

ROCHESTER COMUNITY SCHOOLS

PRIDE IN EXCELLENCE

The Emerging Science of COVID-19

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Current Status of COVID-19

- SARS-CoV-2
- COVID-19 is an evolving public health crisis
- The decision to open/close schools is guided by science and data
- Mitigating measures, including personal protective equipment, hygiene, and spacing/cohorting, necessitate extensive planning and preparation
- Disease prevention education is imperative in establishing healthy environments and school operations



Current Status of COVID-19 (continued)

- Pandemic trajectory is unknown at this time
- Positive cases are exponentially rising, death rates are stable
- Currently, healthcare systems are capable to manage current patient load
- Spiking cases of COVID-19 may threaten the integrity of the healthcare system
- The upcoming influenza season may be a compounding factor

Statewide available bed tracking for COVID-19 (as of 7-24-2020)

	Total		Hospital				Negative									
	number of	Hospital	inpatient			Negative	pressure			Available	Available				Total	
	hospital	inpatient	bed		ICU beds	pressure	isolation	Total	Available	operating	adult	Available	Available	Available	morgue	Morgue
	beds	beds	occupied	ICU beds	occupied	isolation	available	ventilators	ventilators	room	med/surg	burn care	pediatric	psych.	capacity	availability
Region 2N	5,074	4,821	3,688	521	415	332	168	534	391	76	462	0	50	74	178	120

Statewide available PPE tracking for COVID-19 (as of 7-24-2020)

			Elasto-	Elasto- meric				N95					Surgical	Surgical
	CAPRs	Coveralls	meric Respirator	Respirator	Face shields	Gloves	Goggles	Respirator Masks	PAPR Batteries	PAPR filters	PAPRs	Surgical gowns	isolation	masks/ facemasks
Region 2N	185	10,872	24	73		7,115,903				716	422			483,243

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Current Status of COVID-19 (continued)

- Testing is currently robust, although lab results are delayed. Delayed testing complicates contact tracing, which can impact the ability to isolate. We need to remain nimble, flexible and be prepared to pivot rapidly to mitigate risks.
- Oakland County Health Division (OCHD) is managing containment protocols
- Frequent collaboration with the MDHHS and OCHD department is ongoing





Decision-making

- School officials make decisions based on available data and science.
- Children appear to be at lower risk for contracting COVID-19 as compared to adults. Normally healthy kids have a lower risk of developing complications.
 - Adults make up nearly 95% of reported COVID-19 cases.
 - As of July 21, 2020, 6.6% of reported COVID-19 cases and less than 0.1% of COVID-19-related deaths are among children and adolescents less than 18 years of age in the U.S.



Status of Community Spread

- Community circumstances are determined by the status of infection rates
- Oakland County is currently in the moderate to high risk status
- The health division guides our progress using a community mitigation framework
- Mitigating measures are multi-layered for protection
- Parent/caregiver partnerships and home based screening



Community Mitigation Framework

- Slowing the spread of disease and containing COVID-19
- Oakland County Health Division role in detecting, testing, contact tracing and isolating sick individuals and potential exposure to sick individuals
- Mitigation strategies are contingent upon community circumstance and what is practical and legal
- Implementation emphasizes individual responsibility for personal actions and minimizing disruptions to daily life, to the extent possible



Risk Mitigation

Risk Mitigation includes:

- Personal protective equipment (PPE), such as face coverings
- Hygiene, such as proper handwashing
- Spacing, movement, access, and cohorting

What is cohorting?

- A new term for a strategy that schools may use to limit contact between students and staff to help limit transmission of COVID-19.
- A common practice in many elementary schools across the United States.

These strategies work by keeping groups of students – and sometimes staff – together over the course of a pre-determined period of time. Ideally, the students and staff within a cohort will only have physical proximity with others in the same cohort.

Example: Schools may keep cohorts together in one classroom, and have teachers rotate between rooms.

Communication, education, and reinforcement at home and school are key to success.