

PINE GROVE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: HIV INFECTION

ADOPTED: August 20, 1998

REVISED: May 19, 2005

203.1. HIV INFECTION	
1. Purpose	<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 the HIV virus is not transmissible by infected individuals within the school setting, except as noted in this policy.</p>
2. Definitions	<p>HIV Infection - refers to the disease caused by the HIV or human immunodeficiency virus.</p> <p>AIDS - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.</p> <p>CDCP - United States Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.</p> <p>Infected students - refers to students diagnosed as having the HIV virus, including those who are asymptomatic.</p>
3. Authority	<p>This policy shall apply to all students in all programs conducted by the school district.</p> <p>The Board establishes that the established school rules that relate to illnesses and other diseases among students shall also apply to infected students.</p> <p>The Board shall not require routine screening tests for HIV infection in the school setting, nor will such tests be a condition for school attendance.</p> <p>Pennsylvania Law - Act 148 of 1990 - Protects the confidentiality rights of persons with HIV infections. Such persons are not required to disclose their HIV status to anyone in the school setting.</p>
35 P.S. 7601 et seq	
4. Delegation of Responsibility	<p>The Superintendent or a designee shall serve as the central contact for handling and releasing all information concerning infected students.</p>

<p>5. Guidelines</p> <p>SC 1301</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 his/her 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> <p>On an annual basis, building administrators shall notify students, parents/guardians and district employees about current Board policies concerning HIV infection and shall provide reasonable opportunities to discuss such policies and concerns.</p> <p>The Superintendent or a designee shall report periodically to the Board regarding the effectiveness of this policy and shall make recommendations for revision in accordance with developments in medical research and treatments.</p> <p><u>Attendance</u></p> <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. HIV infection shall not factor into decisions concerning class assignments, privileges or participation in any school-sponsored activity.</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>When an infected student's parent/guardian voluntarily discloses information regarding the student's condition, the district employee who receives the information shall obtain the written consent of the parent/guardian to disclose the information to members of the Screening Team.</p> <p>A Screening Team comprised of the Superintendent or designee, building principal, school nurse, and district physician, and including the student's parents/guardians and attending physician shall evaluate the educational placement of an infected student. Placement decisions shall be based on the student's need for accommodations or services.</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>
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<p>SC 1329 Title 22 Sec. 11.25</p>	<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>
<p>SC 1329, 1330</p>	<p>An infected student may be excused from school attendance if the parent/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>35 P.S. 7607</p>	<p><u>Confidentiality</u></p> <p>District employees who have knowledge of an infected student's condition shall not disclose any information without prior written consent of the student's parent/guardian, consistent with the requirements of the Pennsylvania Confidentiality of HIV-Related Information Act.</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, other 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/guardian if a legal minor.</p>
<p>SC 1409</p>	<p>All health records, notes and other documents referring to an infected student's condition shall be secured and kept confidential.</p> <p><u>Infection Control</u></p> <p>Universal precautions, as recommended by the CDCP, shall be followed for exposure to blood, vaginal secretions, semen or any other body fluid contaminated with blood, such as nasal secretions, sputum, vomitus, urine and feces.</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 designated equipment and supplies necessary for infection control.</p>

<p>Title 22 Sec. 4.29</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 4.4, 4.29 Pol. 105.1</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 4.4, 4.29 Pol. 105.2</p>	<p><u>Staff Development</u></p> <p>All district employees shall participate in a planned universal precautions 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>The goals of HIV prevention education shall be to promote healthy living and discourage the behaviors that put people at risk of acquiring HIV infection. Preventive education shall be taught at every level, be appropriate to students' developmental maturity, and include accurate information about reducing the risk of HIV infection.</p> <p>Prior to HIV/AIDS instruction, the district shall inform parents/guardians that curriculum outlines and materials used in the instruction shall be available for review.</p> <p>A student shall be excused from HIV/AIDS education when the instruction conflicts with the religious beliefs or principles of the student or parent/guardian, upon the written request of the parent/guardian.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1301, 1329, 1330, 1409</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.4, 4.29, 11.25</p> <p>PA Confidentiality of HIV-Related Information Act – 35 P.S. 7601 et seq</p> <p>Board Policy - 105.1, 105.2</p>
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