

Administrative Offices

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Dear School Health Partner,

The Office of Epidemiology at the Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) is responsible for investigating infectious diseases to control their spread in our community. This office also provides public health education to individuals, communities, and partners.

Arizona Administrative Codes R9-6-202, R9-6-203, and R9-6-204 require that we investigate reportable infectious diseases and outbreaks and also require that critical partners such as healthcare providers, hospitals and schools report certain infectious diseases within a specified time period. The list of diseases that schools are required to report to the MCDPH Office of Epidemiology can be found here: <https://www.azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/communicable-disease-reporting/school-childcare-reporting-requirements.pdf>

We are in the office Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., to accept reports and to assist you with controlling the spread of illnesses in the school setting. **We can be reached by calling 602-506-6767 and ask to speak with a surveillance nurse.** Additional information can be found on our disease reporting website: <https://www.maricopa.gov/2364/Disease-Reporting>

Please contact us with any concerns about infectious diseases or suspected outbreaks so that we may support you with recommendations regarding school attendance/exclusion, parent alert letters and education, and technical expertise regarding the diseases on this list. We are also happy to discuss any questions or concerns about other diseases or conditions that are not on this list. **We respectfully request that you contact us before sending out any mass communications to parents or teachers regarding reportable or unusual infectious diseases or outbreaks at your school.** This will allow public health to assist you with any potential parent or media health-related questions. We value your partnership in protecting the health of the community, and we encourage early communication with us when disease concerns emerge. Thank you for your ongoing partnership, and for all you do to promote healthy schools.

Sincerely,



Marcy Flanagan, DBA, MPH, MA
Director



Rebecca Sunenshine, MD
Medical Director, Disease Control