

Prevention of Disease Transmission

All District personnel shall be advised of routine procedures to follow in handling body fluids. These procedures shall provide simple and effective precautions against transmission of diseases to persons exposed to the blood or body fluids of another. These procedures shall be standard health and safety practices. No distinction shall be made between body fluids from individuals with a known disease or infection and from individuals without symptoms or with an undiagnosed disease.

The administration shall develop, in consultation with public health and medical personnel, procedures to be followed by all staff. The procedures shall be distributed to all staff, and training on the procedures shall occur on a regular basis. Training and appropriate supplies shall be available to all personnel, including those involved in transportation and custodial services.

Communicable Diseases

It is the intent of the Board of Trustees of Teton School District to attempt to protect students and employees from exposure to diseases while they are attending school or actively working for the school district. Staff members are encouraged to wear protective gloves when handling any bodily fluids in the performance of their duties. Students and school district employees who have, or are suspected of having, a communicable disease shall be dealt with according to the rules listed below.

Definition of Communicable Diseases

For purposes of this policy, the definition of “communicable diseases” shall be the one established by the Idaho State Department of Health (SDH), and shall include, but not be limited to, those contagious diseases reportable to SDH.

Suspicion of Disease

If a school district employee has reason to believe a student or another school district employee has a communicable disease, as defined in the section above, he/she shall immediately report this information to his/her immediate supervisor or to the Superintendent of Schools. If the supervisor who receives such a report believes that this information is accurate, he/she shall report to the school nurse, if one is available, or to the Superintendent of Schools who shall then notify the SDH.

Confidentiality Requirements

Steps will be taken to protect the confidentiality of any employee with a communicable disease. Therefore, the knowledge that any employee has a communicable disease will be confined to those persons who have a direct need to know as determined by the Superintendent of Schools. Those persons will be provided with appropriate information and made aware of the requirements of confidentiality.

Possibility of Exclusion Guidelines

In the case of an employee who has a human retro virus variously labeled Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), and when certain health conditions exist in the school environment (e.g. measles or chicken pox) which could threaten the health of the affected employee, the physician of the employee will be notified by the school nurse, if one is available, or by the Superintendent of Schools. Exclusion from the work place will be at the discretion of the affected employee's physician.

Policy History:

Adopted on: August 10, 2009

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