

NORTHEASTERN CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Policy
F-20

Authority
99-106

HEALTH PROTECTION PROCEDURES FOR INFECTIOUS/COMMUNICABLE DISEASES - AIDS

POLICY STATEMENT

In accordance with the Gospel message and the lived expression of a Christian humanity rooted in faith, it is the hope of the Northeastern Catholic District School Board as expressed in this policy, that all those who are involved in any way with our educational community, will manifest to all health sufferers, the care and compassion that are the right of all such people.

The Board further recognizes its responsibilities to have a Christian response in place for the protection of the health and safety of staff and students, and for the support of all concerned. Two Gospel values essential to this response are the dignity and rights of the person; and the compassionate application of policy. The Board supports the need for clear, Christian procedures which address first aid, blood and body fluid precaution and responses to infectious/communicable diseases such as AIDS and HEPATITIS B.

The Board also affirms its intention to cooperate with the Medical Officer of Health, in conformity with the ACTS & REGULATIONS in drafting and implementing these procedures.

The Board recognizes the need that the policy regulations and procedures dealing with infectious/communicable diseases be reviewed annually as more medical knowledge becomes available and as the moral and pastoral implications of this knowledge becomes clearer.

POLICY REGULATIONS

1. In the spirit of the philosophy expressed in the General Policy Statement, the AIDS programme as developed by the Institute for Catholic Education will be integrated into the curriculum through the Family Life, Religious Education and Physical Education and Health Studies. With the stress on values, morals and physical health in these subjects, the AIDS education programme will have an excellent opportunity to succeed in shaping and developing behaviours that will promote a healthier life style for all people.
2. In all cases of decisions related to Board policy on AIDS patients, the Board will consider the direction of the Medical Officer of Health.

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3. The Board will maintain the right of a student with AIDS to attend a regular class for as long as he or she is able, without risk to self or others as determined by the Medical Officer of Health.
4. The Board will maintain the right of a staff member with Aids to remain in his or her position as long as the Medical Officer of Health approves of the employee's presence in the workplace and as long as he or she is able to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the position.
5. As long as a student with AIDS is attending school with the approval of the Medical Officer of Health, it is the responsibility of a teacher under the Education Act and Board Policy to teach such a student.
6. When the Medical Officer of Health determines that a student can no longer be present in a regular school placement, the Board shall provide an alternate educational programme.
7. Only those teachers who agree to do so, will be placed on an assignment as described in 1.2.
8. Students who are withdrawn from an AIDS patient's class by parents shall not be provided with alternate learning situations by this Board.
9. As long as a staff member with AIDS continues to carry out the duties and responsibilities of his or her position with the approval of the Medical Officer of Health it is the responsibility of all other staff to continue to cooperate and work with such a staff member.
10. In those cases where a staff member has a communicable disease and students are withdrawn from the class by parents, the Board will not provide alternate learning situations for those students.

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11. Health Care Procedures - Handling Blood & Body Fluids

11.1 Whenever possible, wear gloves.

RINSE all blood-contacted areas with an acceptable universal precautions cleaner such as Pro-fil 12 or Bio-clean II. WASH with soap and water all skin which has come into contact with blood or body fluids.

11.2 If pressure is needed on a wound before gloves can be put on, use an article of clothing or any other clean soft material between the wound and hand and apply pressure.

RINSE all blood-contacted areas with an acceptable universal precautions cleaner such as Pro-fil 12 or Bio-Clean II.

WASH with soap and water all skin which has come into contact with blood or body fluids.

11.3 The Board will provide the first allotment of the following for each first aid centre.

- plastic disposable gloves (12 pairs)
- universally accepted solution
- chart to be posted in health room with procedures for handling blood and body fluids.

11.4 Each school will provide from the school budget all replacements of these first aid supplies.