



JLCCA - COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Poudre School District is required to provide educational services to all school age children who reside within its boundaries. Attendance in a school facility may temporarily be denied for unacceptable risk of transmission of communicable diseases, which can be harmful to the health, safety and welfare of students, staff, or others.

Poudre School District recognizes that communicable diseases, which may infect students, range from acute diseases such as Hepatitis A, measles and whooping cough to life-threatening diseases such as Chronic Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HIV, TB, etc. Additionally, Poudre School District recognizes that certain diseases may carry negative and stigmatizing stereotypes. Accordingly, the district will respect the student and staff member's right to privacy and confidentiality of medical records as established by applicable law. For the purposes included in this policy, all district and school volunteers shall be viewed as district employees and shall be subject to the applicable provisions of this policy.

At the site level, the responsible school officials are the principal and the school nurse. The nurse can help individual staff determine the communicability of the illness. State statute requires communicable disease reporting to local and/or State Health Department (State of Colorado Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Epidemic and Communicable Disease Control). When a district employee becomes aware of a communicable disease that threatens the school population, they are required to report it to the responsible school official who will then report it to the Health Department and obtain any consultation on how to handle the communicable disease.

CONFIDENTIALITY

The sharing of information concerning the identity of students with a communicable disease should only be done pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232(g) and any other applicable federal and state regulations. This information should only be shared with those persons with a direct need to know based upon legitimate educational or medical involvement.

District employees who receive information regarding communicable disease infection of an employee or student or notices an employee or student showing symptoms of a communicable disease, infectious condition, or illness should contact the responsible school official (principal and/or nurse). The responsible school official or designee will then contact the Health Department to satisfy mandatory reporting statutes and help determine an immediate course of action. The responsible school official should reinforce to the reporting employee of the student's privacy rights under applicable

federal and state law. Nothing in this policy shall preclude the administration from consulting the Department of Health and Environment and from taking any immediate actions as deemed necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the student and others. Confidentiality extends past the time the person is employed with the district.

HIV/AIDS - SPECIFIC POLICY

Although the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection is a communicable disease, it is not transmitted through casual contact. Therefore, it is not in itself a reason to remove a student from school. Additionally, because of the stigma attached to the human immunodeficiency virus, district employees should make every effort to limit information concerning the identity of suspected/confirmed students with HIV or AIDS only to those persons with a direct and substantial need to know based upon legitimate educational or medical involvement. Any staff member who violates a student's right to privacy as established by state or federal law may be subject to discipline, up to and including termination.

In the event a student with HIV infection qualifies for services as a child with disabilities under state and federal law, the educational placement of the child will be pursuant to said state and federal law regardless of any conflict with this policy.

EDUCATION/INSTRUCTION FOR STAFF

The district recognizes that the best manner to protect students and staff from the spread of infectious disease while still protecting the privacy rights of the individual is through the use of consistent, universal precautions when dealing with a potential infectious situation. To help implement consistency, the District shall require training in preventing disease transmission.

Adopted: September 1988
Revised: August 12, 1996
Revised: September 10, 2001

LEGAL REFS:

20 U.S.C. 1401, et. seq. (P.L. 94-142, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)
29 U.S.C. 794 (1983) (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act)
42 U.S.C. 12101, et. seq. (Americans with Disabilities Act)
C.R.S. 22-20-101 through 22-20-114 (Exceptional Children's Education Act)
C.R.S. 22-33-104 (2)(a)
C.R.S. 22-33-106 (2)

CROSS REFS:

ACE, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Handicap/Disability

EBBA, Prevention of Disease/Infection Transmission

IHAMC, HIV/AIDS Education

IHBA, Special Education/Programs for Handicapped/Disabled/Exceptional Students

JB, Equal Educational Opportunities

JEC, Student Admissions to/Withdrawal from School

JHD, Exclusions and Exemptions from School Attendance

JLCA, Physical Examinations of Students

JRA/JRC, Student Records/Release of Information on Students