CURRENT ISSUES IN SCHOOL PREPAREDNESS

"Let's Continue the Momentum"

The Continuum of School Safety

- Prevention
- Intervention
- Response

2014 Regional Workshops

Arizona Department of Education
- School Safety and Prevention

Arizona Department Health Services
- Bureau of Emergency Preparedness

Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs
- Division of Emergency Management

Arizona School Districts

Workshop Objectives

- Provide a forum throughout the workshop to discuss a variety of contemporary issues facing schools.
- Facilitate discussions on the process of responding to an Active Shooter scenario utilizing a discussion-based tabletop exercise (TTX)
- Afford the workshop participants the opportunity to focus on their own policies and response procedures relating to their emergency response plan.

Arizona Incidents

DEATH IN SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Debi Neat
Retired Safe and Drug Free Schools Trainer
Phoenix Union High School District

There are 2 types of schools:

1. **Those that have had a crisis**

and…

2. **Those that will**

Lessons Learned

- If the school/district is not prepared, the staff are not trained as a team, and trained to provide CISD (critical incidence stress debrief), or the team is not organized, and/or not supported – much can go wrong.
- Students, staff and the community will not feel safe and their needs will not be met.
- It will take longer to get back to learning.

If not prepared

- (Intervention) Staff will be burned out, and either not prepared to respond or unable to respond well.
- Students whose needs are not met will be fearful and not able to learn due to their grief or trauma.

School District #1

- 9 years of tragic deaths of students and staff.

- No team, no plan, little planning, no one trained to provide intervention.

School District #1, continued

- 1 year accident at lunch, 1 male died, 2 males seriously injured
- Next year:
  - Oct. Drive by shooting, 9th grade female died
  - Nov. Accident at lunch, 10th grade female died, 2 severely injured
  - Jan. Graduated senior died in car accident on the freeway the Sunday before return from winter break

School District #2

- **If you are prepared**:

  Have a team

  Have a plan

  Teams are trained in roles and responsibilities

  Staff trained to provide CISD or trauma intervention as needed

  Staff understand that intervention must happen in order for learning to take place.

  Have a “flight team” that can respond to assist sister schools.

  Connect to PD, to verify incidents and victims.

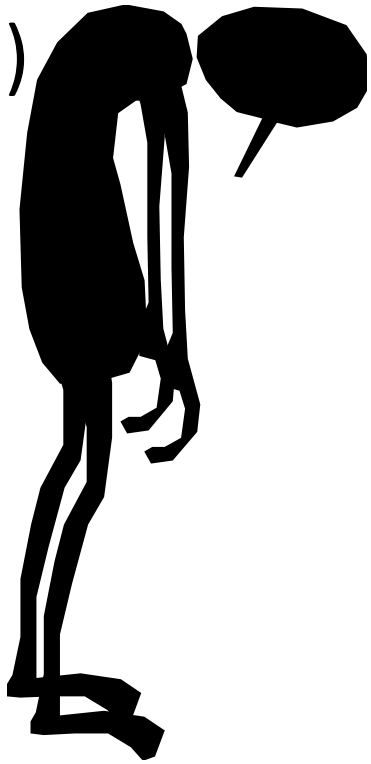
  Pre-clearance of volunteers to assist – relationships built in advance.

School District #2, continued

- 14 years, multiple deaths each year of students and staff.
- Some car accidents, some illness, some homicide, some suicide.
- District is aware and sets up “flight team”
- Campus holds crisis team meeting
- Staff is informed
- Support and intervention is provided.
- Team debriefs

More is needed

- Overwhelmed by depression, anxiety, suicidal ideation, suicide completers, students with untreated mental illness (younger and younger psychosis – auditory and visual)
- Connect to mobile crisis teams
- Connect to behavioral health hospitals
- Case Presentation form



INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Dr. Candice L. Williams, MPH
Arizona Department of Health Services

Dr. Rebecca Sunenshine, Medical Director and Administrator Disease Control Division, Maricopa County Department of Public Health

SPORTS, SCHOOLS, AND THE THINGS THAT AIL THEM

Candice L. Williams, MD MPH

Overview

- Overview of communicable disease in schools
- Discussion of outbreaks among athletic teams
- Review of recent outbreak among high school wrestlers

Communicable diseases in school

Skin Infections in Schools

- What should be done if a student has MRSA?
  - Ensure that student keeps wound covered with a clean dry dressing
  - Environmental interventions to prevent disease spread
    - Place hand sanitizer in classrooms
    - Place soap at every sink
    - Have bandages available to cover wounds

http://www.cdc.gov/mrsa/community/schools/

Student Exclusion? School Closure?

- No student should be excluded from school unless they have a lesion that can't be covered or advised by physician
- School closure for cleaning is generally not necessary
- If considering student exclusion, school closure or additional questions contact local public health department

