

Communicable/Infectious Diseases

The Board of Education recognizes that communicable diseases which may afflict students range from common childhood diseases, acute and short-term in nature, to chronic, life-threatening diseases such as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. This school district shall rely on the advice of the medical community in assessing the risk of transmission of various communicable diseases to determine how best to protect the health of both students and staff. The risk of transmitting HIV/AIDS is extremely low in school settings when current guidelines and preventative measures are followed.

Management of common communicable diseases shall be in accordance with Colorado Department of Health guidelines. A student who exhibits symptoms of a readily-transmissible communicable disease may be temporarily excluded from school attendance.

Students who complain of illness at school may be referred to the school nurse and may be sent home by the principal as soon as the parent or person designated on the student's emergency medical authorization form has been notified.

The district reserves the right to require a physician's statement authorizing the student's return to school.

In all proceedings related to this policy, the district shall respect the student's right to privacy.

When information is received by a staff member or volunteer that a student is afflicted with a serious, readily-transmissible disease, the staff member or volunteer shall promptly notify the school nurse or principal to determine appropriate measures to protect student and staff health and safety. The principal shall determine which additional staff members, if any, have need to know of the affected student's condition and whether the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment or the local public health department must be notified. Only those persons with direct responsibility for the care of the student shall be informed of the specific nature of his condition if it is determined there is a need for such individuals to know this information.

The superintendent shall initiate procedures to insure that all medical information will be held in strict confidence. Any school staff member who violates confidentiality shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures.

ADOPTION DATE: January 15, 1997

REVISION DATE: August 19, 2020

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 22-33-104 (2)(a)
C.R.S. 22-33-106 (2)

CROSS REFS.: EBBA, Prevention of Disease/Infection Transmission
IC/ICA, School Year, School Calendar, Instructional Time
JLCA, Physical Examinations of Students
JLCE, First Aid
JRA/JRC, Student Records/Release of Information on Students