

TOILET INDEPENDENCE

- *Accidents* by definition are unusual incidents and should be infrequent.
- *Toilet independence* means a student can do the following:
 - a. Be able to tell the teacher they have to go to the bathroom when they have to relieve themselves.
 - b. Be able to pull down their underwear and pants and get them back up without assistance.
 - c. Be able to wipe themselves after using the toilet.
 - d. Be able to get off the toilet by themselves.
 - e. Be able to wash and dry hands.
 - f. Be able to go directly back to the classroom without directions.
 - g. Be able to postpone using the toilet if they must wait for someone who is in the bathroom or the student is outside and away from the bathroom.

Upon entering preschool, the district expects students to be toilet independent, unless the student has a documented educational plan indicating a need in the area of toileting (e.g. 504, IEP, Health Care Plan).

The district shall notify parents prior to the start of the school year that students are expected to be toilet trained upon entering preschool. Parents/guardians must inform the school if their child is not fully toilet trained before starting school. Students will be encouraged to achieve the highest level of age-appropriate independence as possible. This includes cleaning, undressing, and dressing themselves. The district shall provide privacy for the student to change clothes and allow the student privacy for personal care. Staff will assist the student with basic care needs.

Teachers shall encourage student independence as much as possible and avoid any unnecessary physical contact in the event of an accident. Parents/guardians of students who are not disabled, but have accidents, shall be notified of the accident and told to check the child's backpack or other for soiled clothing. Students who exhibit repeated inability to use bathroom facilities independently and/or control bodily functions associated with toileting that do not already have a plan that addresses toileting needs, shall be referred to the building administrator or school nurse to begin the process for determining the category of need (e.g., medical, mental health, behavioral, etc.). If the educational team determines that a student is not independent with toileting and this need is not related to a qualifying disability or documented medical condition, the parent/guardian may be required to unenroll the student until toileting independence is achieved.

Students having a confirmed contagious disease, which could be contracted by others through student's urine or feces, may be excluded from school for a reasonable amount of time to allow for medical intervention and for the school to develop and implement a hygiene plan for both student and employees.

Parents will provide a clean set of clothing for their child to keep at school in the event of an accident or other spill on clothing. In the event the student does not have personal clothes from home, the district will do their best to provide clothing for the child to change into.

Students with a documented educational plan may require special procedures or intimate care arrangements for toileting while at school. The building administrator, school nurse, or special education case manager shall assemble a team to provide appropriate advice, training, and any recommendations for necessary equipment and adaptations when this is the case.