Act Rather Than Re-act

- School Staff tend to be nurturing and care-taking people
- Don’t rush to help without putting on gloves - children can touch their own blood - give them a dressing while you put on your gloves
- You can be kind and reassuring while you work to protect yourself!
Bloodborne Diseases

- **HBV**
  - Hepatitis B virus
  - Causes damage to liver

- **Hepatitis C**
  - Leading cause of liver transplants

- **HIV**
  - Human immunodeficiency virus
  - Compromises immune system - leads to AIDS for which there is no known cure
Transmission

- Pathogens can enter your body through:
  - Open cuts
  - Skin abrasions
  - Acne
  - Dermatitis
  - Mucous membranes

- Accidental injury with contaminated object:
  - Broken glass
  - Sharp metal
  - Knives
  - Needles
Risk of Exposure

- Not every staff member will be occupationally exposed to body fluids
- Whether or not you’re exposed, you still need to know what to do to minimize your risk of infection
The Key to Protection

- Never touch another person’s blood!

Universal Precautions Kits
(Gloves, Dressing, Antibacterial Pad)

- Handwashing, Handwashing & Handwashing!
- Your best protection is not to have any contact with another person’s blood or body fluids.

- If a student is bleeding, instruct the student to cover the source and apply pressure as needed - get the school nurse!

- If you MUST assist - you need gloves and to call for help!
Gloves

- First line of Protection! - Cover all cuts, dry skin - replace any damp bandaids

- Replace as soon as possible if gloves are ripped or punctured
  - Glove Removal Demonstration

- Dispose of used gloves carefully and safely!
Remember:

- Healthy, intact skin is your first line of defense from exposure to blood and body fluids.
- Treat all blood, fresh or dried as if it is contaminated.
Exposure to eyes:

- If blood or body fluids get in your eyes, wash immediately - rinse eyes for 10 minutes.
- Report the incident to the school nurse.
Be Safe and Successful!

- Use Barrier Precautions - Have them available in school, on playground and on field trips
- Keep yourself and others safe from contamination
- Act rather than react!