

Communicable/Infectious Diseases

Students with HIV/AIDS

The school district is required to provide educational services to all school age children who reside within its boundaries. By law, however, admission to school may be denied to any child diagnosed as having a disease whereby his attendance could be harmful to the welfare of other students, subject to the district's responsibilities to handicapped children under the law.

The Board of Education recognizes that communicable diseases which may afflict students range from common childhood diseases, acute and short-term in nature, to chronic, life-threatening diseases such as Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). This school district shall rely on the advice of the medical community in assessing the risk of transmission of various communicable diseases to determine how best to protect the health of both students and staff.

Management of common communicable diseases shall be in accordance with Colorado Department of Health guidelines. A student who exhibits symptoms of a communicable disease may be temporarily excluded from school attendance. The district reserves the right to require a physician's statement authorizing the student's return to school.

The educational placement of a student who is medically diagnosed as having a life-threatening communicable disease shall be determined on an individual basis by a panel of professionals in accordance with this policy and accompanying procedures. Decisions about the proper educational placement shall be based on the student's behavior, neurological development and physical condition. A regular evaluation of the placement decision shall be conducted to assess changes in the student's physical condition.

In the event a student with a life-threatening communicable disease qualifies for services as a handicapped child under state and federal law, the procedures for determining the appropriate educational placement in the least restrictive environment shall be used in lieu of evaluation by the professional panel designated above.

Neither this policy nor the placement of a student in any particular program shall preclude the administration from taking any temporary actions including removal of a student from the classroom as deemed necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of the student and others.

In all proceedings related to this policy, the district shall respect the student's right to privacy. Only those persons with direct responsibility for the care of the student shall be informed of the specific nature of his condition.

ADOPTED: November 16, 1993

LEGAL REFS.: 20 U.S.C. §1401 *et seq.* (Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004)
29 U.S.C. §794 (1983) (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation 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
IHBA, Special Education/Programs for Students with Disabilities
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