

## **POLICY FOR STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES WITH HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV/AIDS)**

The Wells-Ogunquit Community School District has as its primary goal, the provision of quality education in a safe environment for all students. This policy is to assist school personnel in dealing with students and HIV related issues. The information and recommendations that follow are based on recommendations developed by the Department of Human Services, Maine Department of Education, and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the most current medical knowledge available. The Wells-Ogunquit Community School District School Committee will continue to monitor information made available through the Department of Human Services, Maine Department of Education, and the Center for Disease Control.

Public law in Maine guarantees all children the right to an education. The purpose of this policy is to establish what actions shall be taken in the event that the Wells-Ogunquit Community School District is made aware that a student attending school is infected with HIV.

In general, the Wells-Ogunquit Community School District shall provide educational opportunities for students infected with HIV just as it does for other students. Students infected with HIV shall be entitled to all the rights, privileges and services provided by Maine law and the Wells-Ogunquit Community School District's policies.

At any time that the Wells-Ogunquit Community School District is concerned that a particular student poses a public health threat to others, advice may be requested from the Bureau of Health.

In the event that the Bureau of Health determines that conditions exist which suggest that a student with a Human Immunodeficiency Virus infection is a health threat to the school community, the Bureau of Health and/or the Superintendent of Schools shall remove the student from the usual classroom setting until other arrangements can be made or until the Bureau of Health determines that the risks are abated. The status of a student temporarily removed from the usual school setting in order to protect the health of the student or the health of others will be reevaluated at least quarterly by the Bureau of Health.

Maine law protects the confidentiality of HIV test results with certain statutory exceptions. Test results may not be disclosed to anyone without written consent of parent/guardian. Records containing information about Human Immunodeficiency Virus test results and consent forms relating to test results shall be kept separate from other school records. Only those persons given written consent by the student's parent/guardian shall have access.

With written consent of the parent/guardian, the Superintendent of Schools shall designate an individual or team to serve as the liaison between the school and the student's parent, the student's physician and, if necessary, the Bureau of Health. Any team member or individual entrusted with the knowledge of a student infected with HIV must, by law, keep his/her knowledge of the student's status confidential, and access to information shall be limited only to those persons authorized in writing by the student's parent/guardian.

The Wells-Ogunquit Community School District shall follow standard procedures for cleaning and disinfecting all body spills. The procedures for cleaning bodily fluid spills shall be reviewed annually by all school staff members.

The Wells-Ogunquit Community School District will conduct educational programs to inform students and staff regarding HIV infection transmissions.

The same rights and consideration given to students with HIV are also accorded to staff.

Adopted by the Wells-Ogunquit C.S.D. School Committee:

03/02/88