CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES: 3414

In order to safeguard the school community from the spread of certain communicable diseases the Superintendent shall implement procedures assuring that all school buildings are in compliance with State Board of Health rules and regulations regarding the presence of persons who have or have been exposed to infectious diseases deemed dangerous to the public health. Such procedures shall be in accordance with the most current OSPI Infectious Diseases Control Guide. Such procedures shall also prescribe the manner in which safeguards are taken to remove the danger to others (see District Health Services department procedures).

The District shall require that the parents or guardian shall complete a medical authorization card at the beginning of each school year. The nurse or school physician may use such health to plan for potential health problems in school.

The District authorizes the school principal to exclude a student who has been diagnosed by a physician or is suspected of having an infectious disease in accordance with the regulations within the most current OSPI Infectious Disease Control Guide. The principal and/or school nurse shall report the presence of suspected case or cases of reportable communicable disease to the appropriate local health authority as required by the State Board of Health. Such information concerning a student's present and past health condition shall be treated as confidential. The principal shall cooperate with the local health officials in the investigation of the source of the disease.

The fact that a student has been tested for a sexually transmitted disease, the test result, any information relating to the diagnosis or treatment of a sexually transmitted disease, and any information regarding drug or alcohol treatment for a student must be kept strictly confidential. If the District has a release, the information may be disclosed pursuant to the restrictions in the release.

A school principal has the authority to send an ill child home without the concurrence of the local Public Health Department officer, but if the disease is reportable, the local health officer must be notified. The local health officer is the primary resource in the identification and control of infectious disease in community and school. The local health officer, in consultation with the Superintendent can take whatever action deemed appropriate to control or eliminate the spread of disease, including closing a school,

Legal References:	RCW 70.02	Medical records–healthcare information access and disclosure
	RCW 28A.210.010	Contagious diseases, limiting contact–Rules
	WAC 246-100.070	Enforcement of local health officer orders
	WAC 246-110	Contagious Diseases–School districts and day care centers