

STUDENTS/COMMUNICABLE/INFECTIOUS DISEASES

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BOARD POLICY

1. The Tupelo Public School District will work cooperatively with the Mississippi Health Department to prevent, control, and contain the spread of **communicable and infectious diseases, including** HIV/AIDS, ~~as well as other communicable diseases~~ in schools.
2. The superintendent has the authority and obligation under the Mississippi State Board of Health Rules and Regulations Governing Reportable Diseases to exclude a student from school when reliable evidence or information from a qualified source confirms his/her having a communicable disease or infection that is known to spread by any form of casual contact and is considered a health threat to the school population. Such a student shall be excluded unless a licensed physician approves school attendance or the condition is no longer considered contagious.

~~Students are expected to be in compliance with the required immunization schedule. The building principal is required under Section 41-23-37 to exclude students from school attendance who are out of compliance with the immunizations required by this act.~~

- 3.1. All persons privileged with any medical information that pertains to students shall be required to treat all proceedings, discussions, and documents as confidential information.
- 3.2. Before any medical information is shared with anyone in the school setting, a "Need to Know" review shall be made which includes the parent/guardian, student if over 18, or his/her representative.
- 3.3. Disciplinary action will be taken against any person who discloses the fact of an individual's HIV/AIDS infection **or other communicable disease or infection** to anyone other than those designated in the policy.
4. Instruction on the principal modes by which communicable diseases, including, but not limited to, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) are spread and the best methods for the restriction and prevention of these diseases shall/should be taught to students.

The Board authorizes the superintendent to establish administrative procedures in furtherance of this policy.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

1. Irrespective of disease presence, routine procedures shall be used; and adequate sanitation facilities will be available for handling blood or other body fluids within the school setting or on school buses.

2.1. After being absent due to a contagious or infectious disease, a student may be required to have a note from a doctor or health official in order to return to school.

2.2. It will be mandatory for students to have a note from a doctor or health official after having German Measles, Red Measles, Mumps, or Hepatitis.

2.3. After being absent due to a having one of the following health conditions, directions should be followed as stated below:

*Pink eye - may return when eye is not draining

*Chicken Pox - may return on the 6th day after the onset of the rash

*Scabies (Itch or Body Lice) - must have proof of treatment

*Strep Throat – may return 24 hours after treatment has been started if free of fever

3. The school nurse will have information on these and other health conditions and will be available to consult with students and their parents or guardians.

EXHIBITS

None

REFERENCES

~~Mississippi Department of Education~~

Mississippi State Department of Health Guidelines on Communicable Diseases

~~United States Public Health Service Center for Disease Control~~

FORMS

None