

BROOKLIN SCHOOL COMMITTEE

POLICY NUMBER: 10.19I

Adopted: 8/26/91

Previous Revision: 2/9/99, 08/08/06

Revised: 5/10/11

STUDENTS WITH HIV/AIDS

1. The purpose of this policy is to establish the actions that shall be taken in the event that Brooklin School officials are made aware that a student being enrolled or attending the Brooklin School is infected with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). This policy has been adopted to assure that the rights and safety of all involved parties are protected.
2. In general, the School Committee shall provide educational opportunities for students infected with HIV just as it does for other students.
3. In the event that the student's private physician perceives a public health threat and the student's private physician notifies Brooklin School officials, or if the parents/guardians of a student infected with HIV notify school officials of a concern about the safety of that student, other students or staff, the Maine Center for Disease Control must be notified and will then conduct an evaluation. At any time that there is a concern that a particular student poses a public health threat to others, the Superintendent shall seek the advice of the school physician and the Maine Center for Disease Control. The Superintendent may also consult on a strictly confidential basis with the school attorney.
4. If the Maine Center for Disease Control determines that conditions exist which suggest that a student with a Human Immunodeficiency Virus infection is a health threat to the school community, the Maine Center for Disease Control and/or the Superintendent shall remove the student from the usual classroom setting until other arrangements can be made or until the Maine Center for Disease Control determines that the risks have abated. The health status of a student temporarily removed from the usual school setting in order to protect the health of the student or others will be re-evaluated at least quarterly by the Maine Center for Disease Control.
5. Maine law protects the confidentiality of health records and HIV test results with certain statutory exceptions. Blood borne pathogen test results may not be disclosed to anyone other than the Maine Center for Disease Control without written consent of parents/guardians. Records containing such test results or other related information shall be kept separate from other school records. Only those persons given written consent by the student's parents/guardians shall have access.

6. With written consent of the parents/guardians, the school shall designate an individual or team to:
 - A. Serve as the liaison between the school and the student's parents, the student's physician and, if necessary, the Maine Center for Disease Control; and/or
 - B. Serve as the supervisor of the medical component of the student's educational experience.
7. Any team member or individual entrusted with the knowledge of a student infected with HIV must, by law, keep his/her knowledge of that child's status confidential. Access to information about the child's condition shall be limited only to those persons authorized in writing by the student's parents/guardians.
8. At the parents'/guardians' written request, the School Nurse will, to the extent practicable, notify the student's parents/guardians and/or the student's physician of infections occurring in the school population that place an immunodeficient student at increased risk. The decision whether or not to remove the student from school will be made by the parents/guardians and the student's physician.
9. Because of the inability to identify individuals who may be infected with HIV or other agents transmissible through blood and other body fluids, standard procedures shall be followed for cleaning and disinfecting all body fluid spills. The Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan for cleaning bodily fluid spills shall be reviewed annually by all school staff members.
10. School staff will seek to provide educational programs to inform parents/guardians, students and staff regarding AIDS and all other communicable diseases even though there may not be students with infection currently enrolled.

Reference: 5 MRSA § 19201 et seq.