

**CRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY**

**POLICY: ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL BY PUPILS OR ADULTS INFECTED
BY HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV)**

The Cranford Board of Education recognizes that the health and safety of our students is a primary objective of our schools.

The following words when used in this section shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

1. "Adult" means a teacher, administrator, food services employee or other school staff member compensated or uncompensated; and
2. "Pupil" means an individual who is entitled to attendance at school in grades K through 12, as well as a pre-kindergarten child who is entitled to attendance at school.

For pupils with HIV infection who are enrolled or seeking enrollment in a school program, the regulations and procedures in this section shall apply.

STUDENTS

All information about the identity of a pupil with HIV infection shall be kept confidential and shall comply with the provisions of NJAC 6:3-2.

Pupils with HIV Infection shall not be excluded from attending school for reason of the HIV infection.

The presence of HIV infection in a pupil does not constitute reason for exclusion of such pupil from school, nor may a pupil so infected be excluded for reason of his or her own protection against possible exposure to the infectious disease of others.

The presence of HIV infection in and of itself may not serve as a basis for excluding a pupil by way of classification as eligible for home instruction.

Pupils with HIV infection who are symptomatic and/or diagnosed with AIDS shall not be excluded by virtue of the diagnosis. The only medical grounds for exclusion from school shall be those established in NJSA 18A:40-7 and 8 and NJAC 8:61-1.2(e). AIDS or HIV infection shall not be considered a communicable disease for purposes of admission to or attendance in an education facility, or eligibility for educational transportation.

STUDENTS AND ADULTS

Adults with HIV infection in all school settings shall not be restricted from their normal employment for reasons of HIV infection unless they have another illness which would restrict that employment.

No pupil or adult shall be excluded from school solely by virtue of the fact of living with or being related to an HIV-infected individuals.

Any pupil or adult, with or without HIV infection, shall be removed from school if and when the individual has weeping skin lesions that cannot be covered.

(continued)

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It is not necessary that anyone in the school be specially notified that an HIV infected individual is registered to attend school or is an employee of the school. Therefore, HIV/AIDS status is an exception to records required pursuant to student physical examinations, and school employee examinations. If school officials receive notification of the presence of an HIV infected individual, records containing identifying information regarding the HIV status of the individual shall be kept confidential. Information regarding an HIV infected pupil can be shared, only with the written consent of the pupil's parent or guardian, with those who need to know the status to determine the educational program for the pupil.

The Cranford Board of Education shall annually provide pupils and their parents/guardians and district employees and/or volunteers with HIV/AIDS awareness information.

The Cranford Board of Education shall provide HIV/AIDS awareness information to the school community. This may be accomplished in cooperation with State and local agencies, and in consultation with the county superintendent of schools, and may include utilization of district newsletters, bulletins, in-service programs or other media.

The Chief School Administrator shall develop guidelines for staff relative to handling situations involving blood or body fluids in school.

Legal Reference:

N.J.S.A.	26:5C-5
N.J.A.C.	8:57-2.5
N.J.A.C.	8:61-1.1
N.J.A.C.	6:3-2
	6:28-3.5(c) 2ii
	6:29-2.1
	6:29-7

Cross References:

4112.4	Health Examination
4117.52	Interruption in or Termination of Employment
5111	Age of Entrance
5112	Ages of Attendance

Adopted: August 17, 1987

Revised: August 31, 1998