



SECTION: 517

TITLE: HIV INFECTION

NESHAMINY SCHOOL DISTRICT

1	I. PURPOSE	The Board is committed to providing a safe, healthy environment for its	1
2		students and employees. The purpose of this policy shall be to safeguard the	2
3		health and well-being of students and employees while protecting the rights	3
4		of the individual.	4
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6		This policy is based on current evidence that the HIV virus is not normally	6
7		transmissible by infected individuals within the school setting, except as	7
8		noted in this policy.	8
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10	II. DEFINITIONS	HIV - refers to the disease caused by the HIV or-human immunodeficiency	10
11		virus.	11
12		CDC - United States Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control.	12
13		INFECTED STUDENTS - refers to students diagnosed as having HIV	13
14		including those who are asymptomatic.	14
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17	III. AUTHORITY	This policy shall apply to all students in all programs conducted by the	17
18		school district.	18
19		The Board directs that the established school rules that relate to illnesses and	19
20		other diseases among students shall also apply to infected students.	20
21	Act 148 of 1990	The Board shall not require routine screening tests for HIV infection in the	21
22		school setting, nor will such tests be a condition for school attendance.	22
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24	IV. DELEGATION	The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible as the central contact	24
25	OF	for handling and releasing all information concerning infected students.	25
26	RESPONSIBILITIES	All district employees shall strive to maintain a respectful school climate and	26
27		to prohibit physical or verbal harassment of any individual or group,	27
28		including infected students.	28
29		All employees shall be required to consistently follow infection control/	29
30		universal precautions in all settings and at all times, including playgrounds	30
31		and school buses. Employees shall notify the building principal	31
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1		POLICY 517 - HIV INFECTION (con't)	1
2		of all incidents of exposure to bodily fluids and when a student's health	2
3		condition or behavior presents a reasonable risk of transmitting	3
4		an infection. On an annual basis, building administrators shall notify	4
5		students, parents, and district employees about current Board Policies	5
6		concerning HIV infection and shall provide reasonable opportunities to	6
7		discuss such policies and concerns.	7
8		The Superintendent or a designee shall report periodically to the Board	8
9		regarding the effectiveness of this policy and shall make recommendations for	9
10		revision in accordance with developments in medical research and treatments.	10
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12	V. GUIDELINES	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	12
13	S.C. 1302	Infected students have the same right to attend school and receive services	13
14		as any other students and shall be subject to the same policies and rules. HIV	14
15		infection shall not factor into decisions concerning class assignments,	15
16		privileges, or participation in any school-sponsored activity.	16
17		First consideration must be given to maintaining the infected student in a	17
18		regular assignment. Any decision for an alternative placement must be	18
19		supported by specific facts and data.	19
20	SC 1310	An infected student who is unable to attend school, as determined by a	20
21		medical examination, shall be considered for homebound instruction or an	21
22		alternative educational placement.	22
23	SC 1329, 1330	An infected student may be excused from school attendance if the parent or	23
24		guardian seeks such excuse based on the advice of medical or psychological	24
25		experts treating the student.	25
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27	ACT 148 of 1990	<u>CONFIDENTIALITY</u>	27
28		The Superintendent or designee shall determine which school personnel will	28
29	Title 22	receive information about an infected student. The number of individuals	29
30	Sec. 27.2	informed of an infected student's status shall be kept to the minimum	30
31		required to assure proper care and supervision of the student as well as to	31
32		protect the school population. Anonymity shall have high priority.	32
33		All district employees who have knowledge of a student's health status have	33
34		a duty to preserve the confidentiality of all information concerning an	34
35		affected student. Serious consequences shall result from a breach of	35
36		confidentiality by an employee. Information about infected students in the	36
37		school setting shall not be disclosed to the general public, undesignated	37
38		school employees or other groups without a court order or the informed,	38
39		written, signed and dated consent of the infected student or his/her	39
40		parent or guardian if a legal minor.	40
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42	SC 1409	All health records, notes and other documents referring to a student's HIV	42
43	Title 28, Sec.27.2	status shall be secured and kept confidential.	43
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2		<u>INFECTION CONTROL</u>	2
3		Universal precautions, as recommended by the CDC, shall be followed for	3
4		exposure to bodily fluids.	4
5		Employees shall treat all bodily fluids as hazardous and follow universal	5
6		precautions.	6
7	OSHA	The school district shall maintain and keep reasonably accessible all	7
8	Guidelines	equipment and supplies necessary for infection control.	8
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10		<u>STAFF DEVELOPMENT</u>	10
11		When scheduled by the Board of School Directors or the Superintendent,	11
12		district employees shall participate in HIV education programs that	12
13		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convey factual and current information. 	13
14		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide guidance on infection control procedures. 	14
15		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform about current law and district policies concerning HIV. 	15
16		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist staff to maintain productive parent and community relations. 	16
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18		Designated district employees may receive additional, specialized training	18
19		appropriate to their positions and responsibilities.	19
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21			21
22	TITLE 22	<u>PREVENTION EDUCATION</u>	22
23	SEC. 5.220	The goals of HIV prevention education shall be to promote healthy living	23
24		and discourage the behaviors that put people at risk of acquiring HIV. The	24
25		educational program shall:	25
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27		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use materials demonstrated by sound research to be effective. 	27
28		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow content guidelines prepared by the Centers for Disease Control. 	28
29		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be appropriate to student's developmental levels. 	29
30		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build knowledge and skills. 	30
31		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stress the benefits of abstinence from sexual activity, alcohol, and other 	31
32		drug use.	32
33		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include accurate information on reducing risk of HIV infection. 	33
34		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address students' own concerns. 	34
35		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include means for evaluation. 	35
36		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be an integral part of a coordinated school health program. 	36
37		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve parents and families as partners in education. 	37
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40	TITLE 22	Parents and guardians shall be provided convenient opportunities to preview	40
41	Sec. 5.220 (c)	all HIV health curricula and materials.	41
42	Pol. 105.1, 105.2		42
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44	RSM/ms		44
45	Approved: 3/25/86		45
46	Revised: 5/17/86		46
47	Revised: 7/26/88		47
48	Revised: 5/25/99		48
49	Reviewed: 9/2003		49

