

Descriptor Term: COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Descriptor Code: GAHA

Rescinds: GBRAA

Board Approved: 6/26/2006

Previously Approved: 11/02/1998

An employee with a communicable disease such as chicken pox, measles, etc., should remain at home until the disease is no longer a threat to others. Cases of communicable diseases that might be a threat to the health of the students and staff of the school should be reported to the Principal who will in turn inform the school nurse.

When concerned with a unique case, such as hepatitis, HIV (Human Immune-deficiency Virus), etc., the welfare of all students and employees should be the prime consideration. Each individual case will be resolved or periodically reviewed in consultation with the employee, the employee's attending physician, the Principal and the school nurse. In each case, risks and benefits to both the infected employee and to others in the setting will be weighed. As conditions change, cases will be reevaluated. In the case of HIV, the individual's right to privacy must be respected. The District maintains that for the protection of the employee this knowledge of infection will be shared with school personnel on a strict need-to-know basis.

Employee Handling of Body Fluids

The school nurses will annually provide in-service training concerning the handling of body fluids to school based personnel. All staff will use the following routine and standard procedure to clean up after a student has an accident or injury at school.

1. Body fluids to include blood, vomit, saliva and bodily waste emanating from ANY student, including ones known to have a chronic infectious disease, shall be treated cautiously.
2. Protective gloves shall be worn when coming in contact with or cleaning up body fluids.
3. Body fluid spills shall be disinfected with a solution of bleach and water (one part bleach to ten parts water) and persons coming

- in contact with them shall wash their hands immediately.
4. Items contaminated with body fluids shall be placed in leak proof bags for disposition.
 5. Hand washing immediately after contact with a student is routinely recommended if physical contact has been made with the student's body fluids, including blood and saliva.

Each school will provide gloves and other appropriate materials for use by the staff for compliance with this policy.