

## **4500 Communicable Disease**

Policy 4500

STATUS: APPROVED

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### *COMMUNICABLE DISEASE*

Board Approved and Codified: April 28, 1986

Last Revised: June 19, 2013; September 2020

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#### Description:

The Board of Education recognizes that communicable diseases present a risk to students, staff and the community. As such, the District and schools will have procedures in place for dealing with students and staff who have contracted an infectious disease.

*COMMUNICABLE DISEASES*

Board Approved and Codified: April 28, 1986

Last Revised: June 14, 2000

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**Description:**

1. Decisions by schools to intervene to prevent the spread of communicable diseases are to be made in collaboration with the Medical Health Officer and the Superintendent of Schools.
  - 1.1. The responsibility for providing medical information and controlling the spread of a communicable disease belongs with Northern Health, specifically with the Medical Health Officer. The School District takes direction from the Medical Health Officer in these situations. It should be noted that the circumstances surrounding each situation are unique and changes to plans may be required by the Medical Health Officer.
2. If a communicable disease is identified and involves significant risk to students, staff or community, the Superintendent of Schools will implement a plan and guidelines as outlined by the Medical Health Officer.
  - 2.1. The School District's role is helping health professionals with the logistics of informing staff, students and parents about procedures.
3. Procedures:
  - 3.1. Staff must be prepared to implement the following procedures immediately, when suspecting a communicable disease of students or staff.
    - 3.1.1. The Principal will contact the Superintendent of Schools.
    - 3.1.2. The Superintendent of Schools will contact the Medical Health Officer regarding the need for activating an action plan.
    - 3.1.3. The Principal will ensure that contact data for all students is up to date.
    - 3.1.4. The Principal will ensure that all students who may have been exposed are identified.
    - 3.1.5. The Superintendent of Schools and the Medical Health Officer will communicate frequently. The Medical Health Officer will give direction on:
      - What the planned response needs to be at the school, district and community level;
      - When and how information should be provided to parents and students.