

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The Santa Cruz County Board of Education (“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 County Superintendent (“Superintendent”) or designee shall collaborate with parents/guardians and local health agencies and organizations to develop a comprehensive approach to disease prevention that promotes preventative measures and education of students and staff.

(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)

(cf. 3516 - Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness Plan)

(cf. 5141.21 - Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions)

(cf. 5141.26 - Tuberculosis Testing)

(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)

(cf. 5141.31 - Immunizations)

(cf. 5141.32 - Health Screening for School Entry)

(cf. 5141.6- School Health Services)

The Superintendent or designee shall regularly review resources available from 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. He/she shall also ensure that each school has sufficient infection prevention supplies that are easily accessible to staff.

(cf. 6142.1 - Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction)

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (cont.)

BP 5141.22

(cf. 6142.8- Comprehensive Health Education)

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.

(cf. 4119.42/4219.42/4319.42 - Exposure Control Plan for Bloodborne Pathogens)

(cf. 4119.43/4219.43/4319.43 - Universal Precautions)

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

(cf. 5141-Health Care and Emergencies)

(cf. 6145.2 -Athletic Competition)

Students with Infectious Diseases

The Superintendent or designee shall exclude students only in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation. 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.

(cf. 5112.2 - Exclusions from Attendance)

(cf. 6164.6- Identification and Education Under Section 504)

Parents/guardians are encouraged 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.

(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)

(cf. 5022 - Student and Family Privacy Rights)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

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>

Board Adopted: Jun 24, 2021