

GAR Communicable Diseases

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Whenever an employee has been diagnosed by a physician as having a communicable disease as defined in current regulation, the employee shall report the diagnosis and nature of the disease to the superintendent so that a proper reporting may be made to the county or joint board of health as required by statute.

An employee afflicted with a communicable disease dangerous to the public health shall be suspended from duty for the duration of the contagiousness in order to give maximum health protection to other district employees and to students.

The employee shall be allowed to return to duty upon recovery from the illness, or then the employee is no longer contagious as authorized by the employee's physician.

The board reserves the right to require a written statement from the employee's physician indicating that the employee is free from all symptoms of the communicable disease.

Approved: July 1, 2001

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If a district employee has been diagnosed as having a communicable disease and the superintendent has been notified by the employee, as provided in policy, the superintendent shall determine whether a release shall be obtained from the employee's physician before the employee returns to duty.

Decisions regarding the type of employment setting for an employee with a communicable disease shall be made by the superintendent based upon consideration of the physical condition of the employee and the following factors:

- the nature of the risk;
- the duration of the risk;
- the severity of the risk; and
- the probability that the disease will be transmitted or cause harm to the employee or to others who will share the same setting.

AIDS

In each case involving an employee with AIDS, the board shall reserve the right to make a final decision regarding the employment status of the employee after taking into account the recommendations of the Review Board, the risks and benefits to both the employee and to others in the proposed work setting.

No information regarding employees with communicable diseases shall be released by district personnel without the employee's consent except to comply with state or federal statutes.

Guidelines for Dealing With Employees Infected With HIV in the District Schools

The district establishes the following guidelines for dealing with the problems presented by school employees who have or could transmit HIV to other school employees or students. The guidelines will be reviewed periodically and revised as necessary to reflect new medical information regarding HIV. Based upon the present knowledge that HIV is primarily transmitted by blood or sexual contact, and that casual person-to-person contact as would occur among school employees appears to pose no risk, individuals known to be in-

ected with HIV virus should not be restricted from the work setting unless otherwise medically indicated.

Case Review

The determination of the appropriate educational setting for HIV infected individuals will be made on a case-by-case basis by a Review Board. The school nurse or county health nurse will serve as Chairperson of the Review Board and serve as the contact source for all referred cases.

In each case the Review Board shall consider: the nature of the risk, the duration of the risk, the severity of the risk, and the probability that the disease will be transmitted or cause harm to the employee or to others who will share the same setting.

The Review Board may consist of, but not necessarily limited to, the employee's physician, school officials including the superintendent of schools, building principal, the employee and/or a representative of the employee, the county health officer, and other individuals as deemed necessary. The school attorney may assist the Review Board as an observer and advise the board on legal questions.

Dealing With School Employees With HIV

The Review Board shall develop additional procedures to periodically assess the employee's condition to assist in determining the employee's status to work. Establishment of a plan for periodic review of the employee's status shall be established by the Review Board at the initial meeting.

Confidentiality

To the extent possible, knowledge of the employee's condition shall be retained within the Review Board members. In some situations it may be necessary that other personnel also be advised. This will be determined by the superintendent.

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