located is in **Phase 1, 2, or 3** of the *Michigan Safe Start Plan*.
1. Describe how the district will offer alternative modes of instruction other than in-person instruction and a summary of materials each student and the student’s parents or guardians will need to meaningfully access the alternative modes of instruction included in the Preparedness Plan. If the Preparedness Plan relies on electronic instruction, the Preparedness Plan must consider how the district will aid students who lack access to computers or to the internet. This is also in the Continuity of Learning and COVID-19 Response Plan submitted in April. You may want to update and link to this plan in your response below.

<b>District and Building Implementation Plan:</b>
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In phases 1-3, in-person instruction is not permitted. The district will continue to provide instruction in the following ways.

The district plans to use a hybrid model of instruction using online learning platforms as the primary mode of instruction (i.e. Google Classroom, Class DoJo, Odysseyware). For those students that do not have a device, the district will loan devices to students in grades 3-12. Devices will be provided for students in grades K-2 that do not have access to them at home, to the extent feasible. Students without devices or internet access will have access to instructional materials through a weekly instructional packet. Instructional materials (i.e. paper, pencils, etc) will be made available to families that do not have them. All students will have access to grade-level/course textbooks/resources as needed to complete their work. The district will do everything it can to meet student/family needs and allow for full participation. Families will be responsible for picking up the devices, packets, books, and materials from the school office.

Teachers/Staff will be expected to make multiple contacts with students each week and have two-way communication. This may be done through the use of technology (i.e. virtual meeting, email, or through weekly phone calls). For students with technology access teachers will also communicate multiple times each week through the instructional platform (i.e. Google Classroom, Class Dojo, etc...), with an emphasis on continuing to build relationships and maintain connections. If students do not have access to technology, teachers will provide instructional packets that focus on essential content, building relationships, and maintaining connections. We will encourage communication through technology (virtual meetings, email), or by phone..

For students with technology access, content will be delivered through an online platform, (Google Classroom, Class Dojo, etc.). Teachers will be accessible for synchronous instruction (virtual meetings/office hours) at least once per week and asynchronous instruction through pre-made videos/lessons multiple times per week. For those students without technology, the main mode of delivery will be through hard copy instructional packets. This will be supplemented with phone conferencing to support instruction.

For students with technology access, teachers will monitor student access and assignment completion on a regular basis within the instructional platform. Teachers will provide feedback to students on assignments through the instructional platform as they are completed. Teachers will differentiate instruction within the platform to meet each student's needs. For students without technology access, instructional packets will be collected each week. Teachers will review the instructional packet and provide feedback to the student during their weekly communication (phone call, virtual meeting, or email). Feedback from the teacher will include differentiated work as needed, along with examples to support student learning. An example of this may be providing a student that is struggling with double-digit subtraction additional practice and several written examples with the steps. A phone call would also be used as a follow-up if needed.

Notice of the plan will be sent through a school messenger call. Families will be instructed to read the plan on the school's website. The plan will be posted in a prominent location on our district website, and a link will also be posted on our district's Facebook page.

For our students in dual enrollment courses, we will be working with the provider to determine next steps. We will ensure that the students have the appropriate materials and support to complete these courses. For students enrolled in CTE programs, we will work with the CTE Director to ensure our students have the ability to complete these courses.

If a student has access to technology, teachers will use the instructional platform to monitor student wellness, engagement, and completion of assignments. They will also keep a log of communication with students and families. If a student does not have access to technology, teachers will keep track of which students are completing the weekly instructional packets. They will also need to keep a log of all communication with students and families. Inconsistent completion and/or communication with a parent or student will be raised to the head teachers or counselor level to develop a plan to connect with the student and family. Additional support agencies may be sought to make these connections (31N Coordinator, DHHS, ISD supports etc.)

All work done remotely will be graded and count towards the students successful completion of a course.

The district will survey all parents to determine current mental health needs. Based on the survey results, the counselor will reach out to individual students and families to determine what they may need. The counselor will help connect the family to outside agencies, if needed, to help meet their needs. Teachers will monitor and assess the needs of students and families through their weekly communications. If a need is identified, the teacher will elevate that need to the counselor to make the necessary follow-up.

