

Student Communicable Diseases

Students with any contagious or communicable disease shall be dealt with in accordance with procedures outlined in this policy and in South Dakota Law.

The Board recognizes the need and right of all children to receive free and appropriate education. The Board further recognizes its responsibility to provide a health environment for students and school employees. The determination of whether an infected student is to be excluded from the classroom or school activities shall be made on a case by case basis under the direction of the building principal, administrator, or designee.

In situations where the decision requires additional knowledge and expertise, the principal will refer the case to a team for assistance in the decision making. The team may be composed of: any or all of the following: 1) representation from the State Health Department; 2) student's physician; 3) student's parent/guardian; 4) county nurse; 5) Superintendent or designee; 6) the student's teacher(s) and other appropriate school personnel.

In making the decision, the team shall consider: 1) the behavior, developmental level, and medical condition of the student; 2) the expected type(s) of the interaction with others in the school setting; 3) the impact on both the infected student and others in that setting.

If the principal has reasonable cause to believe that a student is an infected individual, an appropriate medical evaluation of the student may be required.

If an infected student is not permitted to attend classes or participate in school activities, the district will provide the student with an appropriate education program.

Public information will not be revealed about students who may be infected with any communicable condition or disease. If the student is permitted to remain in the school setting, information as to the student's medical condition and other factors needed for consideration in carrying out job responsibilities will be provided, as appropriate, to school employees who have regular contact with the student.

Legal Reference: SDCL 13-28-7.3

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