

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE POLICY

The Board recognizes that, to the extent possible, all students and employees (K-12 and LATI) should be permitted to participate in a normal classroom/work setting. The board further recognizes its responsibility to provide a healthy environment for students and school employees.

Definition – For purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

1. STUDENT – any individual attending classes or participating in school activities provided by Watertown School District No. 14-4, Codington County, South Dakota.
2. EMPLOYEE – any person who receives remuneration from Watertown School District No. 14-4, Codington County, South Dakota.
3. INFECTED INDIVIDUAL – an infected employee or student with a medical diagnosis of any communicable disease identified below.

The determination of whether an infected student should be excluded from the classroom or school activity, or whether an infected employee should be excluded from work activities shall be made in a case-by-case basis under the direction of the building principal/building administrator or nurse. For professional assistance, the principal may consult with a team.

The team may consist of:

1. A representative from the State Health Department and/or local individual with expertise in the given area;
2. The infected individual's physician;
3. The infected individual, parent(s), guardian(s), or representative;
4. School principal/building administrator or designee;
5. School nurse;
6. Superintendent or designee; and
7. Appropriate school district personnel as appointed by the superintendent.

The team shall consider:

1. The behavior, developmental level, and medical condition of the infected individual;
2. The physical condition of the infected individual;
3. The expected type(s) of interaction with others in the school setting;
4. The degree to which the pathogen is transmittable to others based on current knowledge;
5. The impact on both the infected individual and others in that setting;
6. The South Dakota Department of Health policy and guidelines; and
7. May additionally request assistance from the South Dakota State Health Department.

The following health guidelines for school/work attendance shall apply and specific needs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. This policy shall apply to all communicable diseases including but not limited to the following;

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE GUIDELINES

<u>Disease and Incubation Period</u>	<u>Rules for School/Work Attendance</u>
Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) 6 months – five years	Student/Employee should not be excluded unless she/he poses a threat to others for transmission of virus.
Chicken Pox 14-21 days	The student/employee may attend school/work after all pox are dry and scabbed.
Cytomegalovirus (CMV)	The student/employee may attend school/work. Precautions should be taken by contacts with Immunosuppression as anti-cancer or organ/transplants, as well as anyone with suspected or known pregnancy. Good hand washing in all cases should eliminate the risk of transfer of infection.
E-Coli	Student/Employee should not be excluded if they can practice independent hygiene and is no longer symptomatic.
Fifth Disease (Erythema Infectiosum) 6 – 14 day	Exclusion from school not necessary. Pregnant employee exposed to a case should consult her physician.
Giardiasis	Exclude if symptomatic.

Hand, Foot, and Mouth:	Incubation period: 3-6 days. No exclusion unless not able to control secretions or draining sore cannot be covered.
Hepatitis A 15 to 40 days	Student/Employee should be excluded for one week after onset of jaundice or for those who do not develop jaundice exclude for one week after after onset of symptoms.
Hepatitis B 15 to 50 days	Student/Employee may attend school/work with physician's permission. Utilize universal precautions.
Hepatitis C 15 to 50 days	Student/Employee may attend school/work with physician's permission. Utilize universal precautions.
Herpes Simplex 2 to 12 days	The student/employee may attend school/work during an active case if the individual has the ability and practices appropriate personal hygiene practices and the area of lesion is covered or dry. Utilize universal precautions.
Impetigo 4 to 40 days	The student/employee may attend school/work if treatment is verified and lesions are covered or dry.
Influenza (seasonal flu) And or H1N1 (swine flu):	School exclusion for 24 hours after free of fever or signs of a fever without use of fever reducing medications. CDC recommends this exclusion period regardless of whether or not antiviral medications are used.
Measles 8-14 days	Student/Employee may return to school/work seven days after being diagnosed with measles. Exposed individual may attend school if immunization is up to date.

Meningitis: 2-10 days incubation period	Exclusion for viral and/or bacterial until cleared for return by physician.
Mono (Infectious Mononucleosis) 2- 6 days	Student/Employee may attend school as directed by physician. School days and activities may need to be adjusted.
Mumps	The student/employee must be kept home for nine days after symptom onset. Exposed individuals may attend school if immunizations are up to date. Those not immunized and exposed need to be excluded 12 to 25 days.
Pediculosis (lice, "crabs", scabies)	The student/employee may attend school after treatment. If repeated infestations occur, the infected individual will be excluded until all nits are removed.
Pink Eye	The student/employee may attend school/work after eye is clear; after treatment is verified; or with physician's permission.
Plantars Warts	Student/Employee may attend school/work but should not be permitted to walk barefoot.
Ring Worm (Scalp, body, athlete's foot)	Student/Employee may attend school/work if the area is under treatment and covered. Restrict known cases of athlete's foot from pools and showers until after treatment.
Rubella (German, 3-day measles) 14-21 days	Student/Employee is excluded from school until a minimum of four days after onset. Prevent exposure to pregnant women, staff and students.
Salmonella/Shigellosis	Student/Employee excluded until diarrhea subsides. Must use good handwashing upon returning.

Streptococcal Infections
(Scarlet Fever, Scarletina,
Strep Throat 1 to 3 days

Student/Employee may attend school/work 24
hours after initiation and verification of antibiotic
therapy.

Tuberculosis Disease

Student/Employee excluded until physician
determines student is not infectious.

Information concerning infected individuals shall be kept in strict confidence by school personnel.

Students or employees infected with AIDS/ARC or HTLV-III antibody are required to notify the superintendent upon confirmation of such infection.

If a student is infected AIDS/ARC or the HTLV-III antibody and is not permitted to attend class or participate in school activities, the district will provide the infected student with an appropriate education program.

The following procedures shall apply to employees infected with AIDS/ARC or the HTLV-III antibody:

- A. The superintendent may request a medical evaluation of the employees physical ability to perform their job or if the disability poses a substantial possibility of harm to others in the work place. During the evaluation period, the employee may be excluded from work by the superintendent with full pay and benefits.
- B. The Board shall weigh the risks and benefits to both the employee and to others prior to making a final determination concerning the employment disposition of such employee.

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