

## Watertown School District 14-4

### IMMUNIZATION OF STUDENTS

~~The District in accordance with state law requires that any pupil entering school shall, prior to admission, be required to present to school authorities certification from a licensed physician that he or she has received, or is in the process of receiving, adequate immunization for childhood diseases. This applies to all children, pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade, who are entering a South Dakota school system. Immunizations are determined by the South Dakota Department of Health.~~

Any child entering a school or program in the District, shall, prior to admission, be required to present to the appropriate school authorities, certification from a licensed physician that the child has received or is in the process of receiving adequate immunizations, according to recommendations provided by the South Dakota Department of Health.

As an alternative to the required physician's certification, the parent may present:

1. Certification from a licensed physician stating the physical condition of the child is such that a ~~test or~~ immunization would endanger the child's life or health; or
2. A written statement signed by one parent or guardian that the child is an adherent to a religious doctrine whose teachings are opposed to ~~medical tests and~~ immunization.

~~At the time of school registration, parents/guardians are to be informed of the requirement that their child(ren) will not be able to attend school until an up to date immunization record is received, reviewed and approved as to compliancy by a school nurse. Following the parents signing a release of information form, previous schools or clinics can be asked for fax immunization records to the new school.~~

~~In cases where the certification indicates that immunizations have been begun but are not complete, or when records are reportedly being sent from another community, students in grades PreK-12 will be allowed temporary admittance for a period of time while the principal works with the parents to comply with the policy. If parents refuse to comply, students will be excluded from school.~~

When records are reportedly being sent from another district or if immunizations have begun, but are not complete, students will be allowed temporary admittance

for a period not to exceed forty-five (45) days. If immunization requirements are not met in that timeframe, the principal will be notified. The principal will inform the parent or guardian the child will be excluded from school until requirements are met.

In special circumstances, attendance during delays in documentation may be handled on a case by case basis in cooperation with the school nurse and the principal.

Students who are on catch-up schedules will be allowed to attend school as long as they are compliant with receiving appropriate immunizations until they are fully vaccinated.

LEGAL REF.: SDCL 13-28-7.1

Policy

Adopted: 5/8/00

Revised: 7/13/09; 8/12/19; 5/24