EMERGENCY HEALTH ISSUES RESPONSE

Background

The Division, in cooperation with the provincial government and Alberta Health Services, supports efforts to minimize emergency health issues and their disruption to the operational activities of the Division. The administrators and staff are expected to ensure the most effective and efficient use of resources for the maximum benefit and protection of students, staff and facilities.

Procedures

1. In the event that Alberta Health Services identifies evidence of a significant health issue outbreak in the region, the Superintendent has the authority to make final decisions regarding crisis response, as guided by the Division Crisis Response Manual.
   1.1. When a state of emergency is declared by a Ministry of the Alberta Government, the particular ministry will have such authority.

2. The Superintendent will communicate a standard set of response protocols in a Crisis Response Plan for dealing with significant health issues to ensure that members of administration and staffs are familiar with roles and processes in the event of an outbreak.

3. Every student has a right to education during emergencies declared under the Public Health Act or the Emergency Management Act as in clause 1.1 above.
   3.1. The Superintendent must ensure that students are provided either in-person learning or at-home learning (Administrative Procedure 231) during an emergency in accordance with relevant Regulations and Orders.
   3.2. The Principal must ensure that parental notification and consent is received in the case of a student who is under the age of 16, and that parental notification and the consent of the student or parent is received for students 16 years or older for any health measures established by the Board that apply to the body of the student.
   3.3. Clause 3.2 does not apply to any health measure specifically exempted by Order of the Minister.

4. In accordance with directives emanating from federal and provincial authorities and the consequent circumstances that may prevail, the Superintendent may temporarily suspend the Division's current practices and operating guidelines.

Approved: September 1, 2025

Reference: Section 3, 3.1, 11, 33, 52, 53, 196, 197, 222 *Education Act*
Access to Information Act
Emergency Management Act
Emergency Medical Aid Act
Health Information Act
Occupational Health and Safety Act
Protection of Privacy Act
Public Health Act
Communicable Disease Regulation (AR 238/85)In-Person Learning Regulation (AR13/2025)