

1 **3417 STUDENTS**

2 Communicable Diseases

3 In all proceedings related to this policy, the District will respect a student’s right to privacy. Although the
4 District is required to provide educational services to all school-age children who reside within its
5 boundaries, it may deny attendance at school to any child diagnosed as having a communicable disease
6 that could make a child’s attendance harmful to the welfare of other students. The District also may deny
7 attendance to a child with suppressed immunity in order to protect the welfare of that child when others
8 in a school have an infectious disease, which, although not normally life threatening, could be life
9 threatening to a child with suppressed immunity.

10 The Board recognizes that communicable diseases which may afflict students range from common
11 childhood diseases, acute and short-term in nature, to chronic, life-threatening diseases such as human
12 immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. The District shall rely on the advice of the public health and
13 medical communities in assessing the risk of transmission of various communicable diseases to determine
14 how best to protect the health of both students and staff.

15 Management of common communicable diseases will be in accordance with Montana Department of
16 Health guidelines and communicable diseases control rules. A student who exhibits symptoms of a
17 communicable disease which is readily transmitted in the school setting may be temporarily excluded
18 from school attendance.

19 Students who complain of illness at school may be referred to the responsible person designated by the
20 Superintendent and may be sent home as soon as the parent or person designated on the student’s
21 enrollment card has been notified.

22 The District reserves the right to require a statement from the student’s primary care provider authorizing
23 the student’s return to school. In all proceedings related to this policy, the District shall respect the
24 student’s right to privacy.

25 When information is received by a staff member or volunteer that a student is afflicted with a serious
26 communicable disease, the staff member or volunteer shall promptly notify the responsible person
27 designated by the Superintendent to determine appropriate measures to protect student and staff health
28 and safety. The responsible person designated by the Superintendent, after consultation with and on the
29 advice of public health officials, shall determine which additional staff members, if any, have need to know
30 of the affected student’s condition.

31 Only those persons with direct responsibility for the care of the student or for determining appropriate
32 educational accommodation will be informed of the specific nature of the condition, if it is determined
33 there is a need for such individuals to know this information.

34 Parents of other children attending the school may be notified that their child has been exposed to a
35 communicable disease without identifying the particular student who has the disease.

36 Note: For purposes of this policy, the term “communicable disease” refers to the diseases identified in
37 16.28.202, ARM, Reportable Diseases, with the exception of common colds and flu.

- 1 Cross Reference:
- 2 Policy 3410 – Student Health
- 3 Policy 3413 – Student Immunization
- 4 Policy 3416 – Administering Medication
- 5 Policy 3418 – Life Threatening Allergies/Medical Conditions
- 6 Policy 3431 – Emergency Treatment

- 7 Legal Reference:
- 8 37.114.101,et seq., ARM Communicable Disease Control

- 9 Policy History:
- 10 Adopted on: July 1, 2000
- 11 Revised on: November 24, 2014