

STUDENT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

It shall be the responsibility of the parent or guardian of a student enrolled in the district to immediately notify the school principal if the student is diagnosed as having a communicable disease. For the purpose of this policy, communicable diseases shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following: Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), Chicken Pox, Cytomegalovirus (CMV), Giardiasis, Herpes Simplex, Impetigo, Infectious Hepatitis, Measles, Rubella, Infectious Mononucleosis, Mumps, Pediculosis (lice, "crabs"), Pink Eye, Ring Worm, Scabies, and Streptococcal Infections (Scarlet Fever, Scarlatina, Strep Throat).

If the school principal feels that the student may need to be excluded from the classroom and school activities, the principal will notify the superintendent, who may appoint a committee to review the circumstances.

The committee will include, at a minimum, the building principal and the superintendent. If additional knowledge and expertise is required, the committee may request assistance from the student's parent or guardian, the student's personal physician, the student's teacher(s), the State Department of Health, the county health officer, and other appropriate personnel.

The committee will consider the following factors:

1. The behavior, developmental level, and physical condition of the student;
2. The expected type(s) of interaction with others in the school setting;
3. The impact of exclusion on both the infected student and others in that setting;
4. The type and severity of the communicable disease;
5. The guidelines of the South Dakota Department of Health.

The superintendent will review the committee's findings and, with the concurrence of the county health officer, will make the decision whether it is necessary to exclude the student from classroom and activities or to modify the student's educational program. If the student's parent or guardian does not agree with the superintendent's decision, the parent or guardian may request a hearing before the board to review the decision.

If an infected student is not permitted to attend classes or participate in school activities, the district will provide an appropriate educational program for the student.

Information about the infected student shall be confidential; however, information will be provided, as appropriate, to school employees who have regular contact with the student. If necessary, such staff members will be given appropriate instruction in dealing with the circumstances of the disease.