

COMMUNICABLE/INFECTIOUS DISEASE POLICY

Communicable disease is defined as: a disease or condition that may cause serious illness, serious disability or death, the infectious agent of which may pass or be carried, directly or indirectly, from the body of one person to the body of another or through a contaminated food or food product.

Students with a diagnosed communicable disease or with symptoms of a communicable disease or an undiagnosed skin rash will be temporarily excused from school. The parent/guardian or emergency contact will be notified and asked to take the student from school whenever possible. While the student is waiting at school, the student will be isolated from other students.

Students who have a fever of 100 degrees or higher, are vomiting, or have diarrhea, will be sent home.

The school administration may communicate with parents and/or exclude any student who poses a public health threat [MRSA 20-A § 6301 (2)].

The school will notify the Maine Bureau of Health of any reportable disease. [MRSA 20-A § 6301 (5-A)] The list of reportable communicable diseases can be found at <http://www.state.me.us/dhs/boh/ddc/Disease/20Reporting.htm>.

Students returning to school after a diagnosed communicable disease should be symptom free for at least 24 hours unless the primary care provider provides written documentation approving school attendance before symptoms have abated.

**First Reading: 1/24/11
Second Reading: 2/14/11**