Subject: Infectious Diseases
Effective Date: May 24, 2013
Approved By: Board of Directors
Policy: 5004.1

The Empire Springs Board of Directors desires to protect students from risks posed by exposure to infectious diseases while providing an appropriate education for all students. The Superintendent's designee shall determine whether to admit a student with an infectious disease and shall exclude students only in accordance with law. In making this determination, the designee shall consult the student's parents/guardians, the student's physician, and/or the county health department in accordance with law and consistent with confidentiality provisions.

Because blood borne pathogens such as hepatitis B virus, hepatitis C virus, and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) are not casually transmitted, the sole presence of blood borne pathogens is not sufficient reason to exclude students from attending school.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to inform the designee if their child has an infectious disease so that school staff may work cooperatively with the student's parent/guardians to minimize the child's exposure to other diseases in the school setting. The designee shall ensure that student confidentiality rights are strictly observed in accordance with law. No school employee shall release medical information, including knowledge of a blood borne pathogen infection, without written consent from the parent/guardian or adult student. Such information shall be shared only with those persons specifically named in the written permission.

The Board requires students and staff to routinely observe universal precautions to prevent exposure to blood borne pathogens and to prevent the spread of all infectious diseases.

The designee shall ensure that the school's health education program provides information about the nature of blood borne pathogens and their transmission

Procedure

Review Team

The parents/guardians of a student with an infectious disease may ask the designee to convene a review panel to make recommendations regarding appropriate programs and services for their child. The review panel may refer the decision to an individualized education program or 504 team as appropriate.