

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

It is the policy of the School Board to protect the health and safety of students and employees in the school setting.

The Board is responsible for establishing school attendance policies and procedures which consider the best interests of all students.

There are numerous communicable diseases that may affect the school age population and/or school staff. The Indiana State Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identify reportable communicable diseases and conditions for health care, and conditions and diseases of public health significance.

Children with acute or short term communicable diseases, as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and the Indiana Department of Health, may be denied admittance or removed from attendance in the MSD of Wayne Township, as required by state law.

The principal will exclude from all educational services, including home-bound services, any student with a reportable communicable disease, as defined by the State Board of Health, until the suspension or exclusion of such student has ended under the procedures contained in the Indiana Due Process Code and I.C. 20-34-3-9 relating to the control of communicable diseases, and such readmission has been approved as required by law.

All student and personnel health records shall be kept confidential subject to the review and approval of local/state health authorities in accordance with applicable federal and state law.

If a student is suspected of or diagnosed as having a communicable disease as defined by the Center for Disease Control and the Indiana Department of Health, he or she shall be automatically excluded from attending school in the normal setting, subject to the review and approval of the local health authorities, in accordance with applicable federal and Indiana law. Decisions regarding the child's educational program when he/she cannot attend school in a normal setting due to the disease should be made pursuant to federal and state law.

Local and/or state health authorities as required by law shall make the decision concerning school attendance. Pursuant to Indiana law, absenteeism rates of twenty percent (20%) or greater will be reported to the local health department.

The use of "universal precautions" when an employee has direct contact with blood or other body fluids is required. "Universal precautions" are defined as procedures specified by the State Board of Health under I.C. 4-22-2 that are used to prevent the transmission of dangerous communicable diseases through blood or other body fluids. Failure of employees to use universal precautions may result in disciplinary action and dismissal if warranted.

The Superintendent is further authorized to develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy.

I.C. 20-34-3-9

MSD of Wayne Township, Marion County, Indiana

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