

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The Governing Board desires to protect students from risks posed by exposure to infectious diseases while providing an appropriate education for all students. The Board recognizes that prevention and education are the most effective means of limiting the spread of infectious diseases.

Infectious Disease Prevention

The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with school administration, staff, parents/guardians and Ventura County Public Health to develop a comprehensive approach to disease prevention that promotes preventative measures and education of students and staff.

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly review resources available from public health experts to ensure that district programs are based on the most up-to-date information.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district's comprehensive health education program provides information about the prevention of infectious diseases, including the nature of bloodborne pathogens and their transmission, as well as information to help prevent the spread of contagious diseases, such as a pandemic influenza or any similar virus.

The Superintendent or designee shall also ensure that each school has sufficient infection prevention supplies that are easily accessible to staff. These include, but are not limited to: disposable medical gloves, masks, hand-sanitizer, general Health Office Supplies, Bio-hazard and chemical spill kits, surface disinfectants, and accessible soap, water, and towels for hand washing.

Outbreaks of Infectious Disease/Pandemics

The Superintendent or designee shall work directly with Ventura County Public Health to actively respond in the event of an outbreak of infectious disease or pandemic. The Superintendent or designee shall follow all direction from the Director of the Ventura County Department of Public Health regarding response to outbreaks, including testing, quarantines and school closures.

Universal Precautions

Students and staff shall observe universal precautions in order to prevent exposure to bloodborne pathogens and to prevent the spread of infectious diseases.

The Superintendent or designee shall inform students and parents/guardians of the precautions to be used in cases of exposure to blood or other body fluids through injury, accident, or classroom instruction.

Students with Infectious Diseases

The Superintendent or designee shall exclude students with infectious diseases from school only in accordance with public health law or during a declared public health emergency. Because bloodborne pathogens such as hepatitis B virus, hepatitis C virus, and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) are not casually transmitted, the presence of infectious conditions of this type is not, by itself, sufficient reason to exclude students from attending school.

Parents/guardians are expected to inform the Superintendent or designee if their child has an infectious disease so that school staff may work cooperatively with the student's parents/guardians to minimize the child's exposure to other diseases in the school setting. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that student confidentiality rights are strictly observed in accordance with law.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48210-48216 Persons excluded
49073-49079 Privacy of pupil records
49403 Cooperation in control of communicable disease and immunization of pupils
49405 Smallpox control
49406 Examination for tuberculosis (employees)
49408 Information of use in emergencies
49602 Confidentiality of student information
51202 Instruction in personal and public health and safety

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article 1, Section 1 Right to Privacy

CIVIL CODE

56-56.37 Confidentiality of Medical Information Act
1798-1798.76 Information Practices Act

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

120230 Exclusion for communicable disease
120325-120380 Immunization against communicable diseases
120875-120895 AIDS information
120975-121022 Mandated blood testing and confidentiality to protect public health
121475-121520 Tuberculosis tests for pupils

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 8

5193 California bloodborne pathogens standard

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 17

2500-2511 Communicable disease reporting requirements

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1232g Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act
1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 45

164.500-164.534 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

COURT DECISIONS

Thomas v. Atascadero Unified School District, (1987) 662 F.Supp. 376

Management Resources:

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>
California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>
California Department of Public Health: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov>
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>
U.S. Government Pandemic Flu Information: <http://www.pandemicflu.gov>

ADOPTED 3/25/20