

Prevention of Disease/Infection Transmission

(Handling Body Fluids and Substances using Universal Precautions)

The body fluids and substances of all persons should be considered to contain potentially infectious agents. No distinction may be made between body fluids and substances from individuals with a known disease or infection and those from asymptomatic or undiagnosed individuals. Body fluids and substances may include blood, semen, drainage from scrapes and cuts, feces, urine, vomitus, respiratory secretions (e.g., nasal discharge) and saliva.

The following infection control practices shall be followed by all school district personnel in all situations involving potential contact with any body fluids and substances:

1. Wear disposable examination gloves when it is likely that hands will be in contact with body fluids or substances (blood, urine, feces, wound drainage, oral secretions, sputum or vomitus). When possible, wear gloves while caring for bloody noses and dealing with cuts or injuries. Disposable examination gloves should be readily accessible where students seek assistance for bloody noses or injuries.
 - a. If disposable examination gloves are not available, the use of towels or some other clean material as a barrier may provide some protection.
 - b. Cuts and sores on *your skin* should be covered to avoid infection.
 - c. When possible, have students wash off their own cuts and abrasions. After cuts are washed with soap and water, they should be covered with bandages of the appropriate size.
2. When possible, pocket face masks should be used for mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.
3. Wash hands often and well, paying particular attention to areas around and under fingernails and between fingers.
4. Clean up as soon as possible after any skin contact with any body fluid or substance.
 - a. Wash skin with soap and water.
 - b. Wash contaminated surfaces and non-disposable items with standard disinfectant.
 - c. Wash contaminated clothing and linen in hot water with detergent.
 - d. Contaminated tissues, paper towels and other disposable items should be double-bagged using plastic bags before being discarded.

Use individual judgment in determining when barriers are needed for unpredictable situations. It is strongly recommended that barriers be used when contact with body fluids or substances is anticipated.

****HAND WASHING IS VERY IMPORTANT!**

Delta County School District 50J

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