

## **Sparta Area School District**

### Article 740 - Communicable Diseases

The Sparta Area School District assists other state and county agencies in the setting of appropriate health standards, in promoting the good health of students and their families and in educating students and staff in disease prevention and good health practices. The Board recognizes its responsibility to inform appropriate staff and to outline responsibilities of various professionals when dealing with communicable diseases.

Sparta Area School District personnel (principals, teachers, counselors, social workers, nurse and other support staff) are responsible for reporting communicable diseases to the local health officer (Monroe County Health Department). Pupils who are suspected of having those communicable diseases such as, but not limited to, those listed in the guidelines may be sent home by the school administration. The parents will be notified as soon as practicable of any student who is suspected of having a communicable disease.

Employees and students are subject to temporary exclusion from the school environment if they are diagnosed as or suspected of having a communicable disease, such as, but not limited to, those listed in the guidelines.

Records and information collected on students and staff with suspected or confirmed communicable disease are confidential and handled in accordance with state law and Board policy on student and staff records.

Administrative guidelines will include an appeal process for handling and implementation of this policy.

### Regulations - Communicable Diseases

1. A principal or appropriate administrator shall be responsible for the appropriate maintenance of the health room in each building. The principal may delegate these duties and work cooperatively with the school nurse and the Monroe County Health Department toward this end. For purposes of this policy, communicable diseases include (but are not limited to) the following:

Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

Ameobiasis

Campylobacter

Chicken Pox

Conjunctivitis

Cytomegalovirus

Gastrointestinal viruses

Norwalk Agent Rotavirus

Giardiasis

Hepatitis B virus

Impetigo

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection

Lice

Measles

Mononucleosis virus

Mumps

Rotavirus

Salmonella bacteria

Scabies

Shigellosis

Tuberculosis

Influenza

2. The contamination source of most communicable diseases is body fluids. Body fluids include blood, semen, drainage from scrapes, cuts, and open lesions, feces, urine, vomit, respiratory secretions (nasal discharge) and saliva. Contact with body fluids can present a risk of infection. In general, the risk is dependent on a variety of factors, including the type of fluid and the type of contact. Individuals carrying a disease may be at various stages of infection: incubating disease, mildly infected without symptoms, and chronic carriers of infectious agents.
3. When possible, direct skin contact with body fluids should be avoided. Staff involved in dealing with any body fluids are to take necessary precautionary measures, including frequent washing of hands, use of disposable gloves, proper disposal of soiled items (i.e., diapers, towels, handkerchiefs, etc.) by burning or disposing of in sealed or lined containers. These containers should be disposed of daily.
4. Cleaning of hard surfaces and equipment (tables, mops, buckets, etc.) should be done with either soaking or washing with appropriate hot water and dilution of household bleach (1:10) or other appropriate disinfectant.
5. The administration may require a physician's statement about a student's or staff member's suitability to attend school or report to work when such person has been suspected of or diagnosed as having a communicable disease.
6. The temporary exclusion from school may be in effect until such time that the appropriate administrators, with the assistance of health care personnel, determine by assessment that the risk has been abated and that the student or employee can return to school with any necessary modifications or individual program planning completed.

In situations where there is disagreement with the Administrators' interpretation of this policy, an appeal may be made within five days to the Superintendent or designee. The appeal shall be in writing to the Superintendent and shall include the following:

- a. Statement of facts.
- b. Statement of the relief requested.
- c. Any necessary medical information required.

The Superintendent or designee will render a decision in writing within five days of receipt of the appeal. In the event that there is disagreement with the Superintendent's decision, the matter may be appealed within five days to the School Board. A day for purposes of this procedure shall be defined to exclude Saturdays, Sundays and school holidays.

Information and Recommendations of Preventing the Transmission of HTLV-III in the School Setting, State of Wisconsin Department of Health and Social Services.

Legal Reference: Wisconsin Statute 103.15, 143.02 – .03, 143.12, and 118.13

Cross Reference: Administrative Rule 510 – Head Lice Treatment

Adopted:

Revised: December 21, 2004  
June 26, 2012