

Support staff shall be free of tuberculosis or other contagious disease in accordance with existing statutes.

Employees who are trained first aid providers are expected to help out and assist in any emergency situation at any time.

Medical information and records are considered confidential and may not be revealed without written permission of parents or guardians. Disclosure of student personal information by employees, including medical records, is governed by federal and state laws. Confidential information cannot be disclosed by employees to third parties without first securing the written consent of the parent, unless exceptions are set forth in the law.

WORKPLACE

All District employees and volunteers will take all reasonable precautions to avoid direct contact with blood, blood products, or other infectious fluids. Employees are to treat all blood as being infected.

Whenever District employees or volunteers are required to assist ill or injured persons, the following procedures must be followed to minimize direct contact with blood or bodily fluids:

1. Appropriate barrier precautions will be used when contact with blood or other bodily fluids is anticipated. Latex gloves will be worn whenever blood or body fluids, mucous membranes or non-intact skin must be touched. Gloves will also be worn when handling items or surfaces soiled with blood or body fluids. Gloves must be changed whenever a different injured person is treated.
2. Hand and other skin surfaces will be washed with soap and water immediately and thoroughly whenever contaminated with blood or other body fluids.
3. While using, cleaning, or disposing of needles or other sharp objects, extra caution will be taken to prevent accidental injuries.
4. Soiled clothing, uniforms, and linen will be handled as little as possible so as to prevent microbial contamination of air and other persons. Contaminated clothing and cloth materials will be washed separately using hot water and detergent. Dry cleaning may also be used to inactivate known pathogens.

Surfaces that are contaminated with blood will be decontaminated with 10:1 (ten to one) chlorine bleach solution, a seventy percent (70%) alcohol solution, or three percent (3%) hydrogen peroxide solution. Care should be taken to avoid contaminating the solution or the container of the solution. Sufficient contact time (three (3) or five (5) minutes) should be allowed to insure surfaces are adequately disinfected.

St. Maries Joint School District No. 41 will comply with policies and procedures of the Idaho High School Activities Association regarding student athletics to prevent the spread of disease at school. The District will also follow the most current Center of Disease Control's (CDC) "Universal Precautions for Prevention of Transmission of Human Immunodeficiency Virus, Hepatitis B Virus, and Other Blood Borne Pathogens in Health-Care Settings."

School District Food Service will follow Panhandle Health Department guidelines.

Whenever possible, reasonable accommodations will be made for students, staff or faculty who are positively diagnosed with infectious disease. Decisions about an individual who is infected shall be made on a case-by-case basis, relying on the best available scientific evidence and medical advice. An individual infected with a blood-borne disease is also expected not to engage in any practices that would pose a threat of transmission of the virus to others.

CLEAN UP/DISPOSAL

Procedures appropriate for preventing transmission of blood-borne infectious diseases should be rigorously observed.

Any material such as bandages, rags, blankets, pillows, clothing, etc. and personal protective equipment that contacts blood must be accumulated and placed in a bag for proper disposal.

Any used needles and/or sharp instruments must be placed in a hard container labeled as "BIOHAZARD" for proper disposal at a local hospital or clinic prepared to handle these wastes.

HEPATITIS VACCINATION

Although most employees are not "occupationally exposed" there is potential for exposure due to the mere nature of the job and the number of personnel and students in each building. Employees who routinely work in higher risk situations should be vaccinated against Hepatitis B through their individual physicians.

POST EXPOSURE

In the event an employee is exposed to possible infection, the following actions must be taken:

1. Notify building principal or department supervisor.
2. Select a physician of choice to take charge of the situation (i.e. documentation, blood testing, counseling, reporting, etc.).
3. All follow-up actions shall remain confidential.
4. The physician of choice must be given a copy of the Board's policy on blood-borne pathogens, the exposure control plan and the complete OSHA standards.

Policy Cross Reference:

Legal Reference:

The Board acknowledges all or in part: ©2000 Elaine Eberharter-Maki

Policy History:

Adopted:	05/12/1975
Reviewed:	03/13/2006
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