

***Wayne County Board of Education
Policies Update: (Operations) (2)***

- **WCBOE Policy 8450 (Operations: Control of Casual Contact Communicable Diseases)**
- **WCBOE Policy 8453 (Operations: Control of Non-Casual Contact Communicable Diseases)**

***Your comments concerning these policies should be sent
in writing (mail or email) to:***

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**These policies are out for public comment for 10 working days beginning
Wednesday, April 29, 2026 through Tuesday, May 12, 2026.**

Book	Public Comment Period 4/29/26 thru 5/12/26
Section	Vol 17-1 Ready for TAA/Director
Title	Revised Policy - Vol. 17, No. 1 - April 2025 - CONTROL OF CASUAL-CONTACT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
Code	po8450
Status	
Adopted	May 26, 2015
Last Revised	October 11, 2022

Revised Policy - Vol. 17, No. 1 - April 2025

8450 - CONTROL OF CASUAL-CONTACT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The Board of Education recognizes that control of the spread of communicable disease spread through casual contact is essential to the well-being of the school community and to the efficient ~~District-County~~ operation. In developing this policy, the Board has sought the assistance of school nurses, school personnel, parents and guardians, public health and medical personnel and community leaders.

Good hand hygiene is the single most effective ~~procedure to prevent~~ safeguard in preventing the spread of communicable diseases in the school setting; ~~An allowance of time for handwashing should be incorporated into the daily routine of~~ therefore, all students in the ~~District-County~~ schools, shall be encouraged to participate in a daily routine of handwashing especially before eating, after blowing the nose, coughing, or sneezing, after going to the ~~bathroom~~-restroom and as deemed necessary by ~~the a school employee~~.

[] Students in grades ____ to ____ shall be taught to wash their hands as outlined in the Basic and Specialized Health Care Procedures Manual for West Virginia Public Schools that accompanies West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) policy 2422.7, Standards For Basic and Specialized Health Care Procedures.

[☒] Students in grades K to 12 shall be provided with instructions on handwashing as outlined in The Basic and Specialized Health Care Procedures manual for West Virginia Public Schools that accompanies ~~West Virginia Board of Education policy~~ WVBE 2422.7, Standards For Basic and Specialized Health Care Procedures.

It is best practice to wash the hands with soap and clean running water for twenty (20) seconds. However, if soap and clean water are not available, use of an alcohol-based product may be used to clean the hands. Alcohol-based hand rubs significantly reduce the number of germs on skin and are fast-acting.

For purposes of this policy, "casual-contact communicable disease" shall include:

- A. ☒ diphtheria,
- B. ☒ scarlet fever and other strep infections,
- C. ☒ whooping cough,
- D. ☒ mumps,
- E. ☒ measles,
- F. ☒ rubella,

G. (x) influenza,

H. (x) others designated by the West Virginia Department of Public Health.

In order to protect the health and safety of the students, ~~District-County~~ personnel, and the community at large, the Board shall follow all State statutes and Health Department regulations which pertain to immunization and other means for controlling casual-contact communicable disease spread through normal interaction in the school setting.

The school nurse shall report to the school administrator any student or school employee known to have, or suspected of having, any infectious disease known to be spread by casual contact and considered to be a health danger to the school population.

The school administrator or school nurse shall exclude from the school any student or students known to have or suspected of having any infectious disease known to be spread by casual contact and is considered to be a health threat to the school population. The Superintendent may exclude a school employee from school when reliable evidence or information from a qualified source confirms the school employee potentially has a communicable disease that is known to be spread by any form of casual contact and is considered a health danger to the school population.

A student or school employee shall be prohibited from entering the school or participating in school-related activities in accordance with the guidelines established by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the West Virginia Department of Health (WVDH) until a licensed health care provider verifies in writing that the student or school employee's current condition is no longer considered contagious or a danger to the school population.

All reportable communicable diseases shall be referred to the local health department in accordance with State law.

In the event of a suspected communicable disease outbreak as defined by the Bureau of Public Health (BPH) Commissioner, public schools, and/or the board of education shall release student personally identifiable information to appropriate public health officials as permitted by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act's (FERPA) Health and Safety Emergency Event Disclosure and State law, and West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE) Policy 4350 - Procedures for the Collection, Maintenance, and Disclosure of Student Data.

School employees shall adhere to any guidance issued by the local health department relating to reportable communicable diseases.

School employees are required to adhere to the procedures established in State law, governing the reporting of certain diseases and conditions, unusual health events, and clusters or outbreaks of disease to the WVDH.

