

## STUDENTS WITH INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The Board of Education, respecting the public concern about the spread of life threatening infectious diseases and the concern about the admission of students to schools who suffer from certain communicable diseases, adopts this policy to protect the rights of students to continue their education and to protect the health of those who are enrolled in or who work in the schools of the district.

The Board of Education recognizes its lack of expertise in this public health area. Therefore, in any instance where a student is diagnosed as suffering from any contagious or infectious disease as defined in the *Public Health Law*, the superintendent of schools may arrange to have the student examined by the school physician. The school physician will consult with a Suffolk County public health officer, the physician who made the contagious or infectious disease diagnosis and a person in parental authority. After the consultations, the school physician will make a recommendation as to whether or not the student may safely be active in the school setting. The school physician will recommend that a student with a contagious or infectious disease be removed from regular instruction, a referral will be made to the Committee on Special Education, which will develop an individual education program and recommend an appropriate placement for the student. Prior to the student's return to school the student must either present a certificate of health from a family physician or be examined by the school physician to insure that the student is no longer suffering from a contagious or infectious disease.

In the event that a student with an infectious disease is transferred to another school or to a placement within a BOCES program, the school principal will notify the appropriate official in the receiving school as to the student's medical condition and status prior to the student being transferred to the new school. Written communication to other school officials will require confirmation to assure the receipt of the information and the opportunity for further clarification of the student's medical status. Conversely, upon receipt of information that a student who is entering the district has an infectious disease, the school principal will consult with the sending school official to ascertain and confirm the medical status of the student. This information will then be referred to the superintendent of schools who will begin the process above described.

Those persons to be informed of an infected student's identification and condition are those who:

- A. Require knowledge to assure education, care and supervision of the infected student.
- B. Require knowledge to prevent the transmission of the disease to another person.
- C. In the judgment of the superintendent of schools should have such knowledge if it is necessary in order to protect the health and/or safety of the student or other persons.

**Students with Infectious Diseases (Continued)**

The persons who are informed will treat all information about the identity and condition of an infected student with the utmost confidentiality and are so directed. An infected individual's right to privacy shall be protected by school personnel pursuant to federal and state law.

Policy Adopted:  
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