

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Numerous communicable diseases may affect a school-age population and/or school staff. Some of these have a high degree of communicability. Some are life threatening in nature. Some are both. The initial determination as to whether the student or employee has a communicable disease transmissible through school or work contacts will be made by a medical doctor and/or school nurse.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Recommended Exclusion</u>		<u>To Return to Classroom or Work</u>
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	
AIDS		X	Individual case consideration mandatory. See page two and three of this procedure.
Chicken Pox	X		Seven days after onset of rash or when all lesions are crusted over.
Hepatitis	X		Parents or staff member requested to provide release statement from M.D.
Impetigo		X	If under proper treatment. Monitored by school nurse.
Meningitis	X		Parents of staff member requested to provide release from M.D.
Mononucleosis, X Infectious			If under proper treatment. Monitored by school nurse.
Mumps	X		Parents or staff member requested to provide release statement from M.D.
Pediculosis (Head Lice)		X	Monitoring of proper treatment.
Roseola	X		When fever subsides and no evidence of rash.
Tuberculosis	X		Doctor release statement. Monitoring of proper treatment as verified by school nurse.

This list is nonexclusive. Others will be taken up on an individual basis.

All communications regarding communicable diseases shall protect the individual's right to privacy in conformance with all applicable State and Federal Laws and Regulations and Board Policies.

All decisions regarding work or school attendance for employees or students with a communicable disease will be made by the Superintendent.

The Superintendent may appoint a panel composed of representatives of medicine and education to review the medical condition of the individual with a communicable disease that has been identified by a medical doctor and/or the School Nurse and recommend a course of action in cooperation with the individual's attending physician. The panel will work closely with the student and family or staff member; the individual's physician; and the Iowa Department of Health. The panel, at a minimum, will consist of a physician and a District Administrator.

The panel will make a recommendation to the Superintendent regarding a course of action and he or she will decide if the individual will stay in school or on the job as the case may be.

Students With Aids

Students of the District with AIDS (HTLV-III/LAV) should be allowed to attend school and perform their regular tasks as long as they are physically able and as long as this does not create a risk of transmission of the disease (illness) to other students or employees of the District or the public or create a health risk for themselves.

The student's rights to privacy will be maintained. Only those employees whose knowledge is deemed essential for the normal operation of the school that protects the health and safety of students, employees, the public and the affected student will be informed, the determination to be made by the Superintendent.

Decisions concerning students with AIDS will be made on an individual case-by-case basis.

Students with AIDS should report such information to the School Nurse and the Superintendent. The Superintendent will then determine what action is to be taken.

The Superintendent shall make all final decisions concerning students with AIDS.

The student's rights will be protected with allowance for a hearing before the Superintendent or other appropriate setting. Appropriate due process will be followed.

If the affected student is in school, his/her health will be monitored by the School Nurse(s). The student's physician will make regular reports to the Superintendent as required by the Superintendent. Frequency of such reports shall be determined by the Superintendent. Pertinent information will be forwarded to appropriate school personnel by the Superintendent.

Employees with AIDS

Employees of the district with AIDS (HTLV-III/LAV) should be allowed to perform their regular employment duties as long as they are physically able to perform their assigned tasks and as long as their employment does not create a risk of transmission of the disease (illness) to students or employees of the District or the public or create a health risk for themselves.

The employee's rights to privacy will be maintained. Only those employees whose knowledge is deemed essential for the normal operation of the school that protects the health and safety of students, employees, the public and the affected employee will be informed, the determination to be made by the Superintendent.

Decisions concerning employees with AIDS will be made on an individual case-by-case basis.

Employees with AIDS should report such information to the Superintendent. The Superintendent will then determine what action shall be taken. The Superintendent shall make all final decisions concerning employees

with AIDS. Such decisions could include, but not be limited to, reassignment, transfer, restriction of duties, suspension from employment, extended sick leave and possible termination of duties due to failure to perform required responsibilities.

Employee's rights will be protected with allowance for a hearing before the Superintendent or other appropriate setting. Appropriate due process will be followed.

The employee's physician will make regular reports to the Superintendent as required by the Superintendent. Frequency of such reports shall be determined by the Superintendent.

Employee benefits will be available to the affected employee as per the negotiated contract or Personnel Policies for the particular group of employees to which he/she belongs.

Guidelines for Preventing Spread of Communicable Disease

Transmission of communicable diseases may occur more readily where close personal contact is involved in student care. Preschool and kindergarten settings, as well as special facilities for handicapped students, need special attention for the prevention of communicable diseases.

Preventing the spread of infection requires that personal and environmental cleanliness techniques be practiced at all times in every school setting.

Prior to the enrollment or continued attendance in the regular or special classroom of an infected student, the School Nurse shall develop specific procedures appropriate to the student's age and the state of development for the specific disease. The School Nurse should carry out the following procedures when deemed necessary by school personnel:

- A. Conduct a health and developmental assessment, including a review of the student's medical records. Collaborate with parents and physician to ensure that the records are complete.
- B. Clean and disinfect all soiled hard, washable surfaces immediately, removing soil before applying a disinfectant.
 1. Use paper towels or tissues to wipe up small, soiled areas. After soil is removed, use clean paper towels and soap and water to clean area.
 2. Disinfect area with a dilution of 1:10 household bleach solution or another disinfectant. (See section on Selecting an Appropriate Disinfectant.)
 3. Apply sanitary absorbent agent for larger soiled areas. After soil is absorbed, vacuum or sweep up all material.
 4. Disinfect area with a clean mop. (See section of Selecting an Appropriate Disinfectant.)

- C. Clean and disinfect soiled rugs and carpets immediately.
 - 1. Apply sanitary absorbent agent, let dry and vacuum.
 - 2. Apply rug shampoo (a germicidal detergent) with a brush and revacuum.
- D. Clean equipment and dispose of all disposable materials.
 - 1. Soiled tissues and flushable waste can be flushed in toilet. Discard paper towels, vacuum bag or sweepings in a waste receptacle lined with a plastic bag.
 - 2. Rinse broom and dust pan in disinfectant solution.
 - 3. Soak mop in disinfectant solution and rinse thoroughly or wash in hot water cycle after soaking in disinfectant.
 - 4. Disinfectant solution should be properly disposed of down a drain.

Guidelines for Cleaning Up Body Fluid Spills (continued)

- E. Clothing and other nondisposable items (e.g., sheets, towels) soaked with body fluids should be placed in a plastic bag to be sent home.
- F. Remove disposable gloves and discard in waste receptacle.
- G. Wash hands.
- H. Plastic bags holding contaminated waste should be secured and disposed of daily.
- I. Large waste containers (dumpsters or other containers which are impervious to animals) containing potentially contaminated waste should be located in a safe area away from the playground or other areas used by students.