COVID-19: DISTRICTS AND EMPLOYEES:

The Balance Between Educating Students and Keeping Everyone Safe

36th Annual School Law Conference 2021

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SCHOOLS CLOSED FOR REMAINDER OF 2019-20

THEN AND NOW

2019-2020

- Governor closed schools
- Virtual instruction for all
- Surviving to end school year

Duration \uncertain

- Fear of unknown
- State mandates

2020-2021

- Parents demanding inperson instruction
- Vaccine distribution inconsistent
- 2021 Major Weather Event

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QUARANTINES & FFCRA IN 2021



QUARANTINES IN 2020

- FFCRA emergency paid sick leave available.
- · Some districts allowed remote work during quarantine.
- Some districts did not require use of personal leave.

QUARANTINES IN 2021

- · No leave unless district provided.
- · Not yet reinstated in any form at federal level.
- Employees using personal leave if unable to work remotely.
- Impact of multiple/repeated quarantines.
- Some districts do not offer choice of remote work during quarantine.



- Had a good idea (and case law supports) of what constitutes a disability.
- Now, consider CDC guidelines regarding certain underlying medical conditions considered increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
 - Severe illness from COVID-19 is defined as hospitalization, admission to the ICU, intubation or mechanical ventilation, or death.

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CDC - INCREASED RISK



- Cancer
- · Chronic kidney disease
- COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
- Down Syndrome
- Heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant

- Obesity (BMI of 30 kg/m2 or higher but < 40 kg/m2)
- Severe Obesity (BMI ≥ 40 kg/m2)
- Pregnancy
- Sickle cell disease
- Smoking
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus





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Title search: COVID-19: Districts and Employees – The Balance Between Educating Students and Keeping Everyone Safe

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<u>COVID-19</u>: <u>Districts, Employees, and the Balance Between Educating Students and Keeping Everyone Safe</u>

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