

# MAINTAINING HEALTHY ENVIRONMENTS

Code **EBBA-R** Issued **8/21**

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To reduce the spread of any contagious disease, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), recommends that districts implement safety measures regarding cleaning and disinfecting surfaces. While cleaning with soap and water reduces the number of germs, dirt, and impurities on the surface, disinfecting kills germs. The district will take reasonable steps to follow the recommended protocols established by health officials.

The board authorizes the superintendent or his/her designee to establish procedures for cleaning and disinfecting district property and to ensure that gloves and additional personal protective equipment (PPE) are available for the custodial staff.

The district will use disinfectants approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and follow the instructions on the label for all cleaning and disinfection products for concentration, dilution, application method, contact time, and any other special considerations when applying.

## **Indoors**

The district will develop a schedule for cleaning and disinfecting surfaces and objects that are frequently touched, including toys, equipment, teaching materials, and other surfaces not ordinarily cleaned (e.g. doorknobs, light switches, countertops, chairs, desks, cubbies, etc.).

Frequently touched surfaces should be cleaned daily. If students are moving between classrooms, the district will clean and disinfect classrooms more frequently, as practicable.

When possible, staff members should avoid the use of shared materials. If sharing materials is necessary, frequent hand hygiene will occur before and after each use.

## **Outdoors**

Outdoor areas generally require normal routine cleaning and do not require disinfection. However, high touch surfaces made of plastic or metal, such as grab bars and railings, will be cleaned routinely.

## **Confirmed COVID-19 Case**

The district will clean and disinfect the learning environment after a confirmed case of a contagious disease and utilize the following guidelines:

- close off areas used by the person who is sick
- open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area
- wait twenty-four (24) hours before cleaning or disinfecting or as long as possible
- clean and disinfect all areas (e.g. classrooms, offices, bathrooms, common areas, equipment, etc.) used by the person who is sick
- vacuum the space as needed, after it has been closed off, using a vacuum equipped with a high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter, if available
- wear disposable gloves to clean and disinfect
- temporarily turn off in-room, window-mounted, or on-wall recirculation HVAC to avoid contamination of the HVAC units
- leave central HVAC systems running as these systems tend to provide better filtration capabilities and introduce outdoor air into the areas that they serve

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Once the area has been appropriately disinfected, it can be opened for use. The district will determine when staff members and students may return to the cleaned space.

### **Enforcement**

This rule is intended to be effective until further notice and to align with district policies. To the extent it does not align, it will supersede others in accordance with applicable laws and regulations in effect at the time. For clarification on potential conflicts between policies, the interpretation of the superintendent or his/her designee is final.

The board authorizes the superintendent or his/her designee to amend these requirements as necessary to meet health and safety guidelines.

Issued 9/22/20; Revised 8/10/21