

BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

Staff and students incur some risk of infection and illness each time they are exposed to bodily fluids or other potentially infectious materials. While the risk to staff and students of exposure to body fluids due to casual contact with individuals in the school environment is very low, the Board regards any such risk as serious.

Consequently, the Board directs adherence to universally recognized precautions. Universally recognized precautions require that staff and students approach infection control as if all direct contact with human blood and body fluids is known to be infectious for HIV, HBV, HCV and/or other bloodborne pathogens.*

To reduce the risk to staff and students by minimizing or eliminating staff exposure incidents to bloodborne pathogens, the Board directs the Superintendent to develop and implement an exposure control plan. This plan must be reviewed and updated at least annually in accordance with Federal law.

The plan includes annual in-service training for staff and students; first-aid kits in each school building and each student transportation vehicle; correct procedures for cleaning up body fluid spills and for personal cleanup.

Training is followed by an offer of immunization with hepatitis B vaccine for all staff who are required to provide first aid to students and/or staff. The vaccine is also offered to all staff who have occupational exposure as determined by the administrator.

[Adoption date: August 14, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: April 3, 2006]

[Re-adoption date: January 10, 2011]

LEGAL REFS.: 29 CFR 1910.1030
ORC 3707.26
Public Employment Risk Reduction Act; ORC 4167.01 et seq.

CROSS REF.: EBBA, First Aid
EBC, Emergency/Safety Plans
GBEA, HIV/AIDS (Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) (Also JHCCA)
JHCC, Communicable Diseases

* Bloodborne pathogens are pathogenic micro-organisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. These include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).