School administrators, school nurses, and other health care providers working in schools shall be responsible for reporting, assisting with, or managing outbreaks, and any necessary contact tracing and management of the communicable diseases in accordance with State law. School administrators and school nurses are required to attend any training provided by the local health department relating to surveillance reporting of communicable diseases within the school.

Foodborne, respiratory, severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) outbreaks, and a case or outbreak of a reportable condition including, but not limited to, vaccine preventable diseases, hepatitis, meningitis and encephalitis, shall be reported to the state, regional, and/or local public health department, along with the Commissioner or their staff. These agencies may request student or school employee personally identifiable information for cases and/or contacts of cases based on surveillance data. The release of personally identifiable information to public health officials is classified as a Health and Safety Emergency under FERPA permitting schools to release information necessary to protect public health.

Mandatory screening for communicable diseases known not to be spread by casual contact is not required for school entry, employment, or continued employment.

School personnel shall be trained in standard/universal precautions established by the United States Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration (<http://www.osha.gov/>).

~~If a student exhibits symptoms of a communicable disease, the Principal will isolate the student in the building and contact the parents/guardians. Additionally, the teacher may remove from the classroom and the principal or school nurse shall exclude from the school any student or students known to have or suspected of having any infectious diseases known to be spread by casual contact and is considered to be a health threat to the school population. The Superintendent has the authority to exclude a staff member from school when reliable evidence or information from a qualified source confirms him/her of having a potential communicable disease that is known to be spread by any form of casual contact and is considered a health threat to the school population. Such a student or staff member shall be excluded in accordance with guidelines of American Academy of Pediatrics and West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources unless his/her physician approved school attendance and the condition is no longer considered contagious.~~

~~All reportable communicable diseases will be referred to the County Health Department, without disclosure of personally identifiable information, as set forth in West Virginia Bureau for Public Health Legislative Rule 64CSR7, Reportable Diseases, Events and Conditions.~~

~~Nothing in this policy should be construed to deprive students of the constitution right to a public education nor impair the employment rights of staff members.~~

~~Further, neither the Board nor any Board agent or employee may impose a COVID-19 vaccination mandate or require proof of vaccination.~~

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines for the control of communicable disease which shall include:

- A. ☐ instruction of teaching staff members in the detection of these common diseases and measures for their prevention and control;
- B. ☒ removal of students from District County property to the care of a responsible adult;
- C. ☒ preparation of standards for the readmission of students who have recovered from casual-contact communicable diseases;
- D. ☒ filing of reports as required by statute and the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources.

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West Virginia Board of Education policy 2423

WV Code 16-3-4, 16-3-4a, 16-3-5, 16-3C-1 et seq., 18A-5-1, 18-2-5, 18-5-9

WV Code 18-5-22, 18-5-34 64CSR7

Book	Public Comment Period 4/29/26 thru 5/12/26
Section	Vol 17-1/Vol 18-1 Ready for TAA/Director
Title	CONTROL OF NONCASUAL-CONTACT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES
Code	po8453
Status	
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Revised Policy - Vol. 17, No. 1 - April 2025

8453 - CONTROL OF NONCASUAL-CONTACT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The Board of Education seeks to provide a safe educational environment for BOTH students and staff. This can best be accomplished by assuring that all persons with the school community understand the method of transmission and prevention of diseases that are not contracted through airborne 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. In developing this policy, the Board has sought the assistance of school nurses, school personnel, parents and guardians, public health and medical personnel and community leaders.

For purposes of this policy, "noncasual-contact communicable disease" shall include:

- A. AIDS – Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome;
- B. ARC – AIDS-Related Complex;
- C. persons infected with HIV (human immunodeficiency);
- D. HAV, HBV, HCV (Hepatitis A, B, C);
- E. other like diseases that may be specified by the State Department of Health.

The Board recognizes the fact that individuals 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.

Each reported case of disease known not to be spread by casual contact will be validated by a designated individual such as a school nurse pursuant to State law.

