

Burlington County Public Schools Pandemic Influenza Management Plan

I. INTRODUCTION

One of the greatest and most likely threats to the public's health is a naturally occurring event – an influenza pandemic. Influenza epidemics happen nearly every year (often called seasonal influenza) and cause an average of 36,000 deaths annually in the United States. Influenza epidemics are caused by a few known virus strains that circulate around the world. Over time, people develop immunities to these strains and vaccines are developed to protect people from serious illness.

Influenza viruses experience frequent, slight changes to their genetic structure. Occasionally, however, they undergo a major change in genetic composition. It is this major genetic shift that creates a “novel” virus and the potential for a pandemic – a global epidemic. The creation of a novel virus means that most, if not all, people in the world will have never been exposed to the new strain and have no immunities to the disease. It also means that new vaccines must be developed and therefore, are not likely to be available for months, during which time many people could become infected and seriously ill.

During the 20th century, three pandemics occurred that spread worldwide within a year. The influenza pandemic of 1918 was especially virulent, killing a large number of young, otherwise healthy adults. The pandemic caused more than 500,000 deaths in the United States and more than 40 million deaths around the world. Subsequent pandemics in 1957–58 and 1968-69 caused far fewer fatalities in the U.S., 70,000 and 34,000 deaths respectively, but caused significant illness and death around the world.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that in the U.S. alone, an influenza pandemic could infect up to 200 million people and cause between 100,000 and 200,000 deaths. Scientists and health officials throughout the world believe that it is inevitable that more influenza pandemics will occur in the 21st century. Recent cases of human disease caused by a widespread and growing avian influenza outbreak suggest that a new pandemic could be developing at this time.

There are several characteristics of influenza pandemic that differentiate it from other public health emergencies. First, it has the potential to suddenly cause illness in a very large number of people, who could easily overwhelm the health care system throughout the nation. A pandemic outbreak could also jeopardize essential community services by causing high levels of absenteeism in critical

positions in every workforce. It is likely that vaccines against the new virus will not be available for six to eight months following the emergence of the virus. Basic services, such as health care, law enforcement, fire, emergency response, communications, transportation, public schools and utilities, could be disrupted during a pandemic. The increased stress from a potential pandemic or actual pandemic will also increase the mental health service needs throughout the schools and community. Finally, the pandemic, unlike many other emergency events, could last for many weeks, if not months.

Schools tend to be affected by outbreaks more than other settings because their occupants—primarily children—easily transmit illnesses to one another as a result of their close proximity and their inefficiency at containing the droplets issued by their coughs and sneezes. High susceptibility of students and staff to exposure to a mutated virus as result of proximity and a longer duration of the outbreak due to lack of immunity and vaccines could result in lengthy and widespread absenteeism. In a worst-case scenario, the pandemic could force schools to close, potentially prompting administration to extend the academic year and expend additional resources for staff sick leave and substitute teachers.

Summary of Emergency Management Principles

The Burlington County Health Department (BCHD), the Burlington County Office of Emergency Management (OEM), and the Burlington County Superintendent of Schools will utilize their pandemic Influenza plan for their agencies to achieve the following goals:

- Limit the number of illnesses and deaths
- Preserve continuity of essential school functions
- Minimize educational and social disruption
- Minimize economic and academic losses

The plan will be coordinated with BCHD, EOM, and individual school emergency plans and activities, and will be coordinated with the plans of our community, state and federal partners.

II. PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS

The U.S. Health and Human Services Pandemic Influenza Plan contains the following information about pandemics, how they might affect school aged children, and how states and local agencies should plan for them:

1. The clinical attack rate (the percentage of people who will become so sick they won't be able to go to work or school) will be 30%-40% in the overall population. Illness rates will be highest among school-aged children (about 40%) and decline with age.
2. Children will shed the greatest amount of virus (they are more contagious than adults) and therefore are likely to pose the greatest risk for transmission.
3. On average about 2 secondary infections will occur as a result of transmission from someone who is ill.
4. In an average community, a pandemic outbreak will last 6 to 8 weeks. At least two pandemic disease waves are likely.
5. It is anticipated that the school district will need to plan to function with a total of 30%-40% work force absentee rate for the entire pandemic outbreak.

