

TUSD

STAFF HEALTH AND SAFETY

(Communicable Diseases)

Handling Body Fluids in School

The following guidelines are meant to provide simple and effective precautions against transmission of disease for all people potentially exposed to the blood or body fluids of any person (student and/or school employee). No distinction is made between body fluids from persons with a known disease or those from persons without symptoms or with an undiagnosed disease.

The body fluids of all people should be considered to contain potentially infectious agents. The term body fluids includes blood, semen, drainage from scrapes and cuts, feces, urine, vomit, respiratory secretions (such as nasal discharge) and saliva.

- Whenever possible, avoid direct skin contact with body fluids. Disposable gloves are recommended when direct hand contact with body fluids is anticipated. If extensive contact is made with body fluids, hands must be washed afterwards. Gloves used for this purpose should be put in a plastic bag, secured, and disposed of daily.
- If direct skin contact does occur, hands and other affected skin areas of all exposed people shall be routinely washed with soap and water.
- Proper handwashing requires the use of soap and water and vigorous washing under a stream of running water for approximately ten (10) seconds.
- Contaminated disposable items shall be handled with disposable gloves, put in a plastic bag, secured, and disposed of daily.
- Body fluid spills on hard surfaces (i.e., floors, countertops, books, etc.) shall be disinfected with an appropriate product approved by TUSD Custodial Services.