

**DISEASES POLICY – EXCLUSION OF STUDENTS WITH COMMUNICABLE, CONTAGIOUS, & INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Mountain Home School District No. 193 (MHSD) acknowledges the potentially adverse effects of contagious and communicable diseases. The District encourages safe and healthy practices, not only school district practices, but also individual personal practices to reduce the chance of bacteria, viruses, parasites, fungi, etc., spreading among the students and staff members of Mountain Home School District No. 193. It is the purpose of this policy to increase the awareness about reducing the spread of such diseases and infections through practical and hygienic practices.

Pursuant to authority in Idaho Code Section 33-512(7), the board of trustees may exclude from school student with contagious or infectious diseases or who are diagnosed or suspected as having a contagious or infectious disease or those who are not immune and have been exposed to a contagious or infectious disease. The board may also close district schools if it determines that conditions warrant such closure, based on consultation with health department of the public health district in which the school district is located, e.g., Central District Health Department. A decision to close school may apply to all district schools or individual schools, as may be determined by the board.

The board may also close schools within the district following an order of the Governor or of the State Board of Education.

MHSD board of trustees delegates to the superintendent or designee(s) and building administrators or designee(s) its authority to exclude from school students with contagious or infectious diseases or who are under quarantine (Idaho Code 33-513(2)). Any closures under this policy will be reported to the board of trustees at the next regular meeting.

**DEFINITIONS (Merriam-Webster)**

**Communicable Disease:** an infectious disease transmissible (as from person to person) by direct contact with an affected individual or the individual’s discharges or by indirect means (as by a vector).

**Contagious Disease:** an infectious disease communicable by contact with one who has it, with a bodily discharge.

**Infectious Disease:** a disease caused by the entrance into the body of organisms (as bacteria, protozoans, fungi, or viruses), which grow and multiply there.



**LEGAL REFERENCE:**

Idaho Code Section 33-212 – Authority to Close Schools to Prevent the Spread of Infectious Disease

Idaho Code Section 33-512(4)(7)(11) – Governance of Schools (Exclusion for Contagious Disease)

Idaho Code Section 33-513(2) – Professional Personnel

IDAPA 16.02.10.025.090 – Reportable Diseases

Center for Disease Control & Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/prevent.html>

Central District Health Department: <http://www.cdhd.idaho.gov/CD/public/factsheets/headlice.html>

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