

POLICY: JGCC Rule
Approved: March, 2002
Reviewed:
Revised:

GUIDELINES FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

A. Educational and Preventive Measures:

1. The District will conform with State law and administrative rules in recommending immunizations and physical examinations of students and staff.
2. The school nurse shall ensure that a list of communicable diseases, as defined by the Department of Health, is located in all health rooms and that information regarding the suppression and control of communicable disease will also be available for review by interested students and employees.
3. The District Exposure Control Plan is available in each office. Staff will follow infection control procedures as outlined in the plan. All occupationally exposed employees shall receive training on an annual basis.
4. The school nurse will serve as a resource for providing information/instruction regarding suppression and control of communicable diseases for staff/students/parents and guardians.
5. Supplies for reducing the risk of transmission will be available in each building, in first aid kits and recess packs.

B. Confidentiality and Reporting

1. The building principal and/or the school nurse will serve as the District's liaison with students, staff, parents, physicians, public health officials and the community at large concerning communicable disease issues in the school.
2. Any person who knows or suspects that a student or employee has a communicable disease shall report the facts to the principal or school nurse.
 - a. In the case where a child is kept home due to an illness, the child's parent or guardian will be requested to notify the school office so that other parents may be alerted if communicable disease is present.
 - b. Classroom teachers are expected to observe students for signs of illness, and to refer students to the health room when appropriate.

However, the name of an HIV infected individual cannot be shared unless a written consent authorizing disclosure is obtained from the infected individual or their parent/guardian.

3. If required by public health laws and regulations, the principal and/or school nurse will make a report to the local public health officer. The District will maintain the confidentiality of the health records of students and staff and will not disclose any such records except to the extent required or allowed by law. All medical information and other documentation pertaining to an HIV infected individual will be kept in a locked file. Access to this information will only be granted to those persons who have signed consent.

B. Exclusion from School

1. Students/employees who are suspected of having a communicable disease that could be detrimental to the health of self or others may be sent home for diagnosis and treatment. Students/employees who are diagnosed as having a communicable disease that render them unable to pursue their studies/job responsibilities or poses a significant risk for transmission to others in the school environment shall be excused from school attendance until their presence no longer poses a threat to the health of themselves or others.

A student may be sent home from school when there is a significant health risk to others in the normal course of his/her school day:

- Students in the infectious stages of a serious airborne transmitted communicable disease;
 - Students in the infectious stages of an oral/fecal communicable disease who are unable to hygienically manage their bowel/bladder functions;
 - Students with a disease which may be transmitted by blood or body fluids, who have open lesions and whose developmental level or behavior patterns make it difficult to prevent spreading the underlying infection;
 - Students who have a nuisance disease (e.g., head lice, scabies).
2. Before making a determination that a student/employee should be sent home for diagnosis and treatment or excused from school attendance, the student and the student's parent/guardian or employee shall be contacted and informed of the reasons for the contemplated action.
 3. The principal, in consultation with the school nurse, and where appropriate, local public health officials shall determine when a student/employee who has been excluded may be readmitted. As a condition of continued or renewed attendance, the District may require a statement from the student/employee's physician that the student/employee is in suitable condition to attend school/resume work responsibilities.
 4. Students/employees who dispute the determination or actions of the School District concerning exclusion may appeal such determination or action by bringing a complaint to the administration according to District policy.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Wisconsin Statute Sections 118.01(2), 118.07(1), 118.125, 252

CROSS REFERENCE: JGCC Exhibit (1) – Reporting of Communicable Disease
Bloodborne Pathogen Standard
District Appeal Process