

# SOUTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: INFECTIOUS DISEASE

ADOPTED: May 27, 2003

REVISED: May 12, 2014

<p><i>Replaces former policies 6170 and 203.1</i></p>	<p>214.1. INFECTIOUS DISEASE</p>
<p>1. Purpose</p>	<p>The Board is committed to providing a safe, healthy environment for its students and employees. The purpose of this policy shall be to safeguard the health and well-being of students and employees while protecting the rights of the individual.</p> <p>This policy is based on current evidence that many infectious diseases are not normally transmissible by infected individuals within the school setting, except as noted in this policy.</p>
<p>2. Definitions</p>	<p><b>CDC</b> - United States Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control.</p> <p>Infected student - refers to a student diagnosed by a medical professional with a disease capable of being transmitted, including those who are asymptomatic.</p>
<p>3. Authority</p>	<p>This policy shall apply to all students in all programs conducted by the school district.</p> <p>The Board directs that the established school rules that relate to illnesses and other diseases among students shall also apply to infected students.</p>
<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible as the central contact for handling and releasing all information concerning infected students.</p> <p>All district employees shall strive to maintain a respectful school climate and to prohibit physical or verbal harassment of any individual or group, including infected students.</p> <p>All employees shall be required to consistently follow infection control/universal precautions in all settings and at all times, including playgrounds and school buses. Employees shall notify the Superintendent or designee of all incidents of exposure to bodily fluids and when a student's health condition or behavior presents a reasonable risk of transmitting an infection.</p>

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5. Guidelines	<p><u>Attendance</u></p>
SC 1302	<p>Infected students have the same right to attend school and receive services as any other students and shall be subject to the same policies and rules.</p>
	<p>School authorities shall determine the educational placement of infected students on a case-by-case basis by following established policies and procedures for students with chronic health problems and students with disabilities.</p>
	<p>A Screening Team comprised of the Superintendent and/or his/her designee, district physician, school nurse, principal, and including the student's parent or guardian and attending physician shall evaluate the educational placement of an infected student. Placement decisions shall be based on the infected student's behavior, neurological development, physical condition, and expected interaction with others in the school setting, and the criteria proposed by the CDC.</p>
	<p>First consideration must be given to maintaining the infected student in a regular assignment. Any decision for an alternative placement must be supported by specific facts and data.</p>
SC 1310	<p>An infected student who is unable to attend school, as determined by a medical examination, shall be considered for homebound instruction or an alternative placement.</p>
SC 1329, 1330	<p>An infected student may be excused from school attendance if the parent or guardian seeks such excuse based on the advice of medical or psychological experts treating the student.</p>
	<p>An infected student's placement shall be reassessed if there is a change in the student's condition or the student's need for accommodations.</p>
<p>CDC, Frankowski &amp; Bocchini, 2010          American School Health Association, 2005, Pollack, Kiszewski &amp; Speilman, 2000, Andresen &amp; McCarthy, 2009</p>	<p>Children found with live head lice should remain in class, but be discouraged from close direct head contact with others. The school nurse should contact the parents to discuss treating the child at the conclusion of the school day. Students with nits only should not be excluded from school, although further monitoring for signs of re-infestation is appropriate. It may be appropriate to screen other children who have had close head-to-head contact with a student with an active infestation, such as household family members, but classroom-wide or school-wide screening is not merited.</p>
	<p><u>Confidentiality</u></p>
Title 28	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall determine which school personnel will receive information about an infected student. The number of individuals informed of an</p>

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<p>Sec. 27.2</p> <p>SC 1409 Title 28 Sec. 27.2</p>	<p>infected student's status shall be kept to the minimum required to assure proper care and supervision of the student as well as to protect the school population. Anonymity shall have high priority.</p> <p>All district employees have a duty to preserve the confidentiality of all information concerning an infected student. Serious consequences shall result from a breach of confidentiality by an employee.</p> <p>Information about infected students in the school setting shall not be disclosed to the general public, undesignated school employees or other groups without a court order or the informed, written, signed and dated consent of the infected student or his/her parent or guardian if a legal minor.</p> <p>All health records shall be secured and kept confidential.</p>
<p>Gordon, 2007</p>	<p>In cases that involve head lice, as in all school health issues, it is vital that the school nurse prevent stigmatizing and maintain the student's privacy as well as the family's right to confidentiality.</p> <p><u>Infection Control</u></p> <p>Universal precautions, as recommended by the CDC, shall be followed for exposure to bodily fluids.</p> <p>Employees shall treat all body fluids as hazardous and follow universal precautions.</p> <p>The school district shall maintain and keep reasonably accessible all equipment and supplies necessary for infection control.</p> <p><u>Staff Development</u></p> <p>All district employees shall participate in a universal precautions education program.</p> <p>Designated district employees shall receive additional, specialized training appropriate to their positions and responsibilities.</p> <p><u>Prevention Education</u></p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 4.29</p> <p>Title 22</p>	<p>The goals of communicable disease prevention education shall be to promote healthy living and discourage the behaviors that put people at risk of acquiring communicable diseases.</p> <p>Parents and guardians shall be provided convenient opportunities to preview all</p>

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<p>Sec. 4.4 Pol. 105.1, 105.2</p> <p>SC 1302 1310 1329 1330 1409</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 4.29 4.4</p> <p>Title 28 Sec. 27.2</p> <p>Pol. 105.1 105.2</p>	<p>communicable disease prevention curricula and materials.</p>
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