- B. The policies and procedures that the District will follow when the region in which the District is located is in **Phase 4** of the Michigan Safe Start Plan. Those policies and procedures must, at a minimum, include:

1. **Face coverings** (p. 22)

- a. Please describe how the district will implement **requirements** for facial coverings that at a minimum require the wearing of face coverings, except during meals and unless face coverings cannot be medically tolerated, for:
- i. All staff and all students in grades preK-12 when on a school bus.
  - ii. All staff and all students in grades preK-12 when in indoor hallways and common areas.
  - iii. All staff when in classrooms.
  - iv. All students in grades 6 and up when in classrooms.
  - v. All students in grades kindergarten through grade 5 unless students remain with their classes throughout the school day and do not come into close contact with students in another class.

**District and Building Implementation Plan:**

- Students and staff are asked to bring in reusable face coverings from home and to wash them regularly. Single use / disposable face masks will be available at school for those in need of them.
- Building, grounds, and transportation signage will be prominent throughout the school and will clearly identify who is required to wear face coverings in each designated area of the building, grounds, or bus.

- Clear face masks will be provided to all early elementary teachers and special education teachers.
- All face masks must be worn in a way in which the nose and mouth are covered at all times.
- PreK-5 students will not be required to wear a face covering once they are situated in their classroom.
- PreK-5 students will be required to wear a face covering in art, music, and gym (if not outdoors), since these classrooms are shared with other classes.
- Any student claiming to not be capable of wearing a face mask shall provide the district with a physician's note stating that the student is unable to tolerate a mask.
- Students who are capable of wearing a face covering and refuse to do so in an area where a face covering is required will be issued a face covering by a school official (teacher, paraprofessional, administrator, playground aid, etc.) and asked to put the face covering on. The instance will be documented as a log entry in PowerSchool.
- Students showing patterns of non-compliance with wearing masks will be removed from the school building and placed into remote instruction until the student agrees to comply with this safety protocol. Parents will be notified of each instance of non-compliance by the administration. Continued removals from the school building will result in permanent placement into remote instruction with the student being banned from coming to the school site. Students will be expected to continue their work and will continue to be graded on work completion.
- Staff who are capable of wearing a face covering and refuse to do so will be addressed by the school administrator and could face progressive disciplinary measures up to and including termination.
- Guests to the school building (presenters, substitute teachers, etc) will be issued a disposable face covering upon signing in at the main office and will be instructed to wear the face covering at all times. Instances of non-compliance will result in the guest being escorted from the building by an administrator.
- In instances of uncertainty about individuals not wearing face coverings, these matters will be relayed to the building administration for review and decisive action.

## 2. Hygiene

Please describe how you will implement the **requirements** for hygiene protocols from the *Return to School Roadmap* (p. 22-23).

### District and Building Implementation Plan:

- Fixed or portable hand sanitizing stations will be placed prominently throughout the school. The stations will be clearly marked with highly visible stickers.
- Supplies (cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, tissues, trash receptacles) will be checked daily and restocked in the classrooms.
- Teachers will contact the custodians immediately if supplies run out during the school day.
- Each classroom will have a hygiene protocol with timelines that are posted and communicated via newsletters, web pages, bulletin boards, and the like. It will include
  - Hand-washing schedule
  - Room and materials cleaning schedule
- Teachers will teach the following to students on the first day of school and reinforce weekly or more often as needed (this may be done via video)

- proper handwashing on the first day of school and reinforce weekly or more often if needed
  - how to cough and sneeze into their elbows, or to cover with a tissue and dispose of it in the trash
- Proper mitigation strategies including hand washing and sneezing will be communicated to families via newsletters, web pages, bulletin boards, and the like. Parents and caregivers will be asked to review and reinforce with their students.
- Custodial staff will
  - Procure adequate soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, and cleaning supplies.
  - Monitor hygiene supplies and refill as needed
  - Procure additional hand sanitizing stations as deemed necessary
- Sharing school supplies will be limited, and each student will have their own supply box for materials. The supplies will be provided by the student, and will travel with the student if they are going to another classroom.
- A list of these supplies will be generated as appropriate for each grade level and or specific middle school or high school course and posted to the school website.

### 3. Cleaning

Please describe how you will implement the cleaning **requirements** for cleaning protocols from the *Return to School Roadmap* (p. 27).

