

Infectious Diseases

To safeguard the school community from the spread of certain communicable diseases, the superintendent shall implement procedures assuring that all school buildings are in compliance with State Board of Health rules and regulations regarding the presence of persons who have been exposed to or have infectious diseases deemed dangerous to the public health. Such procedures shall also prescribe the manner in which safeguards are taken to remove the danger to others.

The district requires that parents or guardians shall complete a medical emergency form at the beginning of each school year. The district nurses may use such reports to advise the parents of the need for further medical attention and to plan for potential health problems in a school.

In accordance with the regulations with the *Infectious Disease Control Guide* (SPI, 1991), the board authorizes the principals to exclude a student who has been diagnosed by a physician as having or is suspected of having an infectious disease. A principal has the authority to send an ill child home without the concurrence of the local health officer.

Since the local health officer is the primary resource in the identification and control of infectious disease in the community and school, the principals and/or school nurse shall report the presence of a suspected case or cases of reportable communicable disease to the appropriate local health authority as required by the State Board of Health. The principal shall cooperate with the local health officials in the investigation of the source of a disease.

The following information must be kept strictly confidential: the fact that a student has been tested for a sexually transmitted disease, the test results, and any information relating to the diagnosis or treatment of a sexually transmitted disease. *With confidentiality protected by state law, the information may be disclosed only pursuant to the restrictions in the Consent for Release of Sensitive/Confidential Information form.*

Cross Reference:

Policy	5130	Infectious Disease Control
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Legal Reference:

RCW	28A.31.010	Contagious diseases, limiting contact—rules and regulations
WAC	246-100-071	Responsibility for reporting and cooperating with the local health department
	246-100-076	Reportable diseases and conditions
	248-110	School districts and day care centers—contagious diseases

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