



WISCONSIN COLLABORATIVE *for* HEALTHCARE QUALITY

State and National Considerations for Operating Schools During COVID-19

August 21, 2020

10:00 - 11:30

REGISTER for this Live Webinar

As school districts across the nation grapple with re-opening, parents and students have questions related to COVID 19 and safe learning environments. While the science is incomplete on COVID 19, the CDC, the Wisconsin Department of Instruction and the Department of Health have issued considerations on how to operate schools during a pandemic.

WCHQ invited several health care experts in Wisconsin to share guidance from the Department of Public Instruction, the Wisconsin Department of Health and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

This webinar will be presented live with time for questions following the formal presentations. It will be recorded, as well, and be available to WCHQ members for viewing later.

Agenda

10:00 AM Introduction and Welcome

10:10 AM Infection Control and Mitigation Measures for Wisconsin Schools

Louise Wilson, MS, BSN, RN, NCSN

School Nursing and Health Services Consultant

WI Department of Public Instruction

While the virus (SARS-CoV2) that causes COVID-19 remains in wide circulation and the general public remains susceptible, the mitigation measures of social (physical) distancing, use of facial coverings/masks, hand hygiene and cough etiquette, quarantine of exposed individuals, and isolation of those with symptoms or illness provide the only protection to students and staff. The more individuals a student or staff member interacts with, and the longer that interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread.

Schools, working together with local health departments, have an important role in slowing the spread of diseases and protecting vulnerable students and staff. The goal is to return to more traditional forms of teaching and learning, provide educational and related services, while preventing or minimizing further or future school closures due to COVID-19 or other communicable diseases.

Ms. Wilson will describe the recommendations provide to schools by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction in conjunction with the Department of Health Services.

10:30 AM **American Academy of Pediatrics Guidance for School Re-entry**

Mala Mathur, MD, MPH

*Clinical Associate Professor with the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
Pediatrician, UW Health-University Station*

Gregory P. DeMuri, MD,

Pediatric Infectious Disease Specialist, UW Health

Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

The American Academy of Pediatrics issued guidance to support education, public health, local leadership, and pediatricians collaborating with schools in creating policies for school re-entry that foster the overall health of children, adolescents, staff, and communities, based on available evidence. Schools are fundamental to child and adolescent development and well-being and provide children and adolescents with academic instruction, social and emotional skills, safety, reliable nutrition, physical/speech and mental health therapy, and opportunities for physical activity, among other benefits. Beyond supporting the educational development of children and adolescents, schools play a critical role in addressing racial and social inequity. As such, it is critical to reflect on the differential impact SARS-CoV-2 and the associated school closures have had on different races, ethnic and vulnerable populations. These AAP recommendations are provided acknowledging that the understanding of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic is changing rapidly.

11:00 AM **Q and A**

11:30 AM **Adjourn**

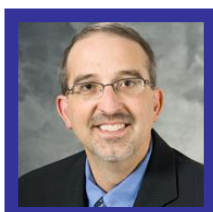
About Our Speakers



Louise Wilson, MS, BSN, RN, NCSN is the school nursing/health services consultant for the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. She has been in school nursing for over 27 years. Louise is a past board member and past president of the Wisconsin Association of School Nurses. She also served as the Wisconsin director to the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) and served two years on NASN's Executive Committee as chair of the Research and Evidenced Based Practice committee. It has been Louise's responsibility to develop the infection control and mitigation measures for schools in conjunction with the Wisconsin state Department of Health Services. Louise also oversees the development of tools for school nurses and others to use to implement these measures.



Mala Mathur, MD, MPH is a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health in the Division of General Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine. Dr. Mathur's work focuses on quality improvement, advocacy and health equity. She serves as Policy Co-Chair on the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Executive Committee for the Council on Community Pediatrics and serves on the AAP Chapter Forum Management Committee for AAP District VI. Dr. Mathur is Immediate Past President of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.



Gregory P. DeMuri, MD specializes in pediatric infectious diseases at UW Health and he is a professor with Department of Pediatrics, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. Dr. DeMuri's research is focused on upper respiratory infections in children, which includes sinusitis, otitis media and pharyngitis. He has also done extensive studies related to streptococcus in humans.