Whether or not schools will be closed or for how long is impossible to say in advance, since all pandemics are different in their scope and severity. However, it is well established that infectious disease outbreaks most often start in schools and so the New Jersey Department of Education and/or the Burlington County Superintendent of Schools, in consultation with the Burlington county Health Officer, may close schools early in an event. The duration of school closings can only be determined at the time of the event based on the characteristics of the pandemic, but it is unlikely that schools will be closed for less than 2 weeks (based on the incubation period of the disease and the length of time people are contagious) and could be as long as 8 weeks, as mentioned above. Other planning assumptions that are being used by the community include:

6. Working closely with the Burlington County Health Department and the Burlington County Office of Emergency Management will maximize the health and safety of the school community. Understanding the roles of each agency and their responsibilities will promote coordination and communications.
7. An influenza pandemic will result in the rapid spread of the infection with outbreaks throughout the world. Communities across the state and the country may be impacted simultaneously.
8. There will be a need for heightened global and local surveillance of flu symptoms and infection rates.
9. Burlington County may not be able to rely on mutual aid resources, State or Federal assistance to support local response efforts.

10. Antiviral medications will be in extremely short supply. Local supplies of antiviral medications may be prioritized by BCHD for hospitalized influenza patients, close contacts of patients, health care workers providing care for patients, or other groups.
11. Due to vaccine production and distribution constraints, a vaccine for the pandemic influenza strain will likely not be available for 6 to 8 months following the emergence of a novel virus.
 - a. As vaccine becomes available, it will be administered to eligible persons and ultimately to the entire population.
 - b. Insufficient supplies of vaccines and antiviral medicines will place greater emphasis on social distancing strategies to control the spread of the disease in the county.
12. There could be significant disruption of public and privately owned critical infrastructure including transportation, commerce, utilities, public safety and communications.
13. Social distancing strategies aimed at reducing the spread of infection such as closing schools, community centers, and other public gathering points and canceling public events may be implemented during a pandemic.
14. The general public, public health care partners, response agencies, elected leaders and schools will need continuous updates on the status of the pandemic outbreak, the steps BCHD and the schools are taking to address the incident, and steps the public can take to protect themselves.

III. AUTHORITIES

1. Burlington County Health Department
 - a. On September 14, 2005, the Emergency Health Powers Act (EHPA) was signed into law in New Jersey (P.L. 2005, c.222). It is based on a review of New Jersey state statutes conducted in relation to the Model State Emergency Health Powers Act which was promulgated by the Center for Law and the Public's Health at Georgetown and Johns Hopkins Universities in December 2001. The NJ EHPA has been identified as an important legal structure fundamental to enabling a rapid and effective response to any such threat to the public's health. This Act

formally clarifies and organizes emergency health powers to be used during a public health emergency. This Act was codified at N.J.S.A. 26:13-1 et seq.

- b. The NJ EHPA also amends N.J.S.A. 26:4-2 to state that in order to prevent the spread of disease affecting humans, the Commissioner of Health, NJDHSS and local health officers, within their respective jurisdictions, shall have the power to:
 - i. declare what diseases are communicable,
 - ii. declare when any communicable disease has become epidemic,
 - iii. require the reporting of communicable diseases,
 - iv. maintain and enforce proper and sufficient quarantine, wherever deemed necessary,
 - v. remove any person infected with a communicable disease to a suitable place, if, in its judgment, removal is necessary and can be accomplished without any undue risk to the person infected,
 - vi. disinfect any premises when deemed necessary, and
 - vii. remove to a proper place to be designated by it all articles within its jurisdiction, which, in its opinion, shall be infected with any matter likely to communicate disease and to destroy such articles, when in its opinion the safety of the public health requires it.
- c. In the event the Governor declares a public health emergency, the NJDHSS shall oversee the uniform exercise of these powers in the State and the local board of health shall be subject to the department's exercise of authority under this section. N.J.S.A. 26:4-2.

2. Burlington County Public Schools

- a. *{Insert school specific information on authority and regulations}*

VI. PHASES OF A PANDEMIC

The World Health Organization (WHO), the medical arm of the United Nations, has developed a global influenza preparedness plan that includes a classification system for guiding planning and response activities for an influenza pandemic. This classification system is comprised of six phases of increasing public health risk associated with the emergence and spread of a new influenza virus subtype that may lead to a pandemic. The Director General of WHO formally declares

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the current global pandemic phase and adjusts the phase level to correspond with pandemic conditions around the world. For each phase, the global influenza preparedness plan identifies response measures WHO will take, and recommends actions that countries around the world should implement.

