# HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: HIV INFECTION

ADOPTED: February 18, 2004

**REVISED:** 

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	203.1. HIV INFECTION
1. Purpose	The Board is committed to providing a safe, healthy environment for its students and employees. The purpose of this policy shall be to safeguard the health and well-being of students and staff while protecting the rights of the individual.
	This policy is based on current evidence that the HIV virus is not normally transmissible by infected individuals within the school setting, except as noted in this policy.
2. Definitions	HIV - refers to the disease caused by the HIV or human immunodeficiency virus.
	AIDS - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.
	<b>CDCP</b> - United States Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
	<b>Infected students</b> - refers to students diagnosed as having the HIV virus, including those who are asymptomatic.
3. Authority	This policy shall apply to all students in all programs conducted by the school district.
	The Board directs that the established school rules relative to illnesses and other diseases among students shall also apply to infected students.
35 P.S. 7601 et seq	The Board shall not require routine screening tests for HIV infection in the school setting, nor will such tests be a condition for school attendance.
4. Delegation of Responsibility	The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible as the central contact for handling and releasing all information concerning infected students.
	All district employees shall strive to maintain a respectful school climate and to prohibit physical or verbal harassment of any individual or group, including infected students.

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All employees shall be required to consistently follow infection control/universal precautions in all settings and at all times, including playgrounds and school buses. Employees shall notify the school nurse of all incidents of exposure to bodily fluids and when a student's health condition or behavior presents a reasonable risk of transmitting an infection.

Building administrators shall notify students, parents and employees about current Board policies concerning HIV infection and shall provide reasonable opportunities to discuss the policy and related concerns.

The Superintendent or designee shall report periodically to the Board regarding the effectiveness of this policy and make recommendations for revision in accordance with developments in medical research and treatments.

#### 5. Guidelines

#### Attendance

SC 1302

Infected students have the same right to attend school and receive services as any other students and shall be subject to the same policies and rules. HIV infection shall not factor into decisions concerning class assignments, privileges or participation in any school-sponsored activity.

School authorities shall determine the educational placement of infected students on a case-by-case basis by following established policies and procedures for students with chronic health problems and students with disabilities.

The Board shall designate an administrator to coordinate a panel to determine the educational placement of an infected student. The panel shall consist of the coordinating administrator, school physician, school nurse, family physician, parent, and appropriate local health official.

Placement decisions shall be based on the infected student's behavior, neurological development, physical condition, expected interaction with others in the school setting, and the criteria proposed by the CDCP.

First consideration must be given to maintaining the infected student in a regular assignment. Any decision for an alternative placement must be supported by specific facts and data.

Within ten (10) days, the panel shall make a recommendation to the Superintendent or designee regarding the placement of the infected student. The Superintendent or designee shall make a final decision on attendance or alternative placement of the student.

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SC 1329 Title 22 Sec. 11.25	An infected student who is unable to attend school, as determined by a medical examination, shall be considered for homebound instruction or an alternative placement.
SC 1329, 1330	An infected student may be excused from school attendance if the parent/guardian seeks such excusal based on the advice of medical or psychological experts treating the student.
	The panel, at the request of the coordinating administrator, shall meet periodically to reassess the recommendations as to placement of the infected student if there is a change in the student's condition or the student's need for accommodations.
	Confidentiality
35 P.S. 7601 et seq Title 28 Sec. 27.2	The Superintendent or designee shall determine which school personnel will receive information about an infected student. The number of individuals informed of an infected student's status shall be kept to the minimum required to assure proper care and supervision of the student as well as to protect the school population. Anonymity shall have high priority.
	All district employees have a duty to preserve the confidentiality of all information concerning an infected student. Serious consequences shall result from a breach of confidentiality by an employee.
	Information about infected students in the school setting shall not be disclosed to the general public, undesignated school employees, or other groups without a court order or the informed, written, signed and dated consent of the infected student or a parent/guardian if the student is a legal minor.
SC 1409 Title 28 Sec. 27.2	All health records, notes and other documents referring to a student's HIV status shall be secured and kept confidential.
	Infection Control
	Employees shall treat all bodily fluids as hazardous and shall follow universal precautions for any exposure to bodily fluids.
	The school district shall maintain and keep reasonably accessible all equipment and supplies necessary for infection control.

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	Staff Development
	All district employees shall participate in a planned HIV education program.
	Designated district employees shall receive additional, specialized training appropriate to their positions and responsibilities.
	Prevention Education
Title 22 Sec. 4.29	The goals of HIV prevention education shall be to promote healthy living and discourage the behaviors that put people at risk of acquiring HIV. The educational program shall be taught at every level, be appropriate to students' developmental maturity, and include accurate information about reducing the risk of HIV infection.
Title 22 Sec. 4.4 Pol. 105.1, 105.2	Parents/Guardians shall be provided convenient opportunities to preview all HIV prevention curricula and materials.
School Code 1302, 1329, 1330, 1409	
Title 22 Sec. 4.4, 4.29, 11.25	
Title 28 Sec. 27.2	
35 P.S. 7601 et seq	
OSHA Guidelines	
Board Policy 105.1, 105.2	