

Communicable/Infectious Diseases

The RSU 40 Board of Directors expects all professional staff to be alert for signs of illness and communicable disease and refer anyone showing such symptoms to the school nurse.

All persons under quarantine will be excluded from school and school activities. Quarantine regulations established by the Department of Health* will be observed. The school nurse will be responsible for notifying the Department of Health of anyone having a communicable disease as required by law and Department of Education rules. The Superintendent must receive notice of all communicable disease cases and contacts in the school.

A certificate from the attending physician is required before any quarantined person returns to school. The Superintendent and/or the school nurse must give permission before the person is readmitted to school.

Persons who have a communicable disease that does not require quarantine will be excluded from school as prescribed by law, or will observe other protective procedures according to recommendations issued by the school physician/designee.

In the event of an actual or threatened outbreak of a communicable disease or other public health threat, the Department of Health may exclude any person attending or working in a school until the Department determines that a public health threat no longer exists.

Anyone receiving information pursuant to this policy must treat as confidential the names of individuals having or suspected of having a notifiable disease or condition, as well as any other information that may identify those individuals. This information may be released to the health department for adult or child protection purposes in accordance with the law.

Legal Reference: 5 M.R.S. § 19201 et seq.
20-A M.R.S. §§ 1001(11)(A), 6301
22 M.R.S. §§ 801, 802, 806, 823, 824
*Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention Chapter 258: Rules for The Control of Notifiable Diseases and Conditions

This is a required policy.

Adopted: March 3, 2016

Revised: March 5, 2020