

K-12 HIV EDUCATION IN THE DISTRICT

The Board of Trustees is committed to equal opportunities for all students and employees of Laramie County School District No. 2. Equal educational opportunity is a fundamental civil right of all students as addressed by state and federal statutes. Any student with a health or handicapping condition must be educated in the “least restrictive environment” to receive a free and appropriate education. In preserving the rights and safety of students and employees of the district, no exception, including AIDS, may preclude this basic right.

- A. Any employee or student in Laramie County School District No. 2 diagnosed by a physician or by a verified test as having AIDS, HIV infection, or other blood-borne diseases, is encouraged to report or have his/her parents or guardian report that fact confidentially to the principal of his/her school or the principal’s designee. Reporting is not mandatory but is strongly recommended.

- B. Employment rights for employees and education opportunities for students who are infected with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) shall be protected.
 - 1. For students, this shall include, to the extent that health permits, attendance in regular class settings with all the rights, privileges, and services that are provided to the other students.
 - 2. When health does not permit, AIDS shall be considered a health-impaired condition and education shall be provided following the rules and procedures of Section 504.
 - 3. For employees, being HIV positive shall not be a restriction to employment. The individual shall be treated as any other employee with a health-related impairment.

- C. Being HIV positive is the specific concern of the patient and the physician and, in the case of a minor student, the parent and/or legal guardian.
 - 1. To the extent possible, HIV test results will not be disclosed to any third party without consent of the patient and/or parents/guardians, except as required by law or when determined to be necessary for medical reasons.
 - 2. Records containing this information shall be kept separate from other school records.
 - 3. Records containing this information shall be in a secure location.
 - 4. A designated person must maintain the confidential records.
 - 5. The rights of the individual to privacy must be considered at all times.

People infected with HIV may develop immunodeficiency which increases their risk of severe complications from most infections; therefore, students or staff should be excused, upon written request, from mandated vaccines.

- D. AIDS is a reportable, sexually transmitted disease (STD); therefore, the county health officer and/or the state health officer or AIDS state program coordinator must be notified to evaluate the situation.

Adoption Date: June 11, 2007