

LITTLESTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: HIV INFECTION

ADOPTED: September 17, 1990

REVISED: January 12, 1998

<p>1. Purpose</p> <p>2. Definitions</p> <p>3. Authority</p> <p>Act 148 of 1990</p> <p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">203.1. HIV INFECTION</p> <p>The Board of Education is committed to the provision of a healthful environment for its students and employees.</p> <p>This policy is based on current evidence that the HIV virus is not transmissible by infected individuals within the school setting, except as noted in this policy.</p> <p>HIV - refers to the disease caused by the HIV or human immunodeficiency virus.</p> <p>AIDS - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.</p> <p>CDC - United States Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control.</p> <p>Infected students - refers to students diagnosed as having the HIV virus, including those who are asymptomatic.</p> <p>This policy shall apply to all <u>students</u> in all programs conducted by the Littlestown Area School District.</p> <p>The Board directs that the established school rules that relate to illnesses and other diseases among students shall also apply to infected employees.</p> <p>Management of the school district for this disease shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent.</p> <p>The Board shall not require routine screening tests for HIV infection in the school setting, nor will such tests be a condition for school attendance.</p> <p>The Superintendent or a designee shall serve as the central contact for handling and releasing all information concerning infected students.</p>
---	---

<p>5. Guidelines</p> <p>SC 1302</p>	<p>All district employees shall strive to maintain a respectful school climate and to prohibit physical or verbal harassment of any individual or group, including infected students.</p> <p>All employees shall be required to consistently follow infection control/universal precautions in all settings and at all times, including playgrounds and school buses. Employees shall notify the:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Building principal.2. School nurse. <p>of all incidents of exposure to bodily fluids and when a student's health condition or behavior presents a reasonable risk of transmitting an infection.</p> <p><u>Attendance</u></p> <p>Infected students have the same right to attend school and receive services as any other students and shall be subject to the same policies and rules. HIV infection shall not factor into decisions concerning class assignments, privileges or participation in any school-sponsored activity.</p> <p>School authorities shall determine the educational placement of infected students on a case-by-case basis by following established policies and procedures for students with chronic health problems and students with disabilities.</p> <p>A Screening Team comprised of the:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Superintendent.2. Student's teacher (if the student has more than one teacher, the Superintendent shall designate one of those teachers as a member of the committee).3. Building principal.4. School nurse.5. District physician.
-------------------------------------	--

	<p>and including the student's parents or guardians and attending physician shall evaluate the educational placement of an infected student. Placement decisions shall be based on the infected student's behavior, neurological development, physical condition and expected interaction with others in the school setting, and the criteria proposed by the CDC.</p> <p>First consideration must be given to maintaining the infected student in a regular assignment. Any decision for an alternative placement must be supported by specific facts and data.</p>
<p>SC 1310</p>	<p>An infected student who is unable to attend school, as determined by a medical examination, shall be considered for homebound instruction or an alternative placement.</p>
<p>SC 1329, 1330</p>	<p>An infected student may be excused from school attendance if the parent or guardian seeks such excuse based on the advice of medical or psychological experts treating the student.</p> <p>An infected student's placement shall be reassessed if there is a change in the student's condition or the student's need for accommodations.</p> <p>A student may be excused from school attendance by the Board upon satisfactory evidence of urgent reasons which prevent the student from attending school or application to study. Such an excuse must be approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education prior to the exclusion.</p>
<p>Act 148 of 1990</p>	<p><u>Confidentiality</u></p> <p>The identity of students with AIDS shall be confidential except to the limited extent provided in Sec. 4.</p> <p>All files that include listing of names and other confidential information of those with AIDS shall be kept under strict security by an official named by the Superintendent.</p> <p>Student and/or parent may, by written request to the Superintendent, waive specific procedures regarding confidentiality.</p> <p>The Superintendent or a designee shall determine which school personnel will receive information about an infected student. The number of individuals informed of an infected student's status shall be kept to the minimum required to assure proper care and supervision of the student as well as to protect the school population. Anonymity shall have high priority.</p>

<p>SC 1409</p> <p>OSHA</p>	<p>All district employees have a duty to preserve the confidentiality of all information concerning an infected student. Serious consequences shall result from a breach of confidentiality by an employee.</p> <p>Information about infected students in the school setting shall not be disclosed to the general public, other school employees or other groups without a court order or the informed, written, signed and dated consent of the infected student or his/her parent or guardian if a legal minor.</p> <p>All health records, notes and other documents referring to a student's HIV status shall be secured and kept confidential.</p> <p><u>Infection Control</u></p> <p>Universal precautions, as recommended by the CDC, shall be followed for exposure to blood, vaginal secretions, semen or any other body fluid contaminated with blood, such as nasal secretions, sputum, vomitus, urine and feces.</p> <p>Employees shall treat all body fluids as hazardous and follow universal precautions.</p> <p>The school district shall maintain and keep reasonably accessible all designated equipment and supplies necessary for infection control.</p> <p><u>Staff Development</u></p> <p>All district employees shall participate in a planned HIV education program that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Conveys factual and current information.2. Provides guidance on infection control procedures.3. Informs about current law and district policies concerning HIV.4. Assists staff to maintain productive parent and community relations.5. Includes annual review sessions. <p>Designated district employees shall receive additional, specialized training appropriate to their positions and responsibilities.</p>
----------------------------	---

Education

The K-12 course of study in Health Education shall be expanded to include instruction about AIDS.

Prevention Education

The goals of HIV prevention education shall be to promote healthy living and discourage the behaviors that put people at risk of acquiring HIV. The educational program shall:

1. Be taught at every level, kindergarten through grade twelve.
2. Use methods demonstrated by sound research to be effective.
3. Be consistent with community standards.
4. Follow content guidelines prepared by the Centers for Disease Control.
5. Be appropriate to students' developmental levels, behaviors, and cultural backgrounds.
6. Build knowledge and skills from year to year.
7. Stress the benefits of abstinence from sexual activity, alcohol, and other drug use.
8. Include accurate information on reducing risk of HIV infection.
9. Address students' own concerns.
10. Include means for evaluation.
11. Be an integral part of a coordinated school health program.
12. Be taught by well-prepared instructors with adequate support.
13. Involve parents and families as partners in education.

The Superintendent shall develop appropriate administrative guidelines to implement this policy. The guidelines of the U.S. Center for Disease Control shall be the major reference.

Evaluation

The Superintendent shall periodically report to the School Board regarding the effectiveness of this policy and make recommendations for revision in response to developments in medical research and treatment.