

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: COMMUNICABLE  
DISEASES AND  
IMMUNIZATION

ADOPTED: August 12, 1991

REVISED:

# Farrell Area School District

## 203. COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND IMMUNIZATION

1. Purpose  
SC 1303a  
(a)  
Title 28  
Sec. 23.84

In order to safeguard the school community from the spread of certain communicable diseases, including Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), the Board requires the following procedures to be used.

2. Guidelines  
  
SC 1303a  
(a)  
Title 28  
Sec. 23.84

### Immunization

All students shall be immunized against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, rubeola, rubella, and mumps in accordance with Pennsylvania law, unless specifically exempted in writing on religious or medical grounds by a legal child care agent.

SC 1303a  
(a)

No student shall be admitted to school for the first time who has not been immunized against such diseases as are enumerated by the Advisory Health Board and in the manner directed by the Secretary of Health.

SC 1303a  
(b)

The implementation of this policy shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent and the school nurse, who shall be subject to the sanctions of law for violation of the State statute for immunization of pupils.

Title 28  
Sec. 23.83  
SC 1303a  
(c)  
(d)

A child shall be exempt from the requirements for immunization whose parent or guardian objects in writing to such immunization for religious grounds or whose physician certifies that the child's physical condition contraindicates immunization.

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Health Records

SC 1402(b)  
(c)  
(d)

The district shall require that prior to admission to school for the first time the parents or guardian shall complete a medical history report form which shall include information regarding known communicable diseases. The nurse or school physician may use such reports to advise the parent of the need for further medical care as set forth in Policy 209.

Title 28  
Sec. 27.2  
27.23

The school nurses shall report the presence of suspected communicable disease to the appropriate local health authority as required by the Department of Health.

SC 1409  
Pol. 216

All health records shall be confidential, and their contents shall be divulged only when necessary for the health of the child or at the request of the parent or guardian to a physician.

Title 28  
Sec. 23.85

As part of the health record, a certificate of immunization for each child enrolled shall be maintained as established by the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Attendance

The following policy shall supplement the Board's Policy 204 on student attendance by establishing guidelines for the attendance of students with communicable diseases.

Title 28  
Sec. 27.71  
27.75

The Board authorizes the school nurse to exclude from school all students suspected of having a communicable disease and to report such cases to the local health authority. The student shall be excluded for the period of time indicated by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Readmission to school will be permitted upon written recommendation of the attending physician, subject further to the approval in writing of the school nurse, school principal, and school physician.

Students who have been diagnosed by a physician as being absent due to a communicable disease not specifically listed by the Department of Health or who have been diagnosed as a carrier of such disease may be excluded for the protection of the school community.



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Decisions concerning readmission or continued attendance for the student will be made on an individual basis in the following manner:

The school physician shall make a preliminary recommendation to the Superintendent in light of the health risks associated with the disease. If it is determined that potential health risks to the student and to the school community exist, a panel shall review the student's medical history and make recommendations.

The panel shall consist of the building principal, school physician, school nurse, attending physician, legal child care agent, and the local health official. This panel, utilizing the latest information from the Centers for Disease Control, will make a recommendation to the Superintendent within ten (10) days. The Superintendent will make the final decision on attendance or alternate placement for the student.

All decisions shall be made on an individual basis; the susceptibility of the student to other disease and the likelihood of risk to others in the school environment will be factors considered.

This decision will be reviewed every three (3) months by the panel. The legal child care agent will have the right to appeal to the Board of Education.

School Code  
1303a. (a)  
          (b)  
1402, 1409  
  
PA Code  
Title 28  
Sec. 23.81,  
      23.83,  
      23.84,  
      23.85,  
      27.2,  
      27.23,  
      27.71,  
      27.75