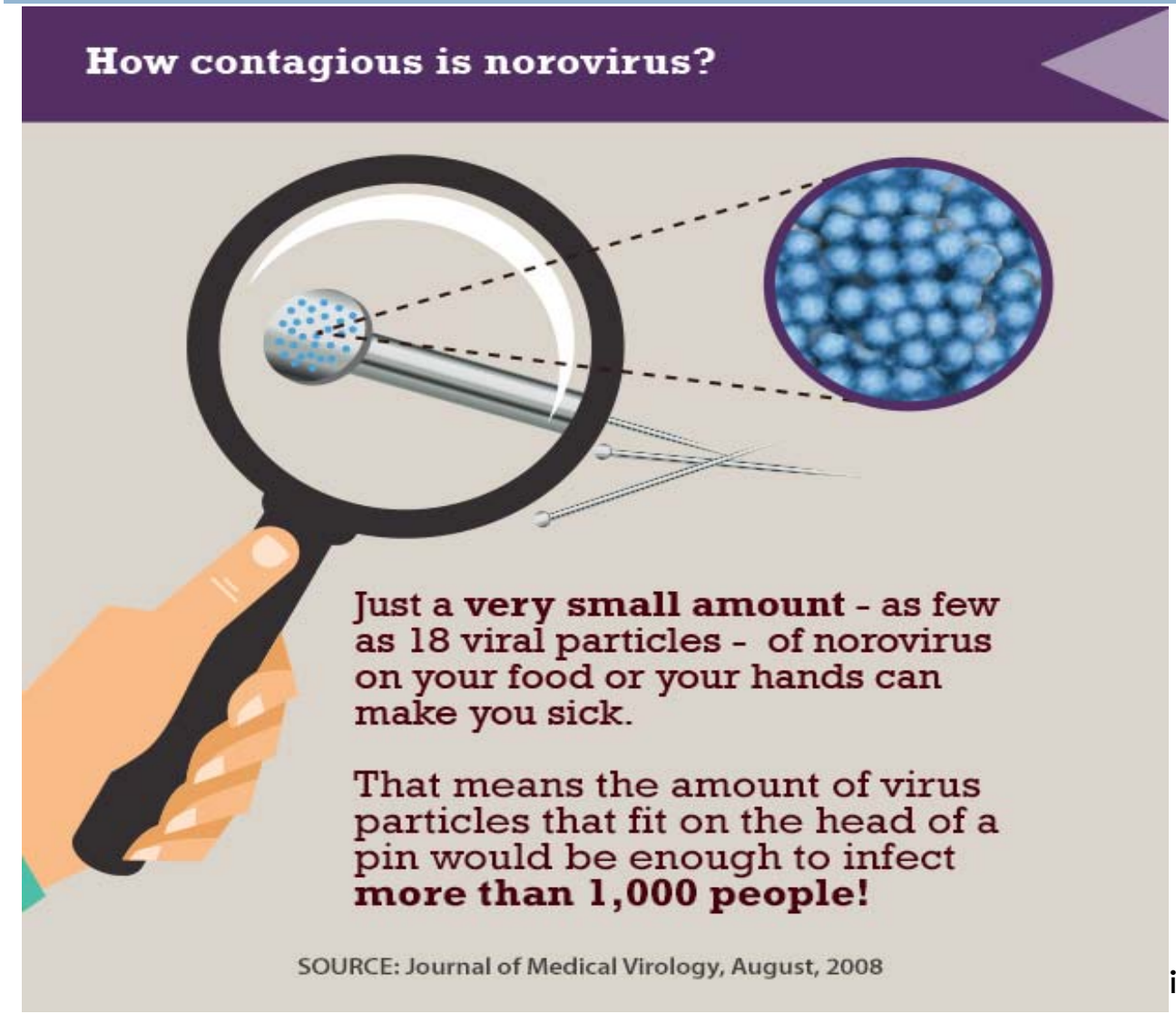
http://www.cdc.gov/mrsa/community/schools/

Gastrointestinal Infections in Schools

- Treat all GI illnesses like norovirus!
  - GI Illnesses can spread VERY quickly

http://www.cdc.gov/norovirus/preventing-infection.html

Gastrointestinal Infections in Schools



irus/preventing-infection.html

Gastrointestinal Infections in Schools

- Treat all GI illnesses like norovirus!
  - GI Illnesses can spread VERY quickly
- Wash hands with soap and water
  - Hand sanitizer not effective against norovirus
- Clean and disinfect any surface contaminated with vomit or diarrhea
  - Use a bleach solution (1:10 dilution)

http://www.cdc.gov/norovirus/preventing-infection.html

Respiratory Infections in Schools

- Influenza, colds
  - all spread by droplets
    - Generally travel 3 feet
- Only prevention is flu vaccine
- Stay home if sick
- Cover coughs and sneezes
  - Cough/sneeze into tissue or upper sleeve (not hand)
    - Throw tissues away
- Wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer

Cover Coughs and Sneezes

Outbreaks among athletic teams

High School Athletics

- 2012–2013 NFHS Survey
  - >7.7 million high school athletes in the US.[1]
  - In Arizona 126,219 high school athletes statewide

1. National Federation of State High School Associations

Most popular boys sports US & AZ

Sport	US participation	AZ participation
1. Football	1,086,627	18,803
2. Track and Field	580,672	9,125
3. Basketball	538,676	8,247
4. Baseball	474,791	8,257
5. Soccer	410,982	7,127
6. Wrestling	270,163	6,149

Skin Infections and Athletes

- An estimated 8.5% of all high school sports related injuries are caused by skin infections.[1]

- Most common causes of skin lesions among athletes
  - Fungal infections → Ringworm
  -
  -

RINGWORM APPEARANCE

1. Yard EE, Collins CL, et al. *Am J Sports Med*. 2008.

Skin Infections and Athletes

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Skin Infections and Athletes

- An estimated 8.5% of all high school sports related injuries are secondary to skin infections.[1]

- Most common causes of skin lesions among athletes
  - Fungal infections → Ringworm
  - Herpes
  - Bacterial infections → Impetigo

1. Yard EE, Collins CL, et al. *Am J Sports Med*. 2008.

Reported Outbreaks among Athletes

- Outbreaks in sports
  - 80 reported outbreaks in competitive sports from 1922-2010[1,2]

- Sports with reported outbreaks

Football	Wrestling
Baseball	Basketball
Swimming	Soccer
Rugby	Martial Arts
Adventure Racing	Mountain Biking

1. Turbeville, et al. The Am Journ of Sports Med; 2006
2. Collins, et al. Journ of Athletic Training; 2012

Recent Outbreak among High School Wrestlers

Outbreak Associated with High School Wrestling Tournament Maricopa County — 2014

- Tournament held at School A
  - January 24-25, 2014
- The Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) was notified of an increased number of skin lesions among wrestlers
- February 7, 2014 The AIA contacted the Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH)
  - Requesting guidance on whether or not to proceed with upcoming competitions

The Investigation

- February 10, 2014 MCDPH began an investigation

- Goals of investigation
  - Determine if there was an increase in the number of wrestlers with lesions
  - Determine type of skin lesions
  - Provide guidance on the resumption of competition

The Investigation

- The AIA provided list of all school who participated in the tournament at school A

- MCDPH contacted each participating school
  - Team coaches/athletic directors asked if there were any wrestlers on the team with skin lesions

The Investigation

- The AIA provided list of all school who participated in the tournament at school A
- MCDPH contacted each participating school
  - Team coaches/athletic directors asked if there were any wrestlers on the team with skin lesions
- A survey was sent to schools that reported at least 1 skin lesion

The Survey

- Distributed to all team members

- Questions
  - Have you noticed any skin lesions since January 1, 2014?
  - Did you wrestle in the tournament at school A?
  - Were you able to keep skin lesion covered while wrestling?
  - Did you see a health care provider?
  - What was your diagnosis?