Pandemic Phases	Public Health Goals	Burlington County Public Schools Goals
<p>Interpandemic Period</p> <p>Phase 1 – No new influenza virus subtypes detected in humans. An influenza virus subtype that has caused human infection may be present in animals. If present in animals, the risk of human infection or disease is considered low.</p> <p>Phase 2 – No new influenza virus subtypes detected in humans. However, a circulating animal influenza virus subtype poses substantial risk of human disease.</p>	<p>Strengthen influenza pandemic preparedness at all levels. Closely monitor human and animal surveillance data.</p> <p>Minimize the risk of transmission to humans; detect and report such transmission rapidly if it occurs.</p>	<p>Suggestions are listed below, please add more additional information that would be relevant to your school.</p> <p>{Suggestion: Ensure that staff members and students are trained in preventative measures such as respiratory etiquette and universal precautions.}</p> <p>{Suggestion: Minimize the risk of transmission to humans; ensure that staff members understand detection and reporting guidelines and report rapidly as required.}</p>
<p>Pandemic Alert Period</p> <p>Phase 3 – Human infection(s) are occurring with a new subtype, but no human-to-human spread, or at most rare instances of spread to a close contact.</p> <p>Phase 4 – Small cluster(s) of human infection with limited human-to-human transmission but spread is highly localized suggesting that the virus is not well adapted to humans.</p> <p>Phase 5 – Larger cluster(s) of human infection but human-to-human spread is localized, suggesting that the virus is becoming increasingly better adapted to humans, but may not yet be fully transmissible (substantial pandemic risk).</p>	<p>Ensure rapid characterization of the new virus subtype and early detection, notification and response to additional cases.</p> <p>Contain the new virus within limited foci or delay spread to gain time to implement preparedness measures, including vaccine development.</p> <p>Maximize efforts to contain or delay spread to possibly avert a pandemic, and to gain time to implement response measures.</p>	<p>{Suggestion: Ensure all personnel are knowledgeable about the latest epidemiological information.}</p> <p>{Suggestion: Review and update business continuity plans.}</p> <p>{Suggestion: Ensure that best practices for infection detection and control measures are followed.}</p> <p>{Suggestion: Ensure adequate resources for staff/student protection.}</p> <p>{Suggestion: Ensure that schools are implementing best practices for social distancing techniques per BCHD guidelines, including reducing the school activity calendar.}</p>

		<i>{Suggestion: Maximize communications with parents related to health and safety.}</i>
Pandemic Period Phase 6 – Pandemic is declared. Increased and sustained transmission in the general population.	Implement response measures including social distancing to minimize pandemic impacts.	<i>{Suggestion: Increase surveillance of staff/student health and attendance and implement administrative procedures to ensure adequate staffing for essential business and school functions.}</i> <i>{Suggestion: Follow BCHD social distancing, isolation and quarantine measures.}</i> <i>{Suggestion: Ensure maximum support and education for ill and affected students.}</i>

V. Concept of Operations

A. Overview

1. BCHD will be the lead agency in coordinating the local public health response to a pandemic with State, Federal, and local agencies and officials.
2. BCHD will respond under the auspices of the BCHD Pandemic Influenza plan.
3. BCHD's response actions will emphasize disease surveillance and investigation, social distancing measures to reduce the spread of infection, and continually informing and educating the public about the pandemic, the public health response, and steps the public can take to reduce the risks of infection.
4. The Burlington County Superintendent of Schools will maintain increased communications with BCHD and will implement those procedures that increase the health and safety of the school community.
5. Burlington County Public Schools assume the following responsibilities:

- a. Develop capabilities to implement non-medical measures to decrease the spread of disease throughout the school community as guided by the epidemiology of the pandemic and BCHD.
 - b. Develop and implement pandemic preparedness activities and a business continuity plan aimed at maintaining the provision of educational services and limiting the spread of disease throughout the duration of a pandemic.
 - c. Communicate with and educate the school community about approved public health practices and what each person can do to prepare or respond to minimize health risks.
 - d. Develop and implement educational support plans for students who are isolated or quarantined and coordinate these plans with the social support plans developed by the BCHD and OEM.
 - e. Assist in the delivery of prophylactic medication or vaccination as by directed by BCHD and OEM.
6. Each Burlington County Public School assumes the following responsibilities:
- f. Develop a response plan that will:
 - Identify chain of command in case of illness with a minimum of 3 back ups.
 - Review and implement best practices for respiratory hygiene and universal precautions. Train all school staff, volunteers and students. Identify and procure needed resources.
 - Review procedures for sending ill individuals home and make adjustments if necessary.
 - Report the number of staff and students absent as directed by BCHD.
 - Document actions taken.
 - Update staff and provide information on extent of infection at school site and potential changes that might take place at school.
 - g. Develop a recovery plan that provides for education support and emotional support for staff and students.

