

## **Non-Casual-Contact Communicable Diseases**

The Board seeks to provide a safe educational environment for Students. This can best be accomplished by assuring that all persons in the school community understand the method of transmission and prevention of diseases that are not contracted through air-borne pathogens, but rather through direct contact with body fluids and excretions, especially blood, vomit, feces, or urine. The Board is also committed to assuring the confidential status of individuals who may have been diagnosed with a blood-borne communicable disease.

For purposes of this policy, these diseases shall include:

1. HIV (human immunodeficiency virus);
2. AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome);
3. AIDS related complex (condition);
4. HAV, HBV, HCV (Hepatitis A, B, C); and
5. other diseases that may be specified by the State Department of Health as contact communicable diseases.

The Board recognizes that Students who have contracted these diseases may not exhibit symptoms for many years after exposure and may, in fact, not be aware that they have contracted the disease. They are, however, able to transmit the disease to other individuals.

The Board directs the Principal to assure that Students who reveal the fact they have contracted one of these diseases will have their status safeguarded in accordance with federal and state statutes dealing with confidentiality and that their civil rights will be respected. Should a Student be unable to attend school as a result of illness, an alternative education program shall be provided in accordance with the Board's policy, Ohio law, and administrative guidelines.