



HOLY FAMILY ROMAN CATHOLIC SEPARATE SCHOOL DIVISION NO. 140

OPERATIONS AND PROCEDURES

CATEGORY: SCHOOL OPERATIONS
 TITLE: STUDENT HEALTH
 CODE: 5124 Communicable Diseases

Reference Matrix	
Education Act (1995)	Sections 85, 87, 109, 141, 175, 178, 190, 231,
Other Related Acts	<i>Public Health Act, 2010; Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (LAFOIP)</i>
Holy Family Related Procedures	OP 5138 Sharing of Information
Holy Family Related Manuals	
Resources (Ministry, SSBA, SCSBA, etc.)	Letter from the Archbishop (Re: Aids); Sask. Health Website Containing Helpful Info: http://www.health.gov.sk.ca/communicable-disease-control-manual
Date Reviewed	January 6, 2016

Background:

The Board of Education is dedicated to a two-fold role in dealing with communicable diseases as defined by *The Public Health Act*:

1. The Board of Education has a responsibility to protect students and employees from risk of contagion by communicable diseases;
2. The Board has a responsibility to assist in the prevention of the spread of communicable diseases by delivering sound education programs that are designed to provide both information and encourage positive lifestyles.

Procedures:

1. General Priorities

- 1.1. In the event that a student or an employee is infected with a communicable disease that may present a significant health risk to others if transmitted, or

where school officials have a reasonable basis to believe that a student's or an employee's physical condition may pose a significant health risk to others, the student or employee will be required to undergo a medical exam by a physician to determine the nature of the physical condition and the extent of the health risk to others.

1.1.1. Such medical exam shall be undertaken with all due haste;

1.1.2. The physician will be requested to consult with the medical health officer and after such consultation, to provide the Director of Education with a medical certificate, stating whether the physical condition or behavior of the student or employee poses a significant threat to the health and welfare of the students or employees of the Division.

1.2. The Director of Education is authorized to determine when there is a reasonable basis to believe that a medical examination may be required of a student or an employee and to direct that such an examination be performed.

1.2.1. In the event that the physician examining a student or an employee determines, in consultation with the medical health officer, that the physical condition or behavior of the student or employee poses a significant threat to the health and welfare of the students or other employees of the Division.

1.2.1.1. The student will be required to withdraw from attendance at school;

1.2.1.2. The medical health officer shall be notified;

1.2.1.3. The Board shall attempt to deliver an education program in a setting that minimizes exposure of others to the communicable disease;

1.2.1.4. The student shall be readmitted to school when the medical health officer produces a written certificate stating that the student's condition no longer poses a risk of contagion in the school environment;

1.2.1.5. The employee will be placed on a leave for medical reasons until the medical health officer produces a written certificate stating that the employee's condition no longer poses a risk of contagion in his/her working environment;

1.2.1.6. Such medical leave will qualify the employee for any sick leave compensation to which he/she may be entitled by virtue of his/her employment contract with the Board.

1.3. Established procedures will be followed that protect those individuals who may be exposed to communicable diseases and are required to handle body fluids.

1.4. School curriculum emphasizes health development throughout a person's lifespan. Instruction will:

- 1.4.1. Help students develop positive self-concepts;
- 1.4.2. Help students make wise and informed decisions about sexuality that enhances their health, happiness and future.

2. Preventive Education

- 2.1. All students will be taught regular health precautions as they are presented in Saskatchewan health curriculum to assist each student to adopt a health enhancing lifestyle and to develop a positive self-concept.
- 2.2. Communicable diseases education, including HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C, is included in the Saskatchewan Health outcomes in Kindergarten to Grade 9. The material used to instruct student learning in this area has been developed by the Ontario Catholic Bishops and has been approved for use in Holy Family classrooms by the Saskatchewan Catholic Bishops. [OP 5124 Appendix 1 Example of HIV/AIDS & Hepatitis C Bishops' Approval Letter](#)

3. Confidentiality

- 3.1. Pursuant to *The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (LAFOIP)* and [OP 5138 Sharing of Information](#), school officials shall be required to maintain absolute confidentiality of medical records of any student or employee who is required to undergo a medical examination or who may be required to withdraw from attendance at school or who may be placed on medical leave pursuant to this policy.

4. Safety Procedures for Handling Body Fluids

- 4.1. Personnel and students will be advised of the risk of transmission of many diseases through the handling of body fluids.
- 4.2. A number of infectious agents including the AIDS virus can be present in blood or body fluids, therefore all schools, regardless of whether people with the AIDS virus infection are attending, must adopt the following routine procedures for handling blood or body fluids:
 - 4.2.1. Clinical gloves will be worn when handling blood and body fluids (especially if open lesions are present on the hands of the caregiver).
 - 4.2.2. Soiled surfaces will be promptly cleaned and disinfected.
 - 4.2.3. Disposable towels or tissues must be used whenever possible, and mops will be rinsed in the disinfectant.

- 4.2.4. Soiled towels, tissues, etc., will be disposed of immediately by being placed in a separate plastic bag, tied, and then disposed.
- 4.2.5. Those who are cleaning should avoid exposure of open skin lesions, eyes and mouth to blood or body fluids.
- 4.3. Respiratory assist masks will be purchased and placed in each first aid kit provided by the Division.
- 4.4. Open lesions on an AIDS infected person must be covered.
- 4.5. Care involving exposure to the infected student's blood and body fluids should be performed by people who are aware of the student's medical condition.