

Supporting Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic

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Maryland State Board of Education December 8, 2020

Maryland Strong: COVID-19 Pandemic Response

Key Building Blocks

1. Testing capacity

Over 4.7 million cumulative PCR tests conducted in the State of Maryland, with testing volumes of over 30 to 35,000 tests a day within the State.

2. Hospital surge capacity

Approximately 6,700 surge beds were identified, with Advanced Medical Tents, ICU Modulars, and Alternate Care Sites available for COVID patients.

Recent orders increase ability for MIEMSS to coordinate appropriate patient transfers.

3. Personal protective equipment (PPE) supply

Over 85 million pieces of Personal Protective Equipment distributed.

4. Robust contact tracing

Over 112,500 cases and 164,000 contacts reached and interviewed by Contact Tracers throughout the State (6/15 - 11/28/2020)

5. COVID-19 vaccinations

Planning and implementation of vaccine distribution.



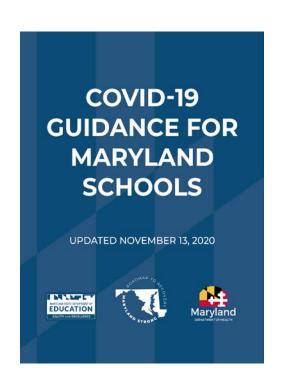
Strong Collaborations

- Weekly calls between Drs. Salmon and Chan
- Weekly MSDE MDH coordination meetings
- Weekly local superintendent and health officer meetings
- Weekly Technical Assistance meetings with public and non-public schools
- Biweekly meetings with local School Health Services Coordinators
- Consultation to individual schools upon request, in collaboration with local health department
- Daily calls and e-mail responses to school inquiries



School Support During COVID-19 Pandemic

- School COVID-19 reopening guidance
- Technical assistance and consultation for schools/local school systems
- School outbreak prevention, investigation and response
- Support school vaccination clinics





School Support During COVID-19 Pandemic

- Development of publicly available school outbreak dashboard
- Support for access to PPE
- Cloth face covering & face shield distribution
- Support for fit testing for N95 respirator masks in collaboration with local health departments



Looking Ahead

- Maryland has been proactive in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- All Marylanders must do our part to prevent further spread of the infection in the community.
 - Masking, physical distancing, avoidance of large gatherings (holidays).
- The state is working with community and health care partners to educate the public about COVID-19 vaccines and coordinate initial distribution to high-risk populations.
- Don't forget the FLU...





It is important to get a flu shot every year – but this year the need is critical. Seasonal influenza and COVID-19 both attack the respiratory system, and having one can make you more vulnerable to the other. Flu can lead to serious illness, hospitalization, or even death. Getting a flu shot is the best way to protect yourself and your family from getting the flu.

Thank you! Questions?



