Gooding Jt. School District 231

NONINSTRUCTIONAL OPERATIONS **3520C**

Contagious or Infectious Diseases During Health Emergency

Symptoms of Illness

Students who are ill, feeling ill, diagnosed as ill, or otherwise demonstrating symptoms of illness must not come to school.

Students who have a fever or exhibit other signs of illness while at school must be isolated in a designated area until such time as the student's parent/guardian may arrive at the school to retrieve the ill student. To the best of the District's ability, all surfaces and areas touched by the student should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected by a designated staff once the student has vacated the area. Students may engage in alternative delivery of education services during the period of illness or be permitted to make up work in accordance with Policy 3050.

Parents/guardians or caregivers of students who are ill, feeling ill, diagnosed as ill, or otherwise demonstrating symptoms of illness must not be present at the school for any reason including but not limited to gatherings or to drop off or pick up students except as provided by this policy. To avoid exposing others to illness, parents/guardians who are ill must make arrangements with others to transport students to school events, if at all practicable. If not practicable, parents/guardians must not leave their vehicle during pickup or drop off and must arrange with the District staff to accompany the student to the vehicle in accordance with physical distancing guidelines.

The District encourages parents/guardians to keep students home from school in accordance with CDC quarantine recommendations if the student has been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19. The student may be provided with instruction as described in Policy 2370C.

Student Arrival

Hand hygiene stations will be available at the entrance of any school building, so that children can clean their hands before they enter. If a sink with soap and water is not available, the District will provide hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol. Hand sanitizer will be kept out of elementary students' reach and student use will be supervised by staff.

A District employee will greet children outside the school as they arrive to ensure orderly compliance with the provisions of this policy.

Non-Invasive Daily Health Screening

All parents will verify daily that their children are not exhibiting fever or other signs of illness prior to arriving at school. If a child appears to exhibit signs of illness or fever throughout the day, they must be sent to the front office to be screened by a designated staff member.

Students who have a fever or are exhibiting other signs of illness must be isolated in a designated area until such time as a parent or caregiver may arrive at the school to retrieve the student. To the best of the District's ability, all surfaces and areas touched by the student should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected by a designated staff member once the student has vacated the area. Such sanitizing should be carried out by staff utilizing safety measures in accordance with state and/or local health standards as applicable.

The District is required to provide educational services to all school age children who reside within its boundaries. Attendance at school may be denied to any child diagnosed as having a contagious or infectious disease that could make the child's attendance harmful to the welfare of other students. In the instance of diseases causing suppressed immunity, attendance may be denied to a child with suppressed immunity, in order to protect the welfare of the child with suppressed immunity when others in the school have an infectious disease which, although not normally life threatening, could be life threatening to the child with suppressed immunity.

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

Management of common communicable diseases will be in accordance with Idaho Department of Health and Welfare guidelines and communicable diseases control rules.

Students who complain of illness at school may be referred to the school nurse or other responsible person designated by the Board and may be sent home as soon as the parent or person designated on the student's emergency medical authorization form comes to retrieve them.

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

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

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

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

Pediculosis (Head Lice)

Pediculosis is the infestation of the hair, skin, or pubic area with adult lice, larvae, or nits (eggs).

The psychological, social, and economic impact of head lice infestations can create a problem in the community. Every attempt will be made to educate students and parents on the prevention and eradication of head lice before and after an infestation is detected.

To avoid embarrassment and to contain the infestation, whole classrooms will be checked for head lice upon the report of possible infestation by a classroom teacher. The principal, his or her designee, school nurse, or another qualified professional will examine the child in question and their classmates. Siblings of students found with lice and their classmates will also be checked if there is the suspicion that infestation may exist. Due to the possible and very probable epidemic infestation of head lice in the school environment, anyone exhibiting head lice will be isolated immediately.

Any student found to have head lice will be removed from the classroom with their belongings. The parent/guardian and/or listed emergency contact will be contacted so they can pick up the student and begin treatment immediately. A student suspected of infestation will not ride the bus. The student will be held in the front office or the nurse's office until the parent/guardian arrives in order to avoid further infestation.

Parents/guardians should be provided with printed educational information on head lice treatment. The educational material should include details explaining the problem, and list the procedures for treatment and requirements for reentering school.

The student may return to school after being successfully treated so that no live lice or eggs are detected by the school nurse or a designated school official. The student's parent/guardian must accompany the student upon their return to school and remain present during the recheck. With the presence of nits or lice at the time of recheck, the student will continue to be excluded from school.

In the interest of the health and welfare of students enrolled in the District, no student will be permitted to attend classes if they are infested with head lice or the eggs of head lice.

All other children in the classroom where lice or nits have been reported will be checked and given a letter to take home explaining the situation and the need for parents to inspect their

children carefully. Any child who is suspected of having lice will be treated with the utmost discretion.
Legal Reference: I.C. § 33-512 District Trustees - Governance of Schools

Policy History:
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