

HIV and AIDS

The Board of Education recognizes the various state and federal safeguards, rights and responsibilities regarding HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) and AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome). In addressing issues in this area, the district shall seek information and assistance, as appropriate, from agencies such as the United States Centers for Disease Control, the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and the New York State Department of Health and Education Department. It is the goal of the district to provide a healthy and safe environment in which students and staff can learn and work.

Nondiscrimination

The district shall not discriminate against any student or staff member on the basis of AIDS or HIV infection. The district shall not consider AIDS or HIV infection in hiring or promoting staff. A student cannot be denied the opportunity to attend school, continue his or her education, or take part in school-related programs, services and activities solely on the basis of having been diagnosed with AIDS or HIV infection.

Confidentiality

The medical condition of all students and staff is confidential information. Current law strictly limits the disclosure of confidential information about AIDS and HIV. Release of such information is contingent on obtaining a signed authorization or a special court order.

Curriculum

Educational information on AIDS and HIV infection shall be presented in accordance with the duly adopted curriculum and in accordance with the commissioner's regulations for mandated instruction in this area. Students may be excused from instruction concerning the methods of preventing AIDS if their parent or legal guardian files a written request with the building principal and gives assurances that such instruction will be given at home.

Infectious disease control

The district shall comply with OSHA standards which require public employers to develop, implement and evaluate exposure-control plans to eliminate or minimize

employees' exposure to blood-borne diseases, and to use various methods of compliance to protect workers, including training in universal precautions.

Administrative regulations and procedures

The superintendent shall develop, maintain, distribute and implement regulations and procedures relating to AIDS and HIV infection, in order to comply with state and federal law and to ensure consistency of district regulations, procedures, curriculum and practices with information and recommendations of the appropriate state and federal agencies.

Prior Policy 4315.1 "AIDS Instruction" adopted Feb. 26, 1996; Prior Policy 5424 "Human Immunodeficiency Virus and Related Disease" adopted Feb. 26, 1996; prior policies 4315.1 and 5424 combined, re-numbered 0150, title changed to "HIV and AIDS" and amended Dec. 20, 2004.

Cross-reference:

4315 Health Education

Required Local Notice