

ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME

The Sharon Springs Central School Board of Education recognized the public concern over the spread of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and the admission of students and employment of staff who suffer from this disease. The Board also recognizes the rights of those individuals so afflicted, be they students or staff, to continue education or employment where possible.

The school board also recognizes that the virus associated with AIDS is not easily transmitted and there is no evidence that AIDS can be transmitted by casual contact.

The School Board has the responsibility to seek professional advice in this public health area. Therefore, in any instance where any employee (including volunteer) or student is diagnosed as suffering from AIDS, the Superintendent should arrange to have the individual examined by the school physician. The school physician shall make a recommendation to the Superintendent as to whether the student or employee can safely continue in the school setting. The Superintendent should consult with the school attorney prior to rendering a determination.

If the Superintendent determines that a student with AIDS is to be removed from regular instruction, a referral will be made to the Committee on Special Education which will develop an individual education program and recommend an appropriate placement for the student.

The Board recognizes that it is of utmost importance to protect the confidentiality of the afflicted, therefore, all information and proceedings concerning students or employees afflicted with AIDS will be kept strictly confidential except as is necessary to properly evaluate the medical implications or as may be required by law. In addition, employees of the district may be provided with information concerning students or employees diagnosed as suffering from AIDS where, the sharing of this information is necessary to protect the health and safety of any individual in the school. This determination should be made by the Superintendent only after consultation with the school physician and school attorney.