

STUDENTS

Infectious Diseases

In order to safeguard the school community from the spread of certain communicable diseases, the superintendent shall implement procedures assuring that all school buildings are in compliance with State Board of Health rules and regulations regarding the presence of persons who have or have been exposed to infectious diseases deemed dangerous to the public health. Such procedures shall also prescribe the manner in which safeguards are taken to remove the danger to others.

The district shall require that the parents or guardian shall complete a medical history form at the beginning of each school year. The nurse or school physician may use such reports to advise the parent of the need for further medical attention and to plan for potential health problems in school.

The board authorizes the school principal to exclude a student who has been diagnosed by a physician or is suspected of having an infectious disease in accordance with the most current Infectious Disease Control Guide, provided by the State Department of Health and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The principal and/or school nurse will report the presence of cases, suspected cases, outbreaks, and suspected outbreaks of disease that may be associated with the school to the appropriate local health authority as required by the State Board of Health. Such information concerning a student's present and past health condition shall be treated as confidential. The principal will cooperate with local health officials in the investigation of cases, suspected cases, outbreaks and suspected outbreaks of disease that may be associated with the school.

The following must be kept strictly confidential, except as required by law:

- The fact that a student has been tested for a sexually transmitted disease;
- the test result;
- any information relating to the diagnosis or treatment of a sexually transmitted disease; and
- any information regarding drug or alcohol treatment for a student.

If the district has a release, the information may be disclosed pursuant to restrictions in the release.

A school principal or designee has the authority to send an ill child home without the concurrence of the local health officer, but if the disease is reportable, the local health officer must be notified. The local health officer is the primary resource in the identification and control of infectious disease in community and school. The local health officer, in consultation

with the Superintendent can take whatever action deemed necessary to control or eliminate the spread of disease, including closing school.

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| Legal References: | RCW 28A.210.010 | Contagious diseases, limiting contact— Rules |
| | Chapter 246-110 WAC | School districts and day care centers— Contagious diseases |
| | Chapter 70.02 RCW | Medical records—health care information access and disclosure |
| Adoption Date: | July 29, 1992 | |
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