



Administrative Procedure: AIDS

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Statutory Obligation To Report

The Education Act, Section 266 (k) states that the Principal of a school must report promptly to the Board and Medical Officer of Health (M.O.H.) when he or she has reason to suspect the existence of any infections or contagious disease in the school. This requirement includes both students and staff members. It is only the Principal who is required to report.

The report to the M.O.H. must be made personally by the Principal and should give whatever factual information is required by the M.O.H. The Principal also must report to the Director of Education, who will determine, in consultation with the Principal, who, if anyone else, should be advised. The Principal will continue to receive advice as required, in order to respond to specific requests from the person with AIDS and to deal with other related concerns or questions which may arise.

Except for the above obligation to report, the principal is bound by the requirement of confidentiality which has been described.

1. The Board will ensure the right to privacy to any employee infected with AIDS.

2. No-one, including a staff member, student, or parent or guardian, is required to disclose the fact that he or she has tested positive for HIV or has any stage of AIDS.
3. Pupils, teachers, principals, administrators, trustees, parents and the public at large, have no need nor right to know of the presence of the HIV or AIDS virus in a staff person or student.
4. All persons in the employ of the Board are obliged to maintain strict confidentiality with reference to any knowledge or opinion regarding the presence of AIDS in a student or staff member.
5. A person, a student's parents or guardians, or the Medical Officer of Health may choose to disclose this information. Should this occur, the strict obligation of confidentiality will be relaxed sufficiently to permit the exercise of whatever support and assistance that has been requested, and which the Board is able to provide, but only on a "need to know" basis.

Staff Member with AIDS

1. In all cases of decisions related to Board policy on AIDS patients, the Board will comply with the direction of the Medical Officer of Health.
2. The Board will maintain the right of a staff member with AIDS to remain in his/her position as long as the Medical Officer of Health approves of the employee's presence in the workplace and as he/she is able to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the position.
3. Where the staff member is a teacher infected with AIDS and students are withdrawn from his/her class by parents, the Board will not provide alternate learning programs for those students.

Students With AIDS

1. The Board will maintain the right of a student with AIDS to attend regular classes, as long as the student is able, without risk to self or others as advised by the Medical Officer of Health.
2. When it becomes necessary or when a student with AIDS requests delivery of educational service in a way other than the current classroom placement, appropriate arrangements will be made, taking into consideration the resources of the Board and the needs and health of that student and the health of other students.

Health Care Procedures For Handling Bodily Fluids

1. Objects or surfaces which are visibly soiled with blood/body fluids of any persons, should be wiped clean with soap and water and then disinfected with a bleach solution. A freshly prepared 1:10 dilution of household bleach in water is recommended as the disinfectant.
 - a. The person doing the cleaning should wear disposable gloves to avoid exposure of open sores and/or broken mucous membranes. These gloves should be washed before being disposed in the garbage.
2. Disposable materials such as paper towels should be used.
3. If a mop is used, it should be rinsed in disinfectant before being used again.

Administering First Aid

1. In an emergency situation, preliminary first aid should be administered. As soon as possible, thereafter, all blood/body fluids should be washed off in hot, soapy water.
2. It should be emphasized that careful hand-washing is an effective and reliable precaution. Disposable gloves should be worn, to avoid exposure of open sores and/or broken mucous membranes. If blood/body fluids do come into contact with an open sore, it should be washed promptly in hot soapy water.