

STUDENTS

Contagious and Infectious Diseases: Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)/~~Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)~~

A. Purpose

To establish policy regarding students who are infected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

B. Philosophy

The School Board recognizes its ~~dual~~ obligation to protect the rights of individual students infected with HIV ~~and to provide a safe environment for students, staff, and the public~~. Since ~~it is known that~~ HIV infection is not transmitted through casual contact, ~~any students with ho is~~ HIV infected must be allowed to attend school in unrestricted settings and participate in an academic programs as allowed by their health status. ~~will continue education in a regular classroom assignment unless the health status requires otherwise. It is the intent of the School Board to follow the recommendations of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and the Virginia Department of Health that most HIV-infected children be allowed to attend school in an unrestricted setting and that decisions regarding school attendance be based on the medical condition of each child and the expected type of interaction with others in that setting. Persons~~ Employees involved in the implementation and monitoring of this ~~p~~Policy shall maintain confidentiality of records in compliance with state law, School Board policy, and regulations. The School Board shall ~~also~~ maintain a program of information sharing and training for school employees that includes the rights of individual students with HIV infection, and the use of universal precautions by employees and students to decrease the risk of exposure to bloodborne pathogens (e.g. HIV). ~~staff and parents to ensure a consistent and accurate understanding regarding the HIV infection and relevant policy and procedures. This includes training related to the proper application of universal hygiene practices.~~

C. Required Personnel Training

The Superintendent shall ensure that all school employees working in school areas receive training on the use of universal precautions to decrease the risk of exposure to bloodborne pathogens and the process for reporting these exposures through the School Division's Exposure Control Plan. Employee groups listed in the Exposure Control Plan that are at a higher risk of exposure to bloodborne pathogens in their regular job duties will receive additional training per the Virginia Occupational Safety and Health Program. ~~personnel having direct contact with students shall receive appropriate training in the etiology, prevention, transmission modes, and effects of blood-borne pathogens, specifically hepatitis B and human immunodeficiency virus or any other infections that are the subject of regulations promulgated by the Safety and Health Codes Board of the Virginia Occupational Safety and Health Program.~~

D. Immunization Requirements

Students ~~must are expected to~~ be in compliance with the Virginia Minimum Immunization Requirements for School Entry. When applicable, a Medical Exemption completed by a physician is acceptable to meet immunization compliancean immunization schedule. However, some required immunizations may be harmful to the health of the student who is HIV infected or has AIDS. ~~Students who are HIV infected or have AIDS may get an exemption with the requirements as provided in the Code of Va., § 22.1 271.2 C.~~ School personnel will cooperate with public health personnel in completing and coordinating immunization data, exemptions and exclusions, including immunization forms.

E. Confidentiality of Records/Right to Privacy

School employees notified by an adult student, parent or legal guardian of a minor student with HIV infection must obtain written consent from the adult student, parent or legal guardian that includes the name(s) of school personnel that the adult student, parent or legal guardian consents to have this information. The school employees listed on the consent must not share information related to the HIV infection diagnosis with others not on the consent, and must maintain privacy and confidentiality of related records. These records shall not be included in the student's educational cumulative record.

~~—Persons involved in the care and education of HIV infected students shall respect the student's privacy, including maintaining confidential records. The number of personnel who are aware of the student's condition should be kept at a minimum needed to assure proper care and to detect situations where the potential for transmission may occur. Individuals informed of the situation will be on a need to know basis with the written consent of the parent or legal guardian.~~

~~F. Parental/Guardian Information Program~~

~~—The Superintendent shall implement a program of ongoing information relative to HIV/AIDS for all parents/guardians in the school division so that they are informed in a consistent manner about:~~

- ~~1. The nature of HIV infection, including how it is and is not transmitted according to current medical research;~~
- ~~2. The division's policies and procedures related to employees and students with AIDS or HIV infection;~~
- ~~3. Resources within the school division and community for obtaining additional information or assistance;~~
- ~~4. Preventive hygiene procedures to avoid the spread of infectious and contagious diseases.~~

~~G. Interagency Cooperation~~

~~—It is the School Board's desire that the administration seek dialogue with the local departments of health, local social service agencies and their state counterparts as well as the Centers for Disease Control. Research studies and implementing regulations from these agencies that suggest needed amendments to this policy should be invited to the immediate attention of the board.~~

H.F. Guidelines for School Attendance

The guidelines for school attendance for students with HIV infection will model the Sschool Ddivision's guidelines for school attendance for students with health conditions that may impact attendance in school programs. Superintendent shall promulgate and maintain regulations setting forth detailed guidelines for school attendance for children with Human Immunodeficiency Virus.

~~Such guidelines shall be consistent with the model guidelines for such school attendance developed by the Virginia Board of Education.~~

Editor's Note

*See School Board [Policy 4-9](#) Certificates/Medical Health Examinations/Communicable Disease Awareness/Fitness for Duty
School Board [Policy 4-10](#) Employee Infected with or Exposed to HIV/AIDS*

Legal Reference:

Code of Virginia, § 22.1-271.2, as amended. Immunization requirements.

Code of Virginia, § 22.1-271.3, as amended. Guidelines for school attendance for children infected with the human immunodeficiency virus; school personnel training required; notification of school personnel in certain cases. ~~(2004)~~

Virginia State Board of Education, "Model Guidelines for School Attendance for Children with Human Immunodeficiency Virus." ~~(2003-1989)~~

Adopted by School Board: June 15, 1993 (Effective August 14, 1993)

Amended by School Board: October 20, 1998

Amended: 2019

APPROVED AS TO
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY


