

## Infectious and Communicable Diseases

The Bruneau-Grand View Joint School District No. 365 recognizes the importance of protecting the health and welfare of students from the spread of infectious or contagious diseases. Management of communicable diseases shall be in accordance with the rules and/or regulations Governing Idaho Reportable Diseases, and Centers for Disease Control Communicable Disease Guidelines. The following policy statement will be reviewed and revised, as necessary, to reflect the latest medical research and legal opinion.

**Definition of Infectious/Communicable Disease:** A disease which may be transmitted from one person to another person either by direct contact or through an intermediate host, vector, inanimate object or other means which may result in infection, disability or death.

### Students

No infected student will be denied an education solely by reason of his or her infection. Educational decisions and services will comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the American Disabilities Act (ADA), and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504.

The school district shall rely on the advice of the medical community in assessing the risk of transmission of various communicable diseases to determine how best to protect the health of both students and staff. Each case will be decided on an individual basis. The school principal or his/her designee will consult as necessary with appropriate school or medical and public health personnel, as well as parents.

Students with immunodeficient conditions may be at greater risk of contracting infections. In such cases school administrators will communicate information to the parent or guardian regarding the occurrence of threatening contagious diseases when making decisions as to school attendance.

### Confidentiality

Gatekeepers of information relating to the student's condition are:

- The parent or guardian of the student.
- The student, as defined by legal age for specific conditions.

All information regarding individuals with communicable diseases shall remain confidential. In order to provide an appropriate education, such information may be disclosed to the following individuals.

- Attending physician
- Building Principal
- Other personnel on a need to know basis.

Any individual who has been exposed to an infectious/communicable disease will be informed.

All staff, to whom such information is disclosed, shall be advised by the disclosure that further communication of such information is not permitted and violation of such provision of this policy may be grounds for discharge from employment.

Universal precautions as defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) will be followed and the district will comply with Americans with Disabilities Act and Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 in situations regarding health.

**AIDS (Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome HTLV III Viral Infections)**

For the purposes of the guidelines set forth in this policy, the terms “infected individual” refers to “infected students”. These terms are defined as those persons who have been diagnosed as having AIDS or ARC (Aids Related Complex) and to persons who are asymptomatic carriers who have a virologic or serologic evidence of infection.

The determination of whether an infected student shall be permitted to attend classes and participate in school activities with other students shall be recommended by an evaluation team on a case by case basis of the school board. The school board shall consider the evaluation teams’ recommendation and make a final determination that is not precedent setting. The evaluation team shall be composed of public health personnel, the student’s physician, the student’s parents or guardian, school district legal counsel, and appropriate school personnel as determined by the school board. In making this recommendation, the team shall consider in each case the followingA:

- The behavior, neurological development, and physical condition of the student.
- The expected type of interaction with others in the school setting.
- The risks and benefits to both the infected individual and others in the school setting.

**Legal source:** Idaho Code 33-506 “Organization and government of board of trustees.”

Idaho Code 33-512 “Governance of Schools.”

**Adopted:** October 28, 1998

**Reviewed:** January 30, 2007

**Revised.**