Skin Lesion Diagnoses

Diagnosis	Before 1/24	After 1/24	Total
Impetigo	4	12	16
Herpes	1	9	10
Ringworm	2	1	3
MRSA	0	2	2
Other diagnosis	3	4	7
Diagnosis unknown	2	8	10

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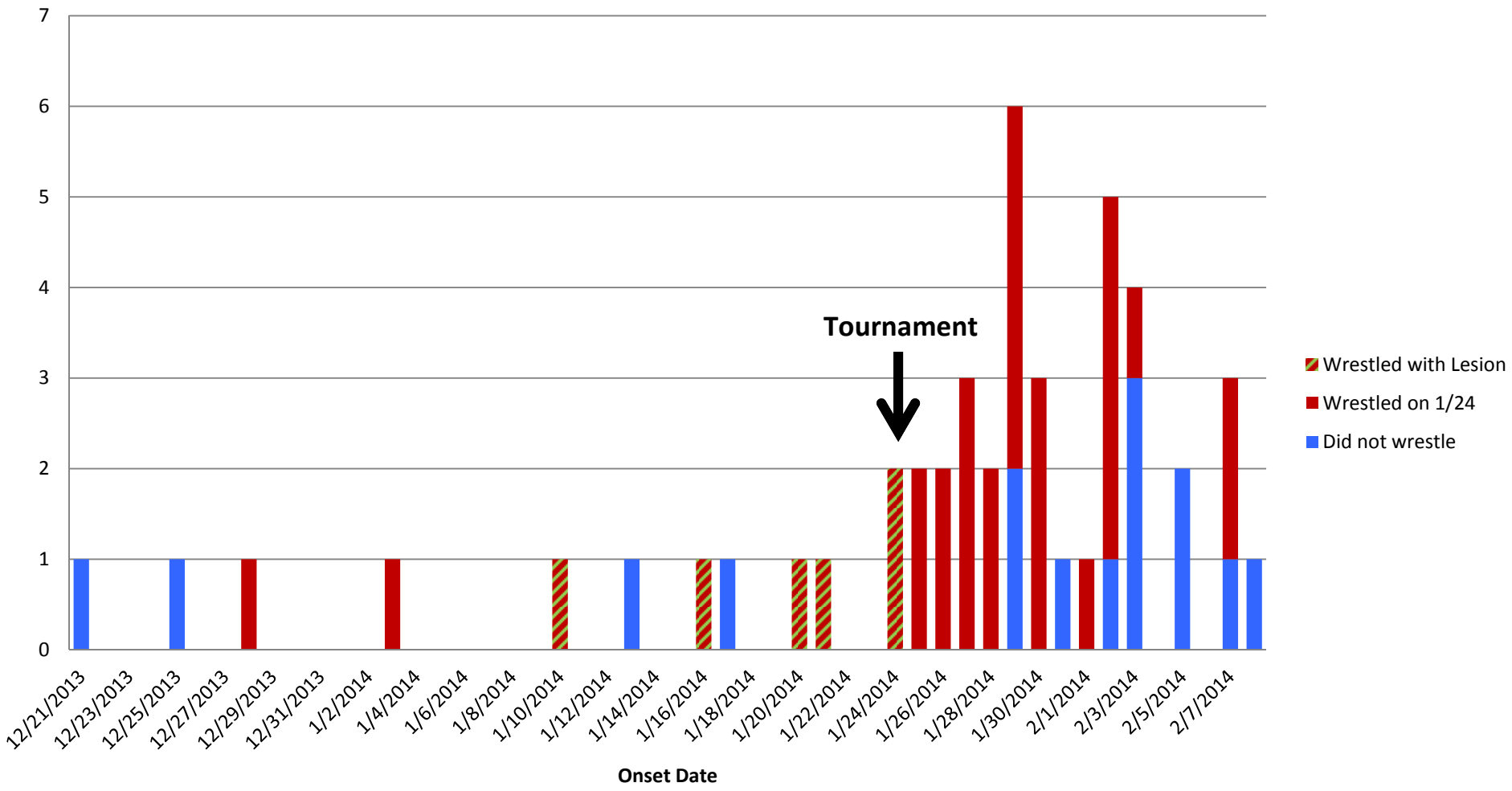
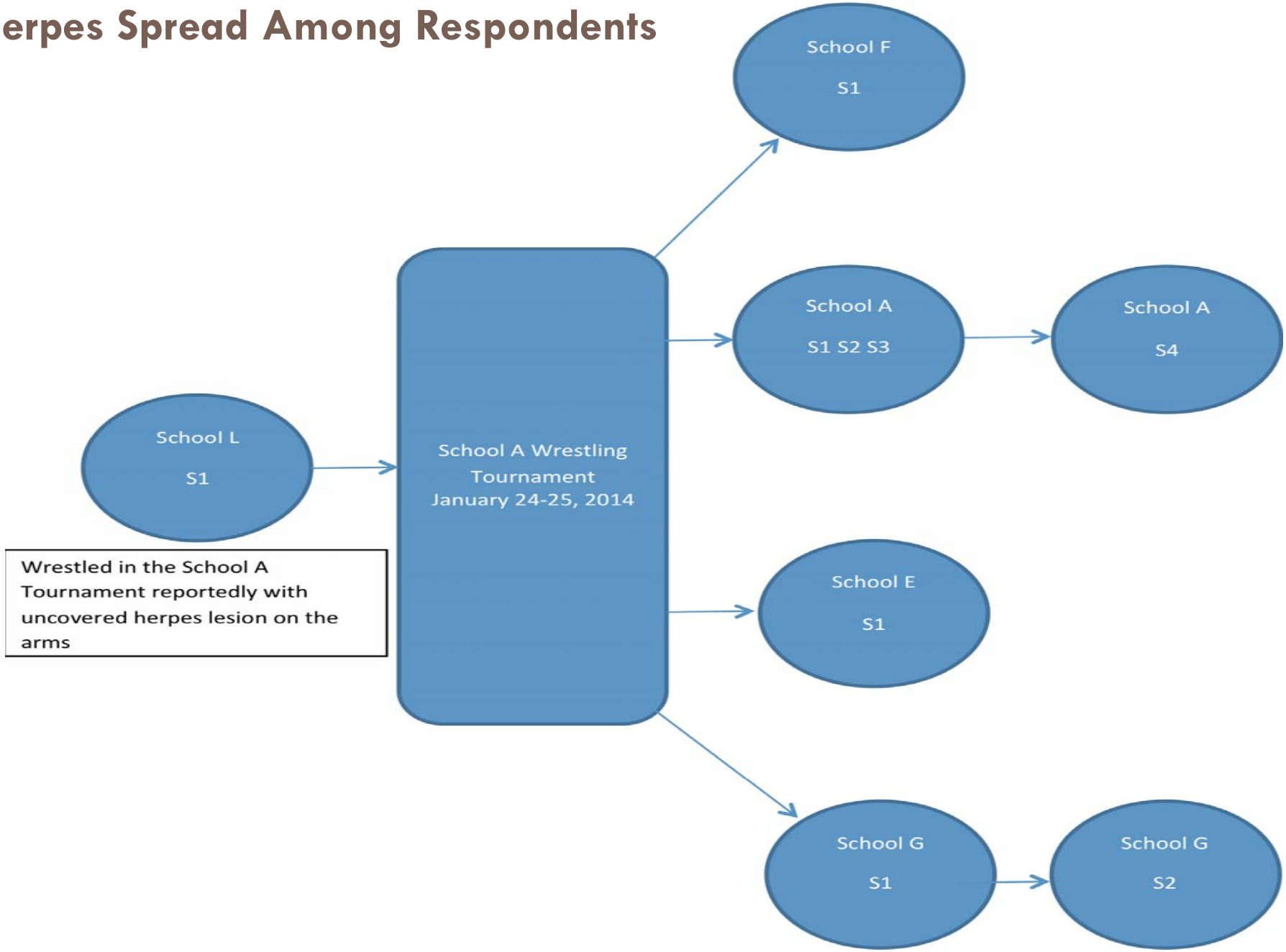
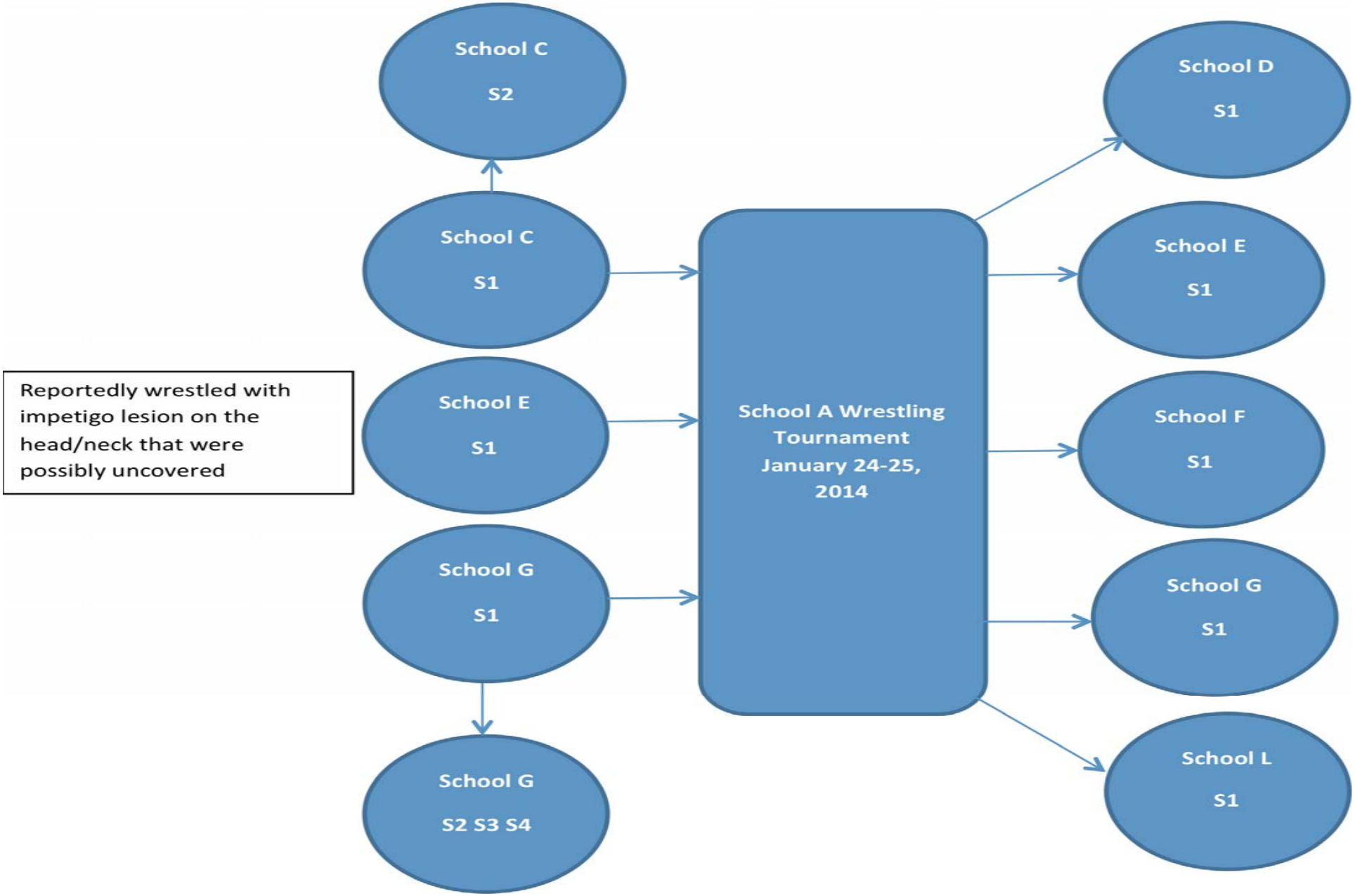
Date of Skin Lesion Onset, all respondents (n= 48)