#### District and Building Implementation Plan:

- District Level Administrators and Building Operations will meet to review all guidance related to cleaning and disinfecting of buildings and to review the Building Operations the MI Safe Schools: Michigan's 2020-21 Return to School Roadmap.
- An inventory related to all cleaning supplies that are in compliance with the EPA-approved related to COVID will be taken and orders will be made to address increased cleaning protocols.
- EPA-approved disinfectant, paper towels, face shields, and gloves will be used in order to address new cleaning protocols. Staff must wear gloves, a mask and face shield when cleaning.
- Custodial staff will patrol the building wiping all high frequency usage areas several times per day and following any evening activities in the building.
- All special classrooms i.e. art, music, gym and media centers will have EPA-approved cleaning supplies stored in the classroom away from students. The teacher of record for the area and students (when appropriate) will wipe down all frequently used materials with an EPA-approved disinfectant. This will occur prior to the entrance of the next class. Time shall be scheduled for cleaning at the end of each art, music, and gym class.
- Desks in elementary classrooms will be wiped down each evening, and by custodians while the class is out of the classroom for a special during the day.
- Students in grades 7-12 will wipe down their desks each time they enter a classroom. All classrooms will have the appropriate EPA-approved disinfectant in their rooms.

- A training on cleaning materials and protocols will be provided to the staff through a virtual meeting the first week of school. This training will show the use of PPE when cleaning, protocols for the classroom and storage of cleaning materials.

#### 4. Athletics

Please describe how you will implement the **requirements** for athletics protocols from the *Return to School Roadmap* (p. 27).

##### **District and Building Implementation Plan:**

- The District will comply with all guidance published by the Michigan High School Athletic Association.
- Every participant shall confirm they are healthy and free of symptoms prior to an event.
- All equipment will be disinfected before and after use.
- All spectators must wear face masks. Masks will be available at the door for those who do not have one.
- Spectators for indoor events will be limited to 50 when in phases 4 and 5.
- Spectators for outdoor events will be limited to 100 when in phase 4, and 250 when in phase 5.
- Dependent upon MHSAA and governmental regulations, we may use a ticket system for spectators. Each athlete would be given an equal number of tickets to invite their families to events. Visiting team spectators will be greatly reduced and perhaps eliminated, especially at indoor events.
- Handshakes, fist bumps, and unnecessary contact must not occur
- There will be no sharing of water bottles. Each player must have their own water bottle.
- Indoor weight rooms are suspended in phase 4.
- Social distancing by spectators must be observed at both indoor and outdoor events.
- Bleachers will be clearly marked with 6' social distancing decals and signage.
- Temperatures will be taken and a short health screening will be conducted before an athlete is permitted to play in a game.
- Concession stands, if open, will have a limited selection available. Concession stand workers will be required to wear gloves, face masks, and face shields.


**5. Screening**

Please describe how you will implement the **requirements** for screening protocols from the *Return to School Roadmap* (p. 24).

**District and Building Implementation Plan:**

- Parents are requested to check their child's temperature at home each morning. If the child has a temperature of 100.4 or greater, the child should be kept home. Each family will receive a form to sign saying they will monitor their child's health before sending them to school.
- A remote room on the first floor will serve as an isolation area for ill students who are waiting to be picked up. This room will be outfitted with appropriate PPE including face shields, gloves, sanitizing wipes.
- Parent communication will be made immediately with clear and concise directions on where and how to pick up the student and where to report for testing.
- A designated person (office staff) will contact the student/family each day after removal until test results are provided and verified before the student can return to school.
- During the time of quarantine, the student will be asked to self-identify the location and individuals they came into contact with for the past 48 hours to the best of their recollection. Priority will be placed on those individuals that they were in contact with for a sustained 15 minutes or more at a distance of 6' or less.
- The health department will be contacted after parents have been contacted to assist in contact tracing and notification of vulnerable individuals.
- All school staff will be required to conduct a health safety self-assessment upon arrival at work and verify through a short survey that they are safe to work. This will include taking their temperature.
- Staff who are unable to work due to displaying COVID-19 symptoms will be required to report this to the school immediately.
- The District will cooperate with the local health department regarding implementation of protocols and screening students and staff.

