

Communicable and Infectious Diseases

The Bethany Board of Education (Board) recognizes that all children have a constitutional right to a free, suitable program of educational experiences. The Board has established reasonable health requirements as prerequisites to admission or attendance including the requirement that students undergo a physical examination prior to admission.

Where it can be medically established that a student suffers from a serious infectious disease and there is a significant risk of transmission of the disease to others due to the nature of the disease or personal characteristics of the student carrier, it may be appropriate to exclude the student from the regular classroom. The determination of exclusion of any student will be made on a case-by-case basis with appropriate procedural due process safeguards. However, where the risk of transmission is relatively low or appropriate procedures can be adopted to reduce the risk of transmission exclusion is not warranted.

A child with an infectious disease may be considered handicapped if the condition presents such physical impairment that limits one or more major life activities. Therefore, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the "Education of all Handicapped Children's Act" may apply. The parent, guardian, or the school administration may make a referral for determination whether the student is handicapped and entitled to protection under Section 504. The Planning and Placement Team will determine whether the student is handicapped or is "otherwise qualified" within the meaning of Section 504. All students will be educated in the least restrictive environment.

The Bethany Public School District (District) will include as part of its emergency procedure plan a description of the actions to be taken by District personnel in case of a pandemic flu outbreak or other catastrophe that disrupts District operations.

Legal References: Education for Children with Disabilities, 20 U.S.C. 1400, et seq.
 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 706(7)(b)
 Americans with Disabilities Act
 The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. 1232g,
 45 C.F.R. 99
 Connecticut General Statutes § 10-76(d)(15)
 Connecticut General Statutes § 10-154a
 Connecticut General Statutes § 10-207
 Connecticut General Statutes § 10-209
 Connecticut General Statutes § 10-210
 Connecticut General Statutes § 19a-221
 Connecticut General Statutes §§ 19a-581 to 19a-585

Policy adopted: April 6, 1992
 Policy revised: May 13, 2015
 Policy revised: June 8, 2016
 Policy revised: December 9, 2020
 Policy reviewed: May 10, 2023

Source: CABE