Herpes Spread Among Respondents



Impetigo Spread Among Respondents



Conclusions

- 48 wrestlers reported skin lesions since January 1
  - 12 before the tournament
  - 36 after the tournament
- Multiple different diagnoses among wrestlers
- Herpes and Impetigo likely spread at School A tournament due to wrestling with uncovered lesions

Public Health Recommendations

- Proceed with the upcoming tournaments with implementation of the following guidelines
  - Exclude any wrestler with visible uncovered lesions
  - Clean and disinfect mats with appropriate disinfectant between each match
  - Hand Sanitizer freely available at ringside

- AIA provided independent third party clinical providers to examine each wrestler prior to competition

Prevention of Skin Infection in Athletes The Do's and Don'ts

- Do keep wounds covered
- Do shower immediately after exercise and before using whirlpools
- Do wash hand frequently
- Do wash and dry uniforms after each use
- Do report possible infections to coach, athletic trainer, school nurse, other healthcare providers, or parents
- Don't share towels, bar soap, razors, equipment or other personal items

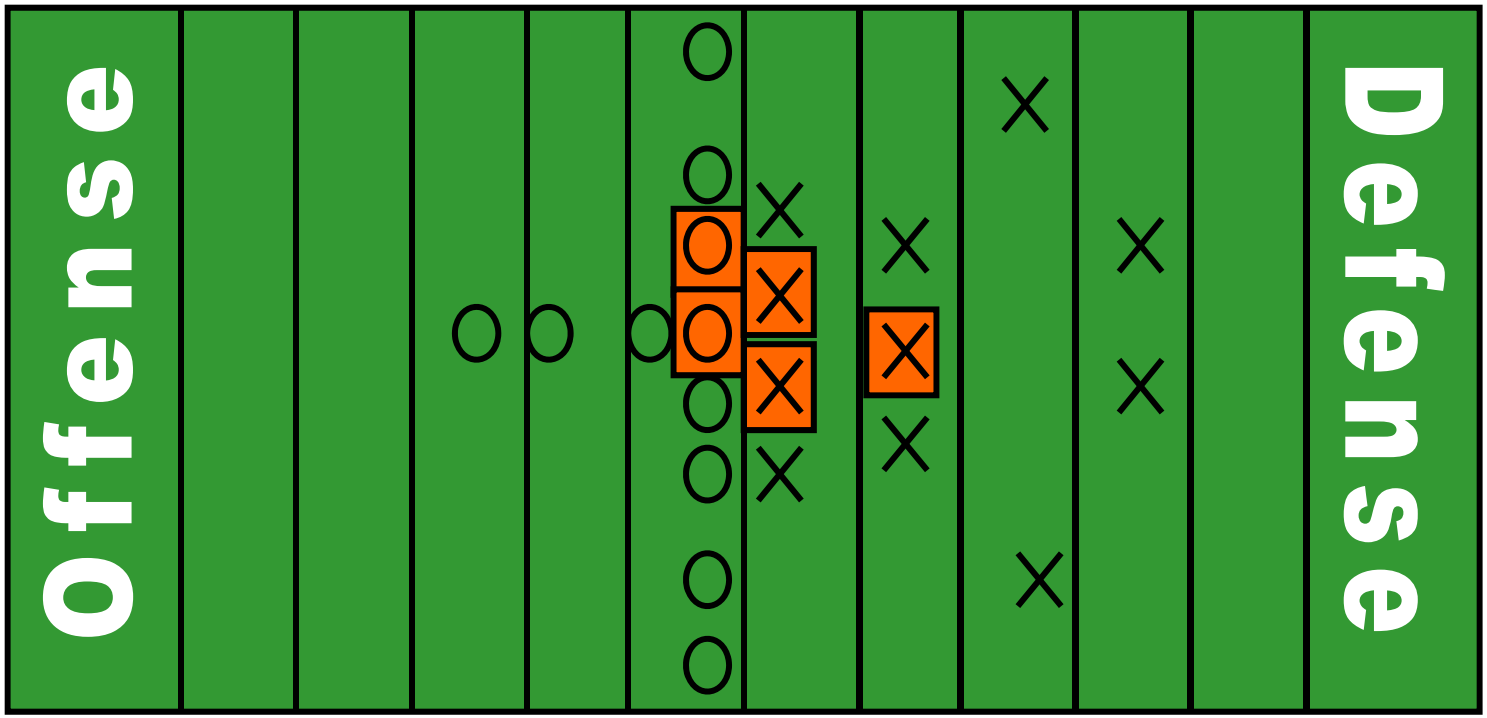
The Bigger They Are
The Harder They Fall

