

What is Legally Required and What is Recommended to Keep Your Schools Healthy

Requirements (like seatbelts)	Public Health Recommendations* (like motorcycle helmets)
Masking for all on buses per CDC Order	Encourage or require COVID-19 vaccination
Report suspected and confirmed COVID-19 (and all other reportable diseases, outbreaks, unusual occurrences) to the health department as specified under Michigan Administrative Code R. 325.173(9)	Universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status
Post COVID-19 case counts on your website as per MDHHS Epidemic Order, Reporting of Confirmed and Probable Cases of COVID-19 at Schools	Physical distancing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between unvaccinated students: at least 3 ft. if masking, 6 ft. if not masking • Between unvaccinated staff or unvaccinated staff/student: 6 ft.
Keep employees sick with or exposed to (if unvaccinated) to COVID-19 home as required by Public Act 339	Screening testing at least weekly in staff, and in students as in Table 1 in the CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools
Exclude children ill with communicable illness (such as COVID-19) from school as specified under Michigan Administrative Code R 325.175 (2): Saint Clair County Health Department Quarantine Order	Ensure proper ventilation
Assist LHD with contact tracing as specified under Michigan Administrative Code R. 325.174(2)	Encourage proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette
Follow guidance as laid out in St. Clair County Public Health Order	Regular cleaning and disinfection
	Exclude non-employee close contacts from all school grounds and activities during quarantine (employees required to be excluded per PA 339)
*Recommendations per the CDC, MDHHS, and SCCHD	

Why should you do what is recommended?

Under the Revised School Code, public schools have a responsibility to provide “for the safety and welfare of pupils while at school or a school sponsored activity or while *en route* to or from school or a school sponsored activity” ([MCL 380.11a](#)).”

Why you should do what is required?

For individuals who do not report as required, or who impede public health in its duty to implement and enforce laws to protect the public’s health, these sections from the Michigan Public Health Code apply:

[333.1291 Obstruction of person enforcing health law](#)

A person shall not willfully oppose or obstruct a department representative, health officer, or any other person charged with enforcement of a health law in the performance of that person’s legal duty to enforce that law.

[333.1299 Violation as misdemeanor; prosecution](#)

- (1) A person who violates a provision of this code for which a penalty is not otherwise provided is guilty of a misdemeanor.
- (2) A prosecuting attorney having jurisdiction and the attorney general knowing of a violation of this code, a rule promulgated under this code, or a local health department regulation the violation of which is punishable by a criminal penalty may prosecute the violator.

Furthermore, teachers and administrators are [certified](#) in Michigan. Certain criminal convictions may result in denial, suspension, or revocation of the certificate by the State Superintendent [[MCL 380.1535a](#)].