

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (Students)

The board recognizes the need and right of all children to receive free and appropriate education. The board further recognizes its responsibility to provide a healthy environment for all students and school employees.

Students are afflicted with a communicable, contagious, or infectious disease and who are infected with communicable parasites, or who are liable to transmit such a disease or parasite, may be excluded from school attendance.

A determination of whether an infected student should be excluded from the classroom or school activities shall be made by the superintendent and building principal with the concurrence of the State Department of Health. In situations where the superintendent or his designee requires additional knowledge and expertise, they will refer the case to a team for assistance in the decision-making.

The team may be composed of:

- A. The State Health Department representative as provided by SDCL 34-1-14 (2).
- B. The student's physician.
- C. The student's parents or guardians.
- D. The superintendent and/or designees.
- E. The school nurse.

In making the determination, the team shall consider:

- A. The behavior, developmental level, and physical condition of the student.
- B. The expected type(s) of interaction with others in the school setting.
- C. The impact on both the infected student and others in that setting.
- D. The South Dakota Department of Health guidelines.

The team will officially request assistance from the State Health Department.

If an infected student is not permitted to attend classes or participate in school activities, the district will provide the student with an appropriate education program. If that requires personal contact between the student and school employees, only trained employees shall be utilized. Public information will not be revealed about the student who may be infected.

If the student is permitted to remain in the school setting, the following procedure will be followed by the superintendent/principal. Public information will not be revealed about any student who may be infected. If the student is permitted to remain in the school setting, information will be provided, as appropriate, to school employees who have regular contact with the student, as to the student's medical condition and others factors needed for consideration in carrying out job responsibilities.

If a student is excluded from school because of a communicable disease, that student shall remain at home until the physician states that they may return.

It shall be the duty of the Superintendent to establish regulations in accordance with this policy. The regulations shall contain infection control practices to be observed within the schools and may include guidelines to be used as a resource in determinations related to school attendance.

Adopted	08/11/87
Reviewed	05/24/88
Revised	04/12/94
Revised	06/13/00
Revised	05/23/16

Legal Reference:

SDCL 34-22-12 – Mandatory communicable disease reports from physicians, laboratories, and institutions—State tuberculosis register—Surveillance and control—Adoption of rules.
SDCL 13-28-7.3 – Exclusion of student for risk of infectious disease or communicable parasite—Readmission.