The West Virginia Bureau for Public Health (BPH) Legislative Rule, Reportable Diseases, Events and Conditions, establishes procedures governing the reporting of certain diseases and conditions, unusual health events and clusters or outbreaks of disease to the BPH. It establishes the responsibility of school administrators, school nurses and other health care providers working in schools to report, assist with or manage the outbreak and any necessary contact investigation and management including implementation of control methods to limit the spread of communicable disease. This process frequently occurs as a simple surveillance report of possible communicable disease cases within the school facility without personal identifiable information as requested by the local public health department or regional epidemiologist. After review of the information, in some cases (e.g. foodborne outbreak, respiratory outbreak, case or outbreak of a reportable condition such as vaccine preventable disease, hepatitis, meningitis and encephalitis) the state, regional and/or local public health department, along with the BPH Commissioner and staff, may request student or staff personal identifiable information (name, address, and phone number) for cases and contacts of cases based on surveillance data to fully investigate a case or outbreak of communicable disease, including the complete and accurate tracing of contacts for the purpose of recommending and/or providing appropriate post-exposure prophylaxis in an effort to prevent additional cases. The investigation of any

communicable disease outbreak is based on scientific grounds and utilizes follow-up information to verify line list data and information on risk factors to protect the health and safety of the public including those currently experiencing the disease. Risk factors might include classroom, participation in school activities and transportation, behaviors and exposures to environmental sources or other persons. This release of personal identifiable information to public health officials is classified as a Health and Safety Emergency in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) rule allowing schools to release the information needed for protection of public health.

~~With this in mind, the~~ The principal principle modes by which communicable diseases, including, but not limited to, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) are prevented, spread and transmitted shall be taught to students as outlined in West Virginia State Board of Education Policy (WVBE) policy 2520.5, ~~Health Content Standards and Objectives~~. An opportunity shall be afforded to the parent or guardian of a child subject to instruction in the prevention, transmission and spread of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases to examine the course curriculum requirements and materials to be used in such instruction. The parent or guardian may exempt such child from participation in such instruction by giving notice to that effect in writing to the school principal as set forth in ~~W. Va. Code 18-2-9~~ State law.

An educational inservice on the prevention, transmission and treatment of current communicable diseases shall include, but not limited to, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), shall be provided to all school personnel every two (2) years by the Board, as specified in ~~WV Code 18-2-9 and 18-5-15d~~ State Law.

~~Each reported case of disease known not to be spread by casual contact will be validated by the school nurse or his/her designee. (WV 18A-5-1 and WV 18-5-22).~~

~~All reportable communicable diseases will be referred to the County Health Department, without disclosure of personally identifiable information, as set forth in West Virginia Bureau for Public Health Legislative Rule 64CSR7, Reportable Diseases, Events and Conditions. Reportable communicable disease guidance may be obtained from the County Health Department or through the following internet site: <http://www.wvdhhr.org/idep/#Disease%20%20Reporting>.~~

Mandatory screening for communicable diseases that are known not to be spread by casual contact is not warranted as a condition for school entry or for employment or continued employment, nor is it legal based on ~~W. Va. Code 16-3C-1~~ State law. All screenings performed in the public school setting should be age-appropriate deemed effective and necessary through evidence-based and scientific researched-based practice utilizing standard procedures and with the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), ~~20 U.S.C. 1232h. W. Va. Code 18-5-22~~ and State law allows the Board to provide proper medical and dental inspections for all students attending school and gives authority to take any other necessary actions to protect students from infectious diseases.

Irrespective of the disease presence, standard/universal precautions shall be used and adequate sanitation facilities will be available for handling blood or body fluids within the school setting or school buses. Blood and body fluids from any person in the school setting shall be treated with standard/universal precautions; no exception shall be made when handling blood and body fluids. School personnel will be trained in standard/universal precautions as set forth by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration recommendations and guidelines at <http://www.osha.gov/>.

All persons privileged with any medical information that pertains to students or staff members shall be required to treat all proceedings, discussions and documents as confidential information. Before any medical information is shared with anyone in the school setting a "legitimate educational reason" or "health or safety emergency situation" must exist. All other releases of confidential medical and health information shall be released only with the consent of the parent/guardian, student if over eighteen (18) years of age, employee or their representative as outlined in ~~West Virginia State Board of Education Policy WVBE policy 4350,-- Procedures for the Collection, Maintenance and Disclosure of Student Data, Board Policy 2416, Board Policy 8330, and Board Policy 8350, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1988 and Family Educational Rights and Privacy: Final Regulations. Part II, 34 C.F.R. Part 99 and FERPA.~~

Information from health records is part of the educational record and should be shared with the child's parents/guardians and pass freely among the school and medical home/health care provider to enhance student health and prevent duplication of services, only after permission is obtained from the student's parent/guardian, or student if over eighteen (18) years of age.

Nothing in this policy should be construed to deprive students of the constitutional right to a public education nor impair the employment rights of staff members.

West Virginia ~~State~~ Board of Education policy 2423
WV Code 126-51-1, et seq.

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West Virginia State Board of Education policy 2423

WV Code 126-51-1, et seq.