B. Direction and Control

1. School Policies

{Insert School Command and Control Policies Here}

2. Burlington County Health Department Policies

- a. BCHD and all response partners will operate under the Incident Command System throughout the duration of the pandemic response.
- b. OEM may activate the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to coordinate the county-wide public health and medical response during a pandemic.
- c. During Pandemic Phases 1, 2 and 3 where Burlington County is not directly affected, BCHD will lead countywide preparedness and education efforts for pandemic response.
- d. During Pandemic Phases 4, 5 and 6 BCHD will communicate with public health care system partners through the Local Information Network Communication System (LINCS) to coordinate and manage health information.
- e. BCHD in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Health and Human Services will assess the viability of community containment options and establish criteria for recommending their implementation to local elected officials.

C. Communications

1. Communications with the public and health care providers will be one of the most critical strategies for containing the spread of the influenza and for managing the utilization of health care services. This plan's communications goals are to:
 - a. Provide accurate, consistent, and comprehensive information about pandemic influenza including case definitions, treatment options, infection control measures, and reporting requirements.
 - b. Instill and maintain public confidence in the schools and the County's public health care systems and their ability to respond to and manage an influenza pandemic.

- c. Ensure an efficient mechanism for managing information between BCHD, public health care system partners and the schools.
 - d. Contribute to maintaining order, minimizing public panic and fear, and facilitating public compliance by providing accurate, rapid, and complete information.
 - e. Address rumors, inaccuracies, and misperceptions as quickly as possible, and prevent the stigmatization of affected groups.
2. Communications During Pandemic Phases 1, 2, 3
- a. The BCHD will educate providers, public officials, schools, the community and emergency responders about influenza pandemics and steps they should take to plan for pandemic outbreaks.
 - b. Under the direction of the Burlington County Superintendent of Schools, the administration will assess the needs of the schools.
 - i. Assess the information needs of the school community.
 - ii. Intensify public education efforts about influenza pandemics and steps that can be taken to reduce exposure to infection. Information may be disseminated via web site postings, parent letters, or school newsletters, television and radio broadcasts.
 - iii. Coordinate with BCHD to develop common health messages and education materials in multiple languages.
 - iv. Develop in conjunction with BCHD template pandemic informational letters, including translations, for parents/guardians.
3. Communications During Phases 4, 5, 6
- a. The Burlington County Public Information Officer (PIO) will evaluate the need to establish a Joint Information Center (JIC) in conjunction with appropriate public health care system and response partners. A JIC will be activated when the PIO deems it necessary based on specific characteristics of the pandemic. If school closures are considered, the Superintendent of Schools PIO will work with the JIC.
 - b. The BCHD risk communicator in collaboration with the Burlington County PIO will develop a communications strategy including

identifying appropriate community partners for reaching and educating diverse communities.

- c. As the pandemic expands, the Burlington County PIO will provide daily updates on the pandemic and will organize regular media briefings.
- d. The Burlington County PIO, in collaboration with the Burlington County risk communicator, will keep the public informed about steps that should be taken to protect against infection, treatment options for individuals who are infected, the status of the spread of the outbreak in the community, and the disease control and containment strategies that are being implemented.
- e. The school PIO will evaluate the need to establish a school information call center to respond to public inquiries. Pandemic letters will be sent out to parent/guardians per JIC and school communication strategy.

D. Mitigation

Mitigation activities are taken in advance of an influenza pandemic to prevent or temper its impact. Mitigation efforts will occur primarily during the early pandemic phases (Phases 1-3).

The Burlington County Public School, in collaboration with BCHD, pre-event mitigation activities include:

1. Planning, exercising, evaluating and revising the Pandemic Influenza Management Plan.
2. Training and equipping school staff to assure competencies and capacities needed to respond to a pandemic outbreak.
3. Developing strategic partnerships with the public health care system and providers, and local, state and federal response agencies and their staff.
4. Educating schools and parents about an influenza pandemic and recommend preparedness measures.
5. Informing and updating schools about the potential impacts of an influenza pandemic on essential services and city, county, and school infrastructure. Reviewing and updating district-wide business continuity plans and assuring essential business functions are adequately staffed.

