

SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SRSD File: JLCCA

STUDENTS WITH HIV/AIDS

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to articulate the rights and responsibilities of students diagnosed with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). Further, this policy defines the precautions which shall be taken at each school, the testing requirements for this disease and/or infections, and the procedure for review of this policy.

Statement of Policy

The Sanborn Regional School Board recognizes the public concern over the spread of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) caused by the Human Immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and the enrollment of students who are HIV- positive. The board also recognizes the rights of those individuals to continue their education.

The school board also recognizes that HIV is not transmitted by casual, everyday contact, but is most often spread through sexual contacts and sharing contaminated needles, activities which are prohibited at school. Therefore, students who are HIV-positive will attend the school and classroom(s) to which they would be assigned were they not affected. They will be extended all rights, privileges, and services accorded to other students.

Notification

For the protection of their affected child, it is recommended that parents of HIV-positive students should promptly notify the nurse at their child's school of the student's HIV status. Such notice would then allow for the school nurse to be able to notify the student's parents if there is a communicable disease at the school which poses a serious risk to the HIV-positive student.

Confidentiality

The school nurse will not notify any other person of the affected student's HIV status without the consent of the student, if over the age of eighteen (18), or at least one of the student's parents/guardians. The school nurse will treat this information as highly confidential. The student's health record will be kept by the school nurse under "confidential" status in the SNAP computerized health program, and hard copy records will be kept in a locked file in the Health Office.

All staff members who know the identity of persons infected with HIV or AIDS shall treat said information as confidential. No information will be divulged directly or indirectly to any individuals or groups, except as noted in Section III (A) - (B). All medical information and written documentation of discussions, telephone conversations, proceedings, and meetings concerning the HIV or AIDS infection shall be maintained in a locked file. Access to said file shall be granted only to those persons who have the written consent of the infect person or his/her parents or guardians. The names of infected persons shall not be used in documents, except when essential. No document containing the name or other information that reveals the identity of an infected person may be shared with any person for any

purposes without the consent of the infected person or the infected person's parents or guardians. Any School staff member who violates the confidentiality provisions of Section III shall be subject to discipline. Test results and medical records shall be disclosed only with the consent of the infected person (or that person's parent if he is a minor), pursuant to a subpoena or order of a court or administrative agency, or otherwise in accordance with law.

Evaluating Students Infected with HIV

HIV-positive students are more susceptible to communicable diseases than HIV-negative students. Parents of HIV-positive students must understand that their child will be exposed to communicable diseases when attending school. Parents should consult with the child's physician about these risks.

Precautions

Since all body fluids from all persons are considered potentially infectious, SRSD policy EBBA-R will be followed at all time.

Testing

Mandatory screening for communicable diseases that are not spread by casual, everyday contact, such as HIV, shall not be a condition for school attendance. Information about counseling and testing sites will be posted in the school nurse/health office.

Review

This policy will be reviewed at least biennially by the Sanborn Regional School Board with input from the Sanborn Regional School District nurses and modified as needed according to current information concerning risk assessment and prevention of HIV transmissions.

Health Education

The Board recognizes that HIV/AIDS education should be integrated into the health and family life curriculum, but may also be applied to other curriculum areas.

The District's HIV/AIDS education program must address, at a minimum, the nature, transmission, prevention, and effects of the disease. The program shall take into consideration the age and maturity of the pupils and the subject matter of the course.

Development of the program should take into account the instructional needs of all pupils in the District and be scientifically, legally, and educationally sound.

The Superintendent shall ensure that all staff involved in teaching the HIV/AIDS education program are properly certified and adequately prepared to teach the material. As necessary, appropriate staff training shall be provided. All employees shall have training in Universal Precautions.

Legal References:

- RSA 186:11, IX, Instruction as to Intoxicants and Venereal Disease
- RSA 186:11, IX-a, AIDS Instructional Material
- RSA 189:1-a, Duty to Provide Education
- RSA 186-C, Special Education

RSA 193:1, Duty of Parent; Compulsory Attendance by Pupil
RSA 193:3, Change of School or Assignment, Manifest Educational Hardship or Best Interest,
Excusing Attendance
National Association of State Boards of Education, Someone at School Has AIDS, 2001
www.aids.gov/basic/index.html

History:

Effective: April, 1986
Revised: October 7, 1992
Revised: November 4, 1992
Revised: November 3, 1997
Revised: January 21, 2004
Revised: January 23, 2019