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

Volume 352:468-475 February 3, 2005 Number 5

CDC
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Case Player Position

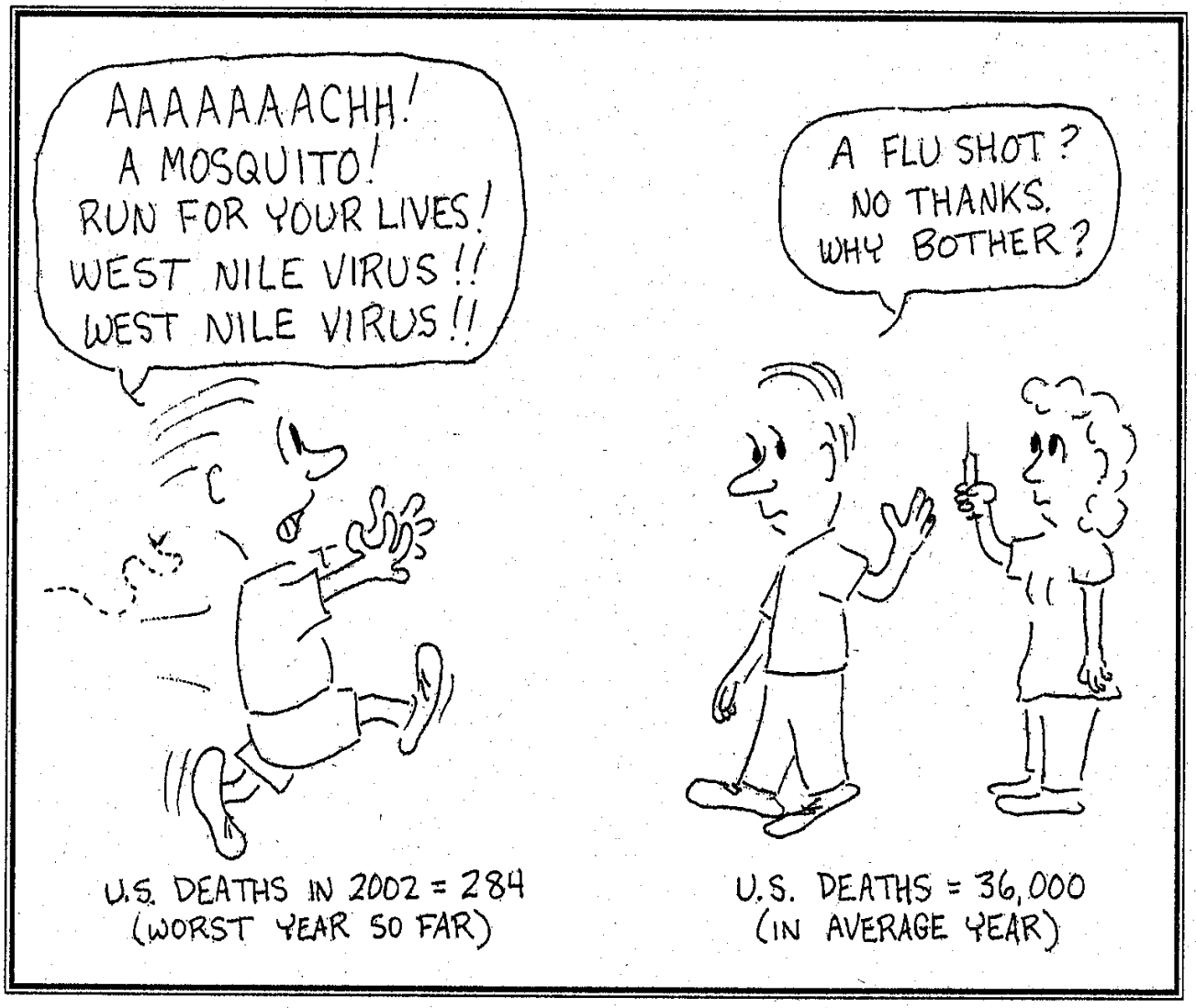


Return-to-Play Guidelines

- When can I return to practice and competition?
  - It depends on the skin lesion

Skin Lesion	NFHS Guideline
Impetigo	• No draining or oozing lesions
Herpes Gladiatorum	• Oral antiviral > 10–14 days • No new lesions while on antiviral treatment x 48hrs • All lesions scabbed
Tinea corporis (Ringworm on the body)	• Oral or topical antifungal x 72hrs • Written release from team physician to coach • Lesion must be covered by occlusive dressing

Questions?


AAAAAAACHH! A MOSQUITO! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES! WEST NILE VIRUS!! WEST NILE VIRUS!!
U.S. DEATHS IN 2002 = 284 (WORST YEAR SO FAR)
A FLU SHOT? NO THANKS. WHY BOTHER?
U.S. DEATHS = 36,000 (IN AVERAGE YEAR)

FIREARM INCIDENT AT MASS GATHERING

Vince Scarfo, Safety Coordinator
Phoenix Union High School District

WILDLAND FIRE

Fred Garnett, Superintendent
Yarnell Elementary School District

The Yarnell Hill Fire

June 30th

The Fire

At 5:36 p.m. on June 28, 2013, lightning ignited a wildfire on BLM lands near Yarnell, Arizona, a town of approximately 700 residents about eighty miles northwest of Phoenix. Strong winds in the area, reaching more than 22 mph, pushed the fire on June 30 from 300 acres to over 2,000 acres.

By July 1st the fire had grown to over 8,300 acres. The nearby community of Peeples Valley and Yarnell were evacuated. The fire was still completely uncontrolled, with more than 400 firefighters on the line.

- On July 2, the fire was estimated at 8 percent containment.
- On July 3, the fire was reportedly 45 percent contained and not growing; 600 firefighters were assigned.
- On July 10th, the fire was declared 100 percent contained.

Working together:

- Our local fire department through our school secretary, who lives in Peeples Valley, informed me the Model Creek School building was the “control center” for fighting the fire.
- Shortly after that call, the two communities were evacuated.

Evacuations

- The Peeples Fire Department, the Yarnell Fire Department, the Yavapai County Sheriffs Department and the Yavapai County Emergency Agency worked in unison to complete the evacuation. Several school employees indicated that the evacuation was difficult, and involved individuals calling their friends to be sure everyone was evacuated.

School Response:

The school's immediate response was to offer whatever assistance the firefighters needed. At one point there were several hundred firefighters sleeping in and camped all around the school. Food service trailers and trucks were set up in our open field and our track was used to park vehicles and supply trucks. Every inch of land immediately surrounding the school was used by the fire fighters.

Lessons Learned

The School, both fire departments and the Yavapai Sheriffs Departments met to establish a fire protocol for the school to be prepared for any Wild Fire Situations in the future.

Developed:

A District Emergency Flip Chart was developed using the Yavapai County Emergency Documentation information and what we learned from the fire and input from the Local Public Agencies.

Developed an evacuation procedure and determined two escape routes, from the School, East and West to be determined by the incident.

- Vehicles for evacuation are identified and always full of gas.
- The School Emergency Committee determined two relocation points for student accountability and pickup.
- The committee also determined two locations for the School Command Post.

Documentation was developed to have accountability for all students and personnel involved in the school.

Radios were purchased (3-5 Mile range) for communication for all emergency situations.

Adopted the “Trust” Wildfire information packet.

