

KANAWHA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY

Student Health Series J24

Reference: W.Va. Code §§16-3-4, 16-3-4a, 16-3c-1 et seq., 18-2-9, 18-5-15, 18-5-22, 18A-5-1; 126 CSR 51

Issued: 01.19.1989

Revised: 9.23.2019

24.01 Purpose.

Good health and safety are essential to student learning. Kanawha County Schools adopts WV 126 CSR 51, in its entirety, and will follow those established standards in order to ensure student health, prevent disease and educate students and school personnel on communicable diseases. The knowledge of health promotion and disease prevention along with standard/universal precautions, and treatment of communicable diseases will support student success.

24.02 Application.

School nurses, as stated in WV 126 CSR 51, will work with other school personnel, parents and guardians, public health and medical personnel and community leaders to develop health promotion and disease prevention protocols and procedures for the purpose of implementing this policy.

24.03 Definitions.

- (a) Infectious disease or Communicable Disease – a disease which may be transmitted directly or indirectly from one individual to another.
- (b) Health Educators – For the purposes of this policy, health educators include certified health teachers, school nurses and school counselors.

24.04 Compulsory Immunization and Testing for Tuberculosis.

The Office of Health Services shall publish and disseminate to each principal the current state requirements for compulsory immunization and for testing for tuberculosis. Each principal shall be responsible for adherence to such requirements in connection with the enrollment of students. During spring registration of students each principal, working with the school nurse, shall ascertain which children lack required immunization and shall provide parents of such children with a written explanation of state immunization requirements.

24.05 Provisional Admittance.

A student who has been previously enrolled in a school system within this State may be provisionally enrolled for a period of five (5) school days pending receipt of immunization records. Furthermore, a student who is seeking to enroll from a school outside the state and who has received one dose of each required vaccine may be provisionally enrolled pending completion of an immunization schedule designed to fulfill state immunization requirements. Such an immunization schedule shall not exceed 90 days, with the exception of completion of the Hepatitis B immunization which may not exceed 6 months from first Hepatitis B immunization to the third and final Hepatitis B immunization. Any failure to observe such schedule within established time limits will result in the exclusion of such student pending fulfillment of state immunization requirements.

24.06 Confidentiality.

All school personnel privileged with any medical information that pertains to students or staff

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members shall be required to treat all proceedings, discussions and documents as confidential information. Before any medical information is shared with anyone in the school setting a “legitimate educational reason” or “health or safety emergency situation” must exist, all other releases of confidential medical and health information shall be released only with the consent of the parent/guardian, student if over 18, employee or their representative as outlined in W. Va. 126 CSR 94, WVBE Policy 4350, Procedures for the Collection, Maintenance and Disclosure of Student Data and FERPA. The only exception is immunization records, which shall be a public health record to be entered and reviewed annually into WVSIS.

Health information provided to or from the school, is part of the educational record and should be shared with the child’s parents/guardians and pass freely among the school and medical home/health care provider to enhance student health and prevent duplication of services, only after permission is obtained from the student’s parent/guardian.

All reportable communicable diseases will be referred to the local health department, as set forth in West Virginia Bureau for Public Health Legislative Rule 64 CSR 7, Reportable Diseases, Events and Conditions. In the event of a suspected communicable disease outbreak as defined by the Commissioner of Public Health, public schools and/or county boards of education shall release student personally identifiable information to appropriate public health officials as allowable by FERPA’s Health and Safety Emergency Disclosure and W. Va. 126 CSR 94, WVBE Policy 4350, Procedures for the Collection, Maintenance and Disclosure of Student Data.

24.07 Disease Prevention through Health Education.

Instruction on the principle modes by which communicable diseases, including, but not limited to, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) are prevented, spread and transmitted shall be taught to students as outlined in W. Va. 126 CSR 44E, WVDE Policy 2520.5, Next Generation Health Education Content Standards and Objectives. Health Educators are required to teach this disease prevention using an adopted curriculum and modes of instruction that fulfills the state content standards.

24.08 Health Education/Parental Examination of Course Curriculum Requirements and Materials.

An opportunity shall be afforded to the parent or guardian of a child subject to instruction in the prevention, transmission and spread of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases to examine the course curriculum requirements and materials to be used in such instruction. A parent or guardian may exempt such child from participation of such instruction by giving written notice to the principal of the school where their child is enrolled, as set forth in W. Va. Code §18-2-9.

24.09 In-service Training Programs for School Personnel

In accordance with pertinent state guidelines training programs on the prevention (including environmental sanitation), transmission, spread and treatment of current communicable diseases, including but not limited to, HIV/AIDS, shall be provided for all school personnel. Notice of such

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training sessions shall be published in a manner calculated to encourage parents to attend such training sessions.

24.10 Universal Precautions Requirement.

Distinctions will be made related to diseases that are communicable in the school setting versus those known not to be spread by casual contact, such as AIDS, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and other like diseases. W.Va. 126 CSR 51.

24.11 Exclusion of Students with Infectious Diseases.

The administrator or school nurse shall exclude from the school any pupil known to have or suspected of having any infectious disease known to be spread by casual contact and is considered to be a health threat to the school population. The superintendent has the authority to exclude a staff member from school when reliable evidence or information from a qualified source confirms him/her of having a potential communicable disease that is known to be spread by any form of casual contact and is considered a health threat to the school population. Such a student or staff member shall be excluded in accordance with guidelines of AAP, CDC and WVDHHR unless his/her physician approved school attendance and the condition is no longer considered contagious. W.Va. 126 CSR 51.

24.12 Exclusion of Students with Severe Emotional Problems. Any student who exhibits behavior which creates a reasonable suspicion that such student is suffering from an emotional problem which may be manifested in dangerous conduct, may be excluded from school pending receipt of a Psychological/Psychiatric evaluation which indicates that the student does not present a threat of dangerous conduct within the school setting. Examples of behavior which may serve as a basis of exclusion include: threats of physical harm towards self or others; acts of violence; extreme agitation or loss of control; indications of poor contact with reality; or, possession of dangerous weapons. This section shall not apply to students who have been identified as handicapped and who are receiving services provided by the Department of Exceptional Students.

24.13 Educational Services/Excluded Students.

Any absence from school pursuant to Sections 24.11 and 24.12 of this policy shall be regarded as an "excused absence" pursuant to Kanawha County Board of Education Policy Series J19. In any case of prolonged absence occasioned by an exclusion pursuant to Sections 24.11 and 24.12 of this policy, an alternative educational program shall be developed and implemented by the division of division of Curriculum and Instruction, in collaboration with the department of School Health Services.

24.14 First Aid. First aid materials shall be maintained in each school. It shall be the responsibility of the school nurse to replenish such supplies as needed. First aid supplies shall be kept in a location not accessible to students. In addition to the first aid materials, the school shall supply protective gloves to be available in each classroom and personnel work area. Such gloves shall be worn in anytime the administration of first aid involves contact with blood or other body fluids.