

**GOVERNANCE****COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL**

The Ohio County Schools system will work cooperatively with the Wheeling Ohio County Health Department to enforce and adhere to the West Virginia Codes: 18A-5-1, 16-3-4, 16-3-4a, 16-3-5, 18-2-5, 18-5-9, 18-5-22, and 18-5-34 for prevention, control, and containment of communicable disease in schools. Decisions related to student or employee attendance will be based on P.L. 94-142 and Federal 504 Regulations.

- A. Students are expected to be in compliance with the required immunization schedule. The building principal is required under State Statute 16-3-4 to exclude children from school attendance who are out of compliance with the immunizations required by this act. School personnel will cooperate with county/state health personnel in completing and coordinating all immunization data, waivers, and exclusions.
- B. The principal shall exclude from the school any pupil or pupils known to have or suspected of having any infectious disease or infestation known to be spread by casual contact. The Superintendent has the authority to exclude a staff member from school when reliable evidence or information from a qualified source confirms him/her of having a communicable disease or infestation that is known to be spread by any form of casual contact and is considered a health threat to the school population. Such a student or staff member shall be excluded unless his or her physician approves school attendance and the condition is no longer considered contagious. All reportable communicable disease will be referred to the Wheeling Ohio County Health Department.
- C. When reliable evidence or information from a qualified source confirms that a student/staff member is known to have a communicable disease or infection that is known not to be spread by casual contact, i.e., HIV Infection, Hepatitis B, and other like diseases, the decision as to whether the affected person will remain

in the school setting will be addressed on a case by case basis by a review panel to ensure due process.

- D. Mandatory screening for communicable diseases that are known not to be spread by casual contact is not warranted as a condition for school entry or for employment or continued employment.
- E. Irrespective of the disease presence, routine procedures shall be used and adequate sanitation facilities will be available for handling blood or body fluids within the school setting or school buses. School personnel will be trained in proper procedures for handling blood and other body fluids and these procedures will be strictly adhered to by all school personnel.
- F. All persons privileged with any medical information that pertains to students or staff members shall be required to treat all proceedings, discussions, and documents as confidential information. Before any medical information is shared with anyone in the school setting a "Need to Know" review shall be made which includes the parent/guardian, student over 18, employee or their representative as outlined in the West Virginia Procedures for the Collection, Maintenance, and Disclosure of Student Data and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act 1988.

#### COMMUNICABLE DISEASE EDUCATION

Instruction on the principle modes by which communicable diseases, including, but not limited to, Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), are spread and to the best methods for the restriction and prevention of these diseases shall be integrated into the health education curriculum between grades PreK-12 with other programs of study incorporating communicable disease instruction when applicable.

Parent/guardians may examine text and other instructional materials as well as meet with teachers and/or administrators to discuss specific course content. Through written request by parents/guardians to the building principal, students may be exempted from communicable disease instruction. The exempted student will then be provided with an alternative educational experience.

Staff development opportunities regarding the prevention and restriction of communicable disease instructional techniques will be made available to staff members and parents.

**REGULATION REVIEWED: October 24, 2013**

**REGULATION REVIEWED: November 10, 2010**

**REGULATION REVISED: October 11, 1993**

**REGUALTION ADOPTED: December 12, 1988**

**OHIO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**