Effects upon the community:

Effect upon the school:

WILDLAND FIRE

Dan Varner, Master Exercise Practitioner
Arizona Division of Emergency Management

REFRESHER – APPLICATION OF ICS FOR SCHOOLS

James Dorer, Chief Security Officer
Scottsdale Unified School District
John Shikany, Director Safety and Security
Washington Elementary School District

Scottsdale Unified
SCHOOL DISTRICT

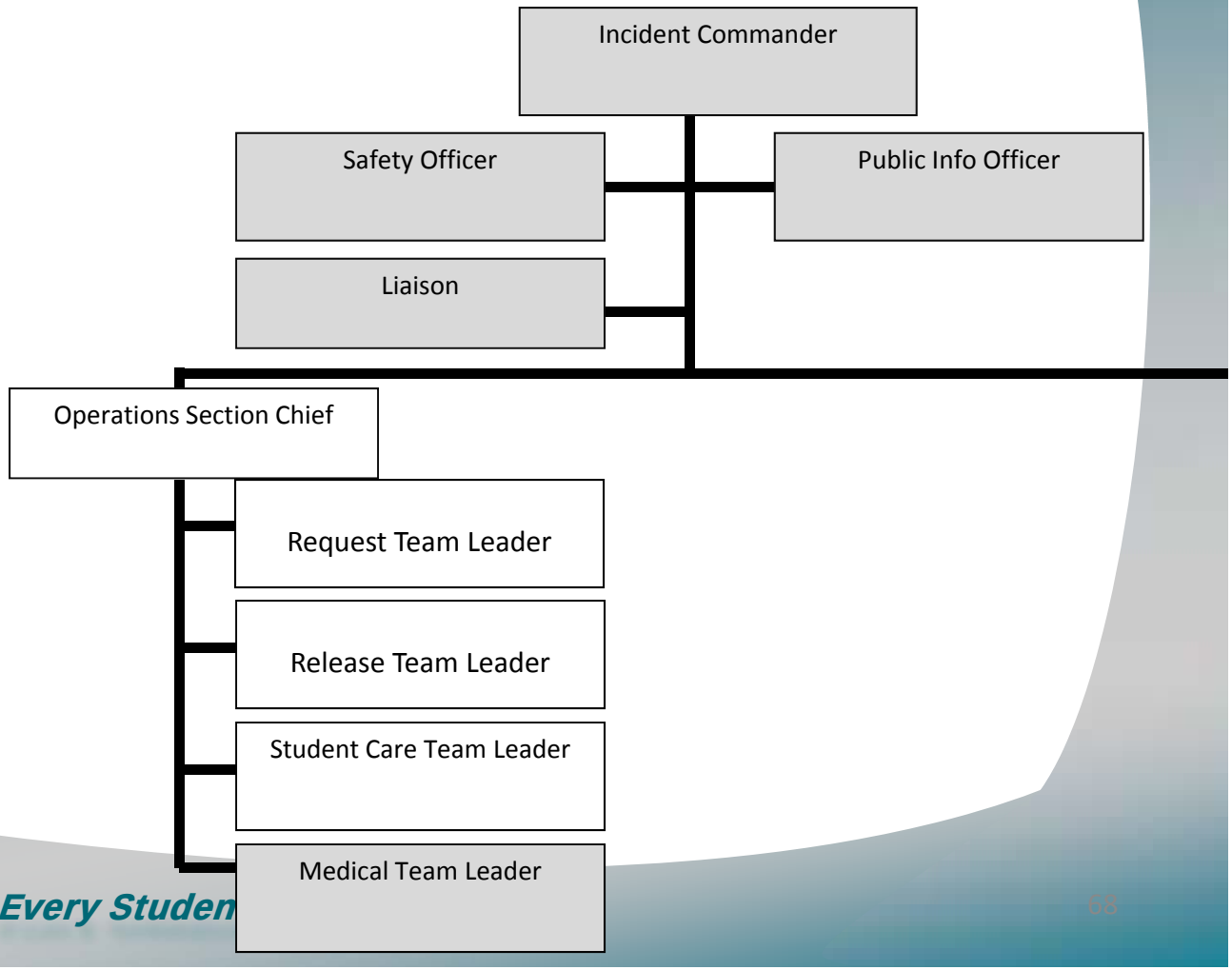
Engage, Educate and Empower Every Student, Every Day

