

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 719
PRIOR LAKE - SAVAGE AREA SCHOOLS**523 EDUCATIONAL AND MEDICAL NEEDS OF STUDENTS WITH COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, INFECTIOUS CONDITIONS AND SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS****I. PURPOSE**

To outline procedures for students with communicable or infectious diseases, including but not limited to, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), Hepatitis B, and Tuberculosis. It is the policy of ISD 719 to protect the public health of its students while protecting the rights of the individual student to attend school.

II. DEFINITIONS

Infectious Diseases: Illnesses caused by infection with specific germs: bacteria, fungi, or parasites.

Communicable diseases: Infectious diseases that can be spread from one individual to another.

Viruses: A virus is a non-living, infectious particle capable of causing common human infections and a number of rare diseases. Antibiotics are not effective against viruses.

HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) is a virus which causes a predictable, progressive impairment of the immune system. Persons who are HIV infected may show no signs or symptoms of illness but may transmit the virus to others most commonly through blood or semen and vaginal secretions.

AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome) is one of the late manifestations of HIV infection.

III. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICYStudents

It is the policy of the school board that students with communicable diseases not be excluded from attending school in their usual daily attendance setting so long as their health permits and their attendance does not create a significant risk of the transmission of illness to students or employees of the school district. Mandatory screening for the presence of HIV/AIDS, as a condition of enrollment, is prohibited by law. Guidelines/ screenings recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) or Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) for emergent illnesses will be adhered to. A procedure for minimizing interruptions to learning resulting from communicable diseases will be established by the school district in consultation with community health and private health care providers. Procedures for the inclusion of students with communicable diseases will include any applicable educational team planning processes, including the review of the educational implications for the student and others with whom the student comes into contact. Each student with HIV/AIDS is considered handicapped,

according to the Section 504 of the Federal Vocational Rehabilitation Act. The need for the development of an Individual Education Plan (IEP) shall be determined according to policies governing eligibility for special education services.

Circumstances and Conditions

1. Determinations of whether a contagious individual's school attendance creates a significant risk of the transmission of the illness to students or employees of the school district will be made on a case by case basis. Such decisions will be based upon the nature of the risk (how it is transmitted), the duration of the risk (how long the carrier is infectious), the severity of the risk (what is the potential harm to third parties) and the probabilities the disease will be transmitted and will cause varying degrees of harm. When a student is disabled, such a determination will be made in consultation with the educational / medical planning team.
2. The school board recognizes that some students, because of special circumstances and conditions, may pose greater risks for the transmission of infectious conditions than other persons infected with the same illness. Examples include students who display biting behavior, students who are unable to control their bodily fluids, who have draining skin lesions or who have severe disorders which result in spontaneous external bleeding. These conditions need to be taken into account and considered in assessing the risk of transmission of the disease and the resulting effect upon the educational program of the student by consulting with the Commissioner of Health, the physician of the student, and the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student.

Discrimination and Harassment

Discrimination, hostility, intimidation or offensive behavior is not permitted against any student with a communicable or infectious disease.

Students with Special Circumstances and Conditions

The school, along with the infected individual's physician, the infected individual or parent(s)/guardian(s), and others, if appropriate, will weigh risks and benefits to the student and to others, consider the least restrictive appropriate educational placement, and arrange for periodic reevaluation as deemed necessary by the state epidemiologist. The risk(s) to the student shall be determined by the student's physician.

Extracurricular Student Participation

Student participation in nonacademic, extracurricular and non-educational programs of the school district are subject to a requirement of equal access and comparable services. Student educational services are subject to a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)/Least Restrictive Education (LRE) standards. The student's physician will help the individual student decide if his/her health problems require him/her to change his / her activities, if not contraindicated by the CDC or MDH.

Precautions

The school district will develop routine procedures for infection control at school and for educating employees about these procedures. The procedures shall be developed through cooperation with health professionals taking into consideration guidelines of the Minnesota Department of Education and the Minnesota Department of Health. These precautionary

procedures shall be consistent with the school district's procedures regarding blood-borne pathogens developed pursuant to the school district's employee right to know policy.

Information Sharing

1. Student health information (diagnosis only and with permission of the responsible party) shall be shared within the school district only with those whose jobs require such information and with those who have a legitimate educational interest (including health and safety) in such information and shall be shared only to the extent required to accomplish legitimate educational goals and to comply with employees' right to know requirements.
2. Student health data shall be shared outside the school district only in accordance with state and federal law and with the school district's policies on student records and data.

Reporting

If a medical condition of a student threatens public health, it must be reported to the Commissioner of Health.

Education

All students in District 719 will receive health instruction as established through the Health Curriculum Review Committee. Curriculum will include age-appropriate information on communicable diseases and infections including the etiology of diseases, transmission of diseases, universal precautions, prevention, risk reduction and community resources for information and referral.

Vaccination and Screening

The school district will develop procedures regarding the administration of vaccinations and screenings in keeping with current state and federal law.

School Board Adoption: May 7, 2018

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