

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

The School District of Brodhead promotes good health practices and disease prevention in students and their families, through health education and setting standards in compliance with State statutes governing communicable disease control. The Board recognizes its responsibility to provide necessary and appropriate information, immunization opportunities and staff development activities for those on staff who deal with communicable diseases.

School District personnel, administrators, teachers, counselors, social workers and other support staff, are responsible for reporting communicable diseases to the local health office (County Health Department). Students who are suspected of having communicable diseases, specified by the Department of Health and Social Services or the County Health Department, may be sent home by the building principal or his/her designee. The School Nurse will be notified, as soon as possible, of any student(s) sent home for this purpose. The parents will be notified as soon as possible of any student who is suspected of having a communicable disease.

Employees and students are subject to temporary exclusion from the school environment if they are diagnosed as, or suspected of having a communicable disease such as, but not limited to, those listed in the guidelines. In the event of a substantial outbreak of vaccine-preventable disease, students whose immunizations are incomplete and those with waivers on file may be excluded from school.

Records and information collected on students and staff with suspected or confirmed communicable disease are confidential, and will be handled in accordance with state and federal laws governing health records.

GUIDELINES FOR HANDLING COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

1. The principal/administrator of each building shall be responsible for the appropriate maintenance of the health room in his/her building. The principal may delegate these duties.

For the purposes of this policy, communicable diseases will be identified by a state-provided list posted in each building.

2. The sources of contamination for most communicable diseases include body fluids, blood, semen, drainage from wounds, feces, vomit, saliva and nasal discharge. Contact with body fluid can present risk of infection. The risk is dependent on the disease, type of body fluid and type of contact. Individuals may be carriers of disease and infectious agents without any symptoms.
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3. When possible, direct contact with body fluids should be avoided. Staff involved in dealing with any body fluids need to take precautionary measures including frequent hand washing, use of disposable barrier gloves, and proper disposal of soiled items. If items are blood soaked, they should be handled in accordance with proper procedures for blood-borne pathogens.
4. Hard surfaces and equipment (e.g., counter tops, tables, flooring, chairs, mops, buckets) need to be cleaned by washing or soaking with a 1:10 solution of bleach and hot water, or an appropriate disinfectant product.
5. A building principal may require a written statement from a physician clearing a specific student or staff member to attend school or report to work when he/she has been suspected of or diagnosed as having a communicable disease.
6. Temporary exclusion from school maybe in effect until such time that the appropriate administrators and health care personnel determine through assessment that the risk has abated and the student/employee can return to school.
7. In situations where there is disagreement with the administrator's or physician's decision or recommendation, an appeal may be made within five days to the Superintendent and shall include the following:
 - a. statement of facts
 - b. statement of the relief requested
 - c. any necessary medical information

The Superintendent or designee will render a decision in writing within five days of receipt of the appeal. In the event that there is disagreement with the Superintendent's decision, the matter may be appealed within five days to the School Board. A day for purposes of this procedure shall be defined to exclude Saturdays, Sundays, and school holidays.

LEGAL REF: WI. ST. Chapters 143 and 252

Adopted: _____

Last Revision: _____ July 14, 2004

Last Review: _____ November 9, 2016