6. Stockpiling necessary equipment and supplies that will be needed to respond to an influenza pandemic.

E. Surveillance

1. The Burlington County Influenza Surveillance Program provides information on influenza activity in Burlington County for public healthcare partners in the county and state. Because influenza is not a mandated notifiable disease under the New Jersey Administrative Code (N.J.A.C), BCHD uses several methods to ascertain when influenza has arrived, is most active, and has subsided in our community. BCHD receives weekly reports from nursing homes, hospital emergency departments, and sentinel physicians in the county on the number of influenza-like illness among their residents/patients. In addition, BCHD receives weekly school absentee reports from schools throughout the county. School absenteeism in the winter months generally correlates with the level of influenza in the community.
2. During a pandemic flu response, the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services may declare the circulating strain of influenza causing the pandemic a Disease of Public Health Significance, requiring health care providers, schools, and labs to report patients meeting a case definition.
3. Surveillance During Pandemic Phases 1, 2, 3
 - a. BCHD will maintain weekly influenza tracking activities.
 - b. Schools will voluntarily report attendance data each week during the school year.
 - c. A weekly report of aggregated influenza surveillance data will be distributed to public healthcare partners in the county.
4. Surveillance During Pandemic Phases 4, 5, 6
 - a. All public schools will be directed to submit student absentee rate information at intervals determined by the county Health Officer.
 - b. The Health Officer may ask that absentee rate reports include staff absenteeism.

- c. This information will be used to determine the level of influenza among school-age children and school staff and to select appropriate disease control interventions including the possible closure of schools.
- d. School nurses may be asked to implement active surveillance within their schools, to include
 - 1. monitoring temperature of all students and staff upon arrival at school
 - 2. counting # of students and staff who meet case definition for influenza

F. Vaccine Management

- a. In consultation with the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, BCHD will finalize recommendations regarding priority groups to receive vaccination based on CDC guidelines.
- b. The BCHD and OEM will finalize mass vaccination plans with regional partners, including schools.

G. Social Distancing Strategies

Social distancing strategies are non-medical measures intended to reduce the spread of disease from person-to-person by discouraging or preventing people from coming in close contact with each other. These strategies could include closing schools; closing non-essential agency functions; implementing emergency staffing plans; to increase telecommuting, flex scheduling and other options; and closing all public assemblies or after school activities.

- 1. BCHD will review social distancing strategies and current epidemiological data during each phase and recommend to key elected officials, including the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Mayors and the Burlington County Superintendent of Schools, social distancing actions that should be implemented to limit the spread of the disease.
- 2. Decisions regarding the closing of all public and private schools, community colleges and universities in Burlington County will be made by the Health Officer after consultation with the Burlington County Superintendent of Schools, the President of Burlington County College and other elected officials.

3. Decisions regarding the implementation of social distancing measures including suspending large public gatherings and closing stadiums, theaters, churches, community centers, and other facilities where large numbers of people gather will be made jointly and concurrently by the Health Officer and the appropriate elected officials.

4. Social Distancing Strategies During Phases 1, 2, 3

a) BCHD will

- i) educate elected officials, government leaders, school officials, response partners, businesses, the media and the public about influenza pandemics and their consequences.
- ii) coordinate with elected officials, government leaders, school officials, response partners, and businesses regarding the use of using social distancing strategies, the associated impacts they cause and the process for implementing these measures.
- iii) confirm the decision making process and criteria for recommending social distancing strategies with key public officials.

b) Burlington County Public Schools will

- i) increase respiratory hygiene education for staff, students and parents.
- ii) increase symptom monitoring and attendance monitoring to ensure accurate reporting to BCHD.

5. Social Distancing Strategies During Phases 4, 5, 6

1. BCHD will

- i) coordinate with elected officials regarding decision making and implementation of social distancing strategies that commensurate with the severity of illness and societal impact of the pandemic.
- ii) Implement specific, county-wide social distancing strategies that may include
 - Encourage government agencies and the private sector to implement pandemic emergency staffing plans to maintain

critical business functions while maximizing the use of telecommuting, flex schedules, and alternate work site options.