ICS Positions

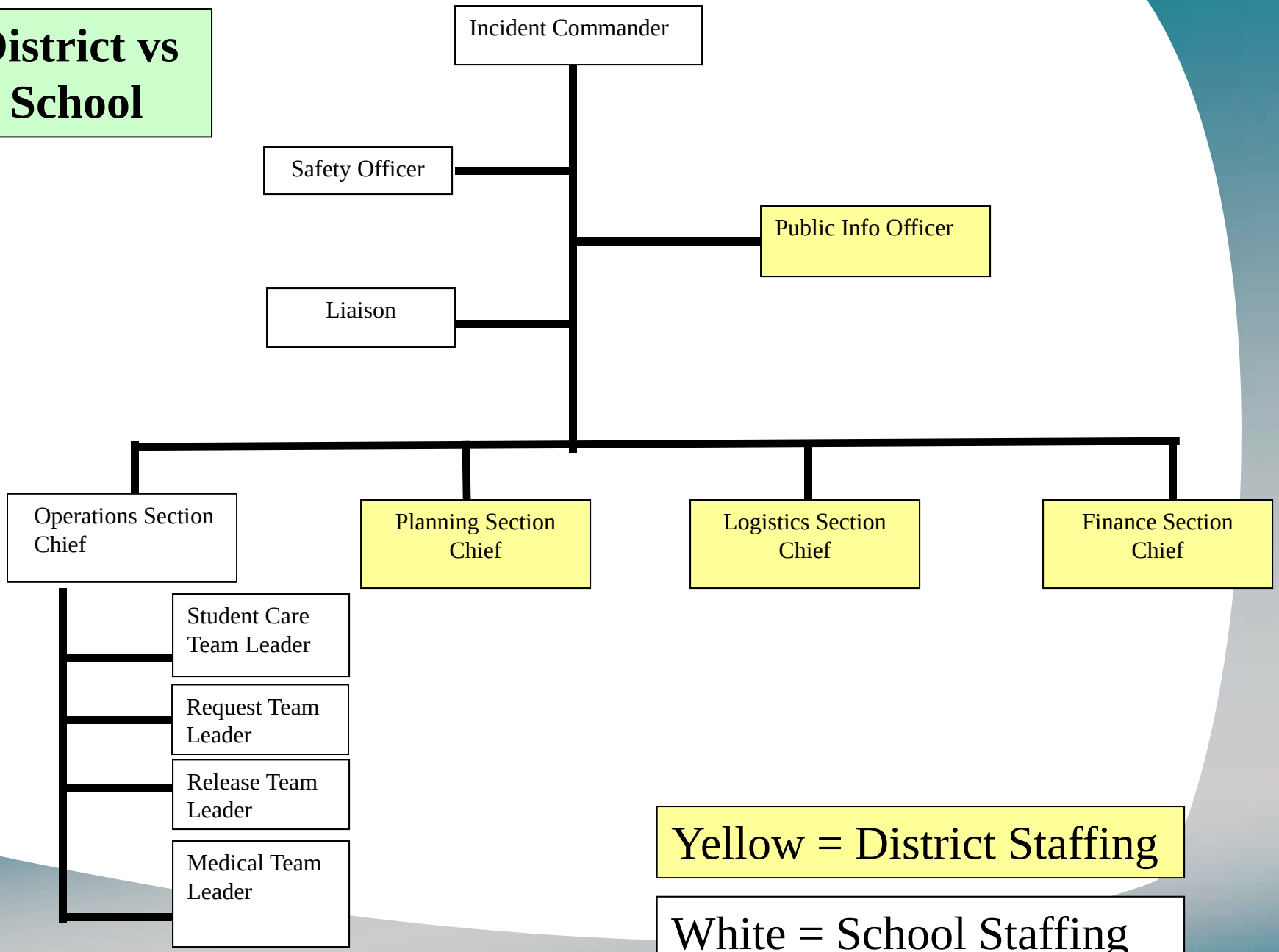
2014

Reunification

Since every crisis may need reunification, we base our ICS positions on this concept.



District vs School



Yellow = District Staffing

White = School Staffing

POSITION	1st (Primary)	2nd (Alternate)
Incident Commander		
Designated Incident Commander when both principal and AP are off site		
Safety Officer		
Liaison Officer	Assigned SRO	
Information Officer	Primary District PIO	Secondary District PIO
Operations Section Chief		
Student Request Team Leader		
Student Release Team Leader		
Student Care Team Leader		
Medical Team Leader		
*If the ICS member is a teacher, document who is responsible for caring for their students if called away (buddy teacher) to accomplish ICS roles.		

On-Site Evacuation Locations (fire response):	
Primary	
Alternate	
Areas of Refuge for Disabled	
Other relevant information	

On-Site Areas for Your Campus		
	Primary	Alternate
On-Site School Command Post		
Shelter-in-Place Areas	Classrooms	
On-Site Reunification Locations		
Student Care	Classrooms	
Medical Area - First Aid		
Student Request Gate		
Student Release Gate		
Other		
Suggested Media Staging Area		
Public Safety Response	Determined by Responders	

OFF-SITE EVACUATION - PRIMARY LOCATION				
CONTACT NAME		PHONE		
	Primary		Alter nate	
Off-Site School Command Post				
Reunification Locations				
Student Care				
Medical Area - First Aid				
Student Request Gate				
Student Release Gate				
Other				
Suggested Media Staging Area				
Public Safety Response	Determined by Responders			

OFF-SITE EVACUATION - ALTERNATE LOCATION			
CONTACT NAME		PHONE	
	Primary	Alter nate	
Off-Site School Command Post			
Reunification Locations			
Student Care			
Medical Area - First Aid			
Student Request Gate			
Student Release Gate			
Other			
Suggested Media Staging Area			
Public Safety Response	Determined by Responders		

ACTIVE SHOOTER TABLETOP EXERCISE

Jim Lee, Director of Student Services
Paradise Valley Unified School District
Dan Varner, Master Exercise Practitioner
Arizona Division of Emergency Management

Let's Get Started!

Your School Name is located in your local school district. The building has a main entrance near the front office and various exits throughout the building.

It is Valentine's Day just around lunchtime. A young man appears in the reception area of the main lobby with a large bouquet of flowers and states he has a delivery for a teacher.

As the individual approaches the front office, a custodian thinks he sees a gun in the individual's back pocket. Before the custodian can take any action, the individual drops the flowers and pulls out a gun.

There are students in the general area of the office as the school is in a passing period.

Exercise Scenario Questions

1. What is your first concern in this situation?
2. What are the priority actions and how do you accomplish them?
3. How do you communicate this situation to the rest of the school? What do you communicate?

SCENARIO UPDATE # 1

- The gunman opens fire and then runs toward the cafeteria. The principal's secretary announces a lockdown over the P.A. system.
- Five students, the principal and the custodian have been critically wounded. In addition, numerous other students and at least one teacher were injured as they ran away from the gunfire.
- Teachers are trying to direct students to safe areas. There is confusion about the gunman's whereabouts.

Update #1 Questions:

1. How does the firing of shots change your initial concerns and priority actions?

2. What should you do about the people who have been wounded?

SCENARIO UPDATE # 2

- Law enforcement officers and other first responders have arrived at the scene. They are searching the school for the suspect and have cordoned off the surrounding area.
- The police are stopping parents and guardians from getting to the school.
- The media have converged on the scene.
- Law enforcement found the suspect dead of a self-inflicted gun wound close to the cafeteria.

Update #2 Questions:

1. How will your school interface with local first responders, and what support can you give to law enforcement?
2. Draw your initial incident command structure including personnel assigned to each position in the space below.
3. How do you communicate the event to your school community and what do you tell them about the incident?
4. What information do you communicate to the media. Who is involved in identifying what information will be released regarding the incident?

SCENARIO UPDATE # 3

- It is now approximately 30 minutes since the incident started.
- Several teachers are reporting that their students are extremely upset, and they are requesting additional help.
- Students are texting their parents.
- Family members are anxious to be reunited with their children, but the school is still locked down.
- The media are continuing to broadcast information from the scene.

Update Questions # 3

1. How do you account for students and staff?

2. How will you handle evacuating students and staff?

3. How will you handle reunification of children with families?

4. How are you updating families and the media relative to the incident and reunification procedures?

EXERCISE SCENARIO UPDATE # 4

- **Parent/student reunification has been completed and you are now discussing with district officials and first responders regarding what happens next.**

1. **What needs to be considered for the next 24 hours?**
2. **The next week?**
3. **Beyond next week?**
4. **What district/school resources will be needed during the recovery process over the short, intermediate and long term?**

UPDATES AND WORKSHOP CONCLUSION