

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASES**

The school district is required to provide educational services to all school age children who reside within its boundaries. By law, however, admission to school may be denied to any child diagnosed as having a disease whereby his/her attendance could be harmful to the welfare of other students, subject to the District's responsibilities to handicapped children under the law.

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 Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). This school District shall only 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.

Management of the common communicable diseases shall be in accordance with Colorado Department of Health guidelines. A student who exhibits symptoms of a communicable disease may be temporarily excluded from school attendance. 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 a 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 the need to know of the affected student's condition. Only those persons with the direct responsibility for the care of the student shall be informed of the specific nature of his/her condition if it is determined there is a need for such individuals to know this information.

Parents of other children attending the school may be notified that their child has been exposed to a communicable disease without identifying the particular student who has the disease.

Neither this policy nor the placement of a student in any particular program shall preclude the administration from taking any temporary actions including removal of a student from the classroom as deemed necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the student and others.

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.

LEGAL REFS: CRS 22-33-104 (2) (a)  
CRS 22-33-106 (2)

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