- Advise Burlington County residents to defer non-essential travel to areas of the world affected by pandemic influenza outbreaks.
- Suspend all public events where large numbers of people congregate including sporting events, concerts, and parades.
- Close all public and private schools and colleges.
- Suspend all government functions not dedicated to addressing the impacts of the pandemic or maintaining critical continuity functions.
- Monitor the effectiveness of social distancing strategies in controlling the spread of disease and will advise appropriate decision-makers when social distancing strategies should be relaxed or ended.

c) Burlington County Public Schools will

- follow BCHD guidelines as appropriate including following social distancing guidelines and emergency pandemic staffing plans.
- Curtail school activities as warranted by the situation or as advised by BCHD (may include extracurricular activities and field trips)

H. Isolation and Quarantine

1. Isolation and Quarantine

a. BCHD will

- i) coordinate planning efforts for isolation and quarantine with OEM, community based organizations, Superintendent of Schools, and local law enforcement.

- ii) follow CDC guidelines in developing isolation and quarantine procedures for individuals traveling from areas in which a novel influenza virus is present.

VI. MAINTENANCE OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES

1. One of the critical needs during a flu pandemic will be to maintain essential community and business services.
 - a. With the possibility that 30-40% of the workforce could be absent, it may be difficult to maintain adequate staffing for certain critical functions.
 - b. There is the possibility that services could be disrupted if significant numbers of public health, law enforcement, fire and emergency response, medical care, transportation, communications, and public utility personnel are unable to carry out critical functions due to illness. Individual schools or the entire district may be adversely disrupted.
2. Burlington County Public Schools will update and maintain continuity of operations plans and protocols that address the unique consequences of a pandemic.
3. Burlington County Public Schools will follow best practice guidelines for return to work after an influenza illness. Current recommendations are based upon seasonal influenza recommendations. Because experts do not know whether the mode of transmission, incubation period, or contagious period of pandemic strains of the influenza virus will be similar to those of seasonal influenza (recurring yearly), Burlington County Public Schools will update and follow specific recommendations from the Burlington County Health Department during a pandemic) Current influenza recommendations include employees/volunteers who have become ill with influenza should stay at home until all of the following criteria are met
 - At least 5 days have passed since the symptoms of illness began; AND
 - Fever has resolved and has not been present for at least 24 hours; AND
 - Cough is improving (decreasing in frequency and amount of secretions with no associated chest discomfort or shortness of breath)

Upon returning to the school environment, students and staff should continue to follow cough etiquette and hand washing protocols.

4. Continuity of operations and business recovery plans should detail:
 - a. Line of Succession
 - b. Identification of mission essential services and priorities.
 - c. Continuity of operations and business recovery plans, including
 - Business Impact Analysis
 - Critical “daily” functions that need to be provided even during an event, although at a reduced level
 - Standard Operating Procedures for critical functions/processes including clearly documented protocols for adjusting staffing to maintain essential functions
 - Human Resource policies including
 1. Staff policies for personal illness or care of family.
 2. Policies for flexible work hours and working from home.
 3. Procedures for the reassignment of employees to support mission essential services.
5. Maintenance of Essential Services During Phases 1, 2, 3
 - a. Burlington County Public Schools will work with the BCHD and OEM to update plans for maintaining essential departmental services during a pandemic.
 - b. In conjunction with BCHD, the District will educate central administration and the school community that provide essential services about the need for continuity of operations planning in advance of a pandemic.
6. Maintenance of Essential Services During Phases 4, 5, 6
 - a. Burlington County Public Schools will update its continuity of operations plans and will request that its schools update their plans.

- b. The Superintendent of Schools in conjunction with BCHD and OEM, will determine the appropriate time to implement the continuity of operations plans and protocols.

VII RECOVERY

1. School recovery from an influenza pandemic will begin when school officials determine that normal supplies, resources and response systems can manage ongoing school activities.
2. Burlington County Public Schools will assess the economic and educational impact of the pandemic.
3. Recovery plans will depend on the severity and duration of the pandemic but will include business recovery plans to mitigate education and financial losses, as well as emotional recovery plans.
4. BCHD will recommend specific actions to be taken to return schools and district offices to pre-event status including environmental sanitation.
5. Burlington County Public Schools will conduct an after-action evaluation of the pandemic response. The evaluation will include recommendations for amendments to the Pandemic Influenza Management Plan.