

POLICY

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HORIZON SCHOOL DIVISION HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO MEET ALL APPLICABLE LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL HEALTH, SAFETY STANDARDS AND IS COMMITTED TO WORKING WITH THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

DEFINITION

Communicable disease: a disease listed in schedule 1 of the provincial Communicable Disease Regulation (see attachment)

GUIDELINES

1. The Board is committed to the humane, responsible, and compassionate treatment of infected individuals, as well as balanced and informed consideration of actions necessary for safe and healthy school environments.
2. Alberta's Public Health Act requires that individuals notify the medical officer of health if they have reason to believe a person under their care, custody or supervision or control is infected with a communicable disease.
3. Staff members are responsible for being familiar with which communicable diseases are required to be reported to the medical officer of health.
4. Division procedures and staff practices related to communicable diseases shall comply with the Public Health Act, Occupational Health and Safety Act and the collection, use, and disclosure of health information will be in accordance with the Public Health Act.

REGULATIONS

1. A list of communicable diseases that must be reported to the medical officer of health and their visible signs and symptoms is included in this policy.
2. All staff, contract workers, volunteers, parents, and students shall co-operate with public health officials in preventing the spread of communicable diseases and shall comply with orders that exclude them from attending a school as per orders in legislation or from a medical officer of health

Policy GBEA: Communicable Diseases Cont'd

3. Students with communicable diseases shall be managed in accordance with the direction and opinion provided by the regional health authority's appropriate health official and the Public Health Act.
4. Decisions regarding confidentiality, the type of care, program, and educational setting for students infected with a communicable disease shall be made by the principal in consultation with parents/guardians, appropriate medical personnel, and based on the following considerations:
 - 4.1 the behavior, neurological development and physical condition of the student;
 - 4.2 the expected type of interaction with others at school and school sponsored events;
 - 4.3 the risks and benefits to both the infected child and others in the educational setting; and
 - 4.4 the need to assure proper care of the student.

Attachment 1

Public Health Act Schedule 1 (Notifiable Communicable Diseases) (Section 6(1) of this Regulation; Sections 20(1) and 22(1) of the Act)

Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS)
Amebiasis
Anthrax
Arboviral Infections (including Dengue)
Botulism
Brucellosis
Campylobacter
Cerebrospinal fluid isolates
Chickenpox
Cholera
Congenital Infections (includes Cytomegalovirus, Hepatitis B, Herpes Simplex, Rubella, Toxoplasmosis, Varicella-zoster)
Dengue
Diphtheria
Encephalitis, specified or unspecified
Enteric Pathogens. See note below
Foodborne Illness. See note below
Gastroenteritis, epidemic. See note below
Giardiasis
Haemophilus Influenzae Infections (invasive)
Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome
Hepatitis A, B, Non-A, Non-B
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infections
Kawasaki Disease
Lassa Fever
Legionella Infections
Leprosy
Leptospirosis

Policy GBEA: Communicable Diseases Cont'd

Listeriosis
Malaria
Measles
Meningitis (all causes)
Meningococcal Infections
Mumps
Neonatal Herpes
Nosocomial Infections
Ophthalmia Neonatorum (all causes)
Pandemic Influenza
Paratyphoid
Pertussis
Plague
Poliomyelitis
Psittacosis
Q-fever
Rabies
Reye Syndrome
Rickettsial Infections
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever
Rubella (including Congenital Rubella)
Rubeola
Salmonella Infections
Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)
Shigella Infections
Smallpox
Stool Pathogens, all types. See note below
Tetanus
Toxic Shock Syndrome
Trichinosis
Tuberculosis
Tularemia
Typhoid
Typhus
Varicella
Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers (including Marburg, Ebola, Lassa, Argentinian, African Hemorrhagic Fevers)
Waterborne Illness (all causes) See note below
West Nile Infection
Yellow Fever

NOTE: Enteric Pathogens, Foodborne Illness, Gastroenteritis, epidemic and Waterborne Illness include the following and any other identified or unidentified cause: Aeromonas; Bacillus cereus; Campylobacter; Clostridium botulinum and perfringens; E. Coli (enteropathogenic serotypes); Salmonella; Shigella; Staphylococcus; Viruses such as Norwalk and Rotavirus; Yersinia.