

1 Great Falls School District

2
3 **STUDENTS**

3417

4
5 Communicable Diseases

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7 In all proceedings related to this policy, the District will respect a student's right to privacy. All
8 applicable district policies and handbook provision governing confidentiality of student medical
9 information remain in full effect.

10
11 Although the District is required to provide educational services to all school-age children who
12 reside within its boundaries, it may deny attendance at school to any child diagnosed as having a
13 communicable disease that could make a child's attendance harmful to the welfare of other
14 students. The District also may deny attendance to a child with suppressed immunity in order to
15 protect the welfare of that child when others in a school have an infectious disease, which,
16 although not normally life threatening, could be life threatening to a child with suppressed
17 immunity.

18
19 The District shall provide soap and disposable towels or other hand-drying devices shall be
20 available at all handwashing sinks. Common-use towels are prohibited. Sanitary napkin disposal
21 shall be provided for girls of age ten or older and in teachers' toilet rooms and nurses' toilet
22 rooms. The District shall provide either sanitary napkin dispensers in the girls', nurses' and
23 teachers' toilet rooms or some other readily available on-site access to sanitary napkins.

24
25 The Board recognizes that communicable diseases which may afflict students range from
26 common childhood diseases, acute and short-term in nature, to chronic, life-threatening diseases
27 such as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. The District shall rely on the advice of
28 the public health and medical communities in assessing the risk of transmission of various
29 communicable diseases to determine how best to protect the health of both students and staff.

30
31 The District shall manage common communicable diseases in accordance with DPHHS
32 guidelines and communicable diseases control rules. If a student develops symptoms of any
33 reportable communicable or infectious illness as defined while at school, the responsible school
34 officials shall do the following:

- 35
36 a) Isolate the student immediately from other students or staff;
37 b) Inform the parent or guardian as soon as possible about the illness and request him or her
38 to pick up the student; and
39 c) Consult with a local health department official to determine if any further reporting or
40 actions are needed.

41
42 Management of common communicable diseases will be in accordance with DPHHS guidelines
43 and communicable diseases control rules. A student who exhibits symptoms of a communicable
44 disease which is readily transmitted in the school setting may be temporarily excluded from
45 onsite school attendance. Offsite instruction will be provided during the period of absence in
46 accordance with policy 2050.

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2 Students who complain of illness at school may be referred to the responsible person designated
3 by the Superintendent and may be sent home as soon as the parent or person designated on the
4 student's enrollment card has been notified.

5
6 The District reserves the right to require a statement from the student's primary care provider
7 authorizing the student's return to onsite instruction. In all proceedings related to this policy, the
8 District shall respect the student's right to privacy.

9
10 When information is received by a staff member or volunteer that a student is afflicted with a
11 serious communicable disease, the staff member or volunteer shall promptly notify the
12 responsible person designated by the Superintendent to determine appropriate measures to
13 protect student and staff health and safety. The responsible person designated by the
14 Superintendent, after consultation with and on the advice of public health officials, shall
15 determine which additional staff members, if any, have need to know of the affected student's
16 condition.

17
18 Only those persons with direct responsibility for the care of the student or for determining
19 appropriate educational accommodation will be informed of the specific nature of the condition,
20 if it is determined there is a need for such individuals to know this information.

21
22 Parents of other children attending the school may be notified that their child has been exposed
23 to a communicable disease without identifying the particular student who has the disease.
24 Note: For purposes of this policy, the term "communicable disease" refers to the diseases
25 identified in 16.28.202, ARM, Reportable Diseases, with the exception of common colds and flu.

26 27 Healthy Hand Hygiene Behavior

28
29 All student, staff and others present in any school building shall engage in hand hygiene at the following
30 times, which include but are not limited to:

- 31
32 a) Arrival to the facility and after breaks
33 b) Before and after preparing, eating, or handling food or drinks
34 c) Before and after administering medication or screening temperature
35 d) After coming in contact with bodily fluid
36 e) After recess
37 f) After handling garbage
38 g) After assisting students with handwashing
39 h) After use of the restroom

40
41 Hand hygiene include but is not limited to washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If
42 hands are not visibly dirty, alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol can be used if soap
43 and water are not readily available.

44
45 Staff members shall supervise students when they use hand sanitizer and soap to prevent ingestion. Staff
46 members shall place grade level appropriate posters describing handwashing steps near sinks.

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1 Cross Reference:

2	Policy 2050	Student Instruction
3	Policy 3410	Student Health
4	Policy 3413	Student Immunization
5	Policy 3416	Administering Medication
6	Policy 3418	Life Threatening Allergies/Medical Conditions
7	Policy 3431	Emergency Treatment

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9 Legal Reference:

10	37.114.101,et seq., ARM	Communicable Disease Control
11	37.111.825, ARM	Health Supervision and Maintenance

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13 Policy History:

14	Adopted on:	July 1, 2000
15	Revised on:	November 24, 2014
16	Revised on:	August 23, 2021