MORRISVILLE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES

TITLE: HIV INFECTION

ADOPTED: October 24, 2007

REVISED:

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		414.1. HIV INFECTION
1.	Purpose	The Board is committed to providing a safe, healthy environment for its students and employees. The purpose of this policy shall be to safeguard the health and wellbeing of students and employees while protecting the rights of the individual.
		This policy is based on current evidence that the HIV virus is not transmissible by infected individuals within the school setting, except as noted in this policy.
2.	Definitions	HIV - refers to the disease caused by the HIV or human immunodeficiency virus.
		AIDS - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.
		CDCP - United States Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
		Infected employee - refers to employees diagnosed as having the HIV virus, including those who are asymptomatic.
3.	Authority SC 510	This policy shall apply to all employees in all programs conducted by the school district.
		The Board establishes that the established district policies and procedures that relate to illnesses among employees shall also apply to infected students.
	35 P.S. 7601 et seq	The Board shall not require routine screening tests for HIV infection in the school setting, nor will such tests be a condition for employment.
4.	Delegation of Responsibility	The Superintendent or a designee shall serve as the central contact for handling and releasing all information concerning infected employees.
		All district employees shall maintain a respectful working climate and shall not participate in physical or verbal harassment of any individual or group, including infected employees.

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All employees shall be required to consistently follow infection control/universal precautions in all settings and at all times. Employees shall notify the Superintendent or his/her designee of all incidents of exposure to bodily fluids.

On an annual basis, building administrators shall notify district employees, students and parents about current Board policies concerning HIV infection and shall provide reasonable opportunities to discuss such policies and concerns.

The Superintendent or a designee shall report periodically to the Board regarding the effectiveness of this policy and shall make recommendations for revision in accordance with developments in medical research and treatments.

5. Guidelines42 U.S.C.Sec. 12101 et seq29 U.S.C.Sec. 2601 et seq

Infected employees whose employment is interrupted or terminated shall be entitled to available medical leave and medical disability benefits. Such employees shall be informed by the appropriate administrator of benefits, leave, and alternatives available to them through state and federal laws, district policies, the collective bargaining agreement, and the retirement system.

Confidentiality

35 P.S. 7607

District employees with knowledge of an infected employee's condition shall not disclose that information without prior written consent of the employee, consistent with the requirements of the Pennsylvania Confidentiality of HIV-Related Information Act.

Infection Control

Universal precautions, as recommended by the CDCP, shall be followed for exposure to bodily fluids. Employees shall treat all body fluids as hazardous and follow universal precautions.

The school district shall maintain and keep reasonably accessible all designated equipment and supplies necessary for infection control.

Staff Development

All district employees shall participate in a planned HIV education program that:

- 1. Conveys factual and current information.
- 2. Provides guidance on infection control procedures.
- 3. Informs about current law and district policies concerning HIV.

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4. Assists staff to maintain productive parent and community relations.
5. Includes annual review sessions.
Designated district employees shall receive additional, specialized training appropriate to their positions and responsibilities.
References:
School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510
PA Confidentiality of HIV-Related Information Act – 35 P.S. 7607
Americans With Disabilities Act – 42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.
Family and Medical Leave Act – 29 U.S.C. Sec. 2601 et seq.