**6. Testing**

Please describe how you will implement the **requirements** for testing protocols from the *Return to School Roadmap* (p. 25).

**District and Building Implementation Plan:**

- The local health department will be notified immediately of any possible case of COVID-19. The local health department will conduct trace testing.
- Confidentiality will be used. Even if a family acknowledges and publicly discloses a positive test, school staff must not participate in discussions about the test.
- Students who become ill with COVID-19 symptoms will be placed in the quarantine room while waiting for their parent to pick them up. It will be recommended the parent bring the child for testing.
- Positive tests for staff members will result in a required quarantine away from school for 14 days. Days of quarantine for COVID-19 positive results will NOT count against employee sick time allocations.
- If a student or staff member is positively identified, all families of students in the District will be notified that a case is present. The student's identity will not be released. The District will follow the recommendations of the health department regarding next steps if a case is identified.

**7. Busing and Student Transportation**

Please describe how you will implement the **requirements** for busing and student transportation protocols from the *Return to School Roadmap* (p. 28).

**District and Building Implementation Plan:**

- Signage will be added to each bus to address the use of face masking of all students and drivers, use of hand sanitizers and cleaning protocols.
- Hand sanitizer and supplies in which to brace/mount the hand sanitizer at the entrance of each bus.
- An ordering plan and schedule to obtain cleaning supplies in compliance with the CDC that can be utilized in the cleaning of the bus between routes and the wiping down of frequent areas of contact has been developed.
- Busses will be properly cleaned after the departure of the last child from each run once the bus has returned to the transportation garage.
- Face masks will be available at the entrance of the bus in the event that a student does not come to the bus equipped with the necessary item.
- Professional development will be required for all bus drivers related to the changes including the appropriate usage of face masks and policies regarding the requirement of their usage on the bus, hand sanitizing, and cleaning protocols to address the cleaning and disinfecting of the bus before and after every route. A check sheet with time and date of each cleaning will be provided to staff to complete each time the bus is cleaned.
- Bus drivers, weather permitting, will keep windows open on the bus both in route and when stopped.

**C. Describe the policies and procedures that the district will follow when the region in which the district is located is in Phase 5 of the Michigan Safe Start Plan.**

The policies and procedures which are listed as highly recommended in Phase 5 will be implemented fully as if they were required..

1. Indicate which highly recommended protocols from the *Return to School Roadmap* the district will include in its Preparedness Plan when the region in which the district is located is in **Phase 5** of the *Michigan Safe Start Plan*.

All highly recommended protocols will be implemented as needed..

2. Indicate which highly recommended protocols from the *Return to School Roadmap* the district will not include in its Preparedness Plan when the region in which the district is located is in **Phase 5** of the *Michigan Safe Start Plan*.

All highly recommended protocols will be implemented as needed.


D. After considering all the protocols that are highly recommended in the *Return to School Roadmap*, please indicate if a school plans to exclude protocols that are highly recommended for any of the categories above in **Phase 4**.

The district will follow all phase 4 "highly recommended" protocols if the district is in phase 4.

## Final Steps for Submission

*Each district shall submit a single completed Assurance Document and Preparedness Plan to its Board of Education (in the case of a PSA, the Academy Board of Directors; in the case of a nonpublic school, the chief or designated school administrator ) in time for approval by August 15 or seven days before the first day of school, whichever comes first.*

**Date of Approval by the District Board of Education, PSA Board of Directors, or nonpublic school chief/designated school administrator: August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020**

**Link to the Board Meeting Minutes or Signature of Board President, or signature of nonpublic school chief/designated school administrator:**  8/3/2020

**Link to the approved Plan posted on the District/PSA/nonpublic school website:** <http://www.wmschools.org>

*The Preparedness Plan will be collected by the Intermediate School District for public school districts, the authorizing body for public school academies, or the chief/designated school administrator for nonpublic schools for transmission to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction and State Treasurer by August 17, 2020.*

*Additionally, this Preparedness Plan must be posted on the district's/PSA's, or nonpublic school's public website home page no later than August 17, 2020.*

**Name of District/PSA/Nonpublic Leader Submitting Plan:** Jason Gustafson, Superintendent

**Date Received by the ISD/Authorizing Body/Chief or designated School Administrator:**

**Date Submitted to State Superintendent and State Treasurer:**