

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

An infectious disease is caused by the presence of certain microorganisms in the body. Infectious diseases may or may not be communicable or in a contagious state.

In order to safeguard the school community from the spread of certain communicable diseases the superintendent will implement procedures assuring that all school buildings are in compliance with State Board of Health rules and regulations regarding the presence of persons who have or have been exposed to infectious diseases deemed dangerous to the public health. Such procedures shall also prescribe the manner in which safeguards are taken to remove the danger to others.

The district will require that the parents or guardian will complete a medical history form at the time of enrollment and encourage parents to notify the school with any medical changes. The nurse or school physician may use such reports to advise the parent of the need for further medical attention and to plan for potential health problems in school.

The board authorizes the school principal to exclude a student who has been diagnosed by a physician or is suspected of having an infectious disease in accordance with the regulations within the most current Infectious Disease Control Guide provided by the State Department of Health and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The principal and/or school nurse shall report the presence of suspected case or cases of reportable communicable disease to the appropriate local health authority as required by the State Board of Health. Such information concerning a student's present and past health condition shall be treated as confidential. The principal will cooperate with the local health officials in the investigation of the source of the disease.

The fact that a student has been tested for a sexually transmitted disease, the test result, any information relating to the diagnosis or treatment of a sexually transmitted disease, and any information regarding drug or alcohol treatment for a student must be kept strictly confidential. If the district has a release, the information may be disclosed pursuant to the restrictions in the release.

A school principal, or designee in consultation with the school nurse has the authority to send an ill child home without the concurrence of the local health officer, but if the disease is reportable, the local health officer must be notified. The local health officer is the primary resource in the recognition and control of communicable disease in community and school. The local health officer, in consultation with the superintendent, can take whatever action deemed necessary to control or eliminate the spread of disease, including closing a school.

Legal References:	RCW 28A.210.010	Contagious diseases, limiting contact — Rules and regulations
	Ch 246-110 WAC	School districts and day care centers — Contagious diseases
	RCW 70.02	Medical records — health care information access and disclosure

Management Resources: 2013 – February Issue

State Department of Health and Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction Infectious Disease
Guide

South Kitsap School District Guidelines 2013

Adoption Date: August 15, 2005
Revised: June 2, 2015