

# **Pataula Charter Academy**

## **Infectious Disease Policy**

### **Definitions:**

"Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)" means a major operating component of the United States Department of Health and Human Services with responsibilities at the national level for monitoring health, detecting and investigating health problems.

"Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)" means a federal legislation applicable to all educational institutions receiving federal funds that protects the privacy of students' personally identifiable information.

"Infectious Disease" means an illness due to an infectious agent, or its toxic products, which is transmitted directly or indirectly to a person from an infected person or animal.

"Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)" means any type of face mask, glove, or clothing that acts as a barrier between infectious materials and the skin, mouth, nose, or eyes.

"Standard Precautions" means a set of precautions designed to prevent the transmission of infectious diseases that include, but are not limited to, hand washing procedures, use of protective gloves, and directives on covering the mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.

"Tasks with Exposure Potential" means tasks associated with the evaluation and treatment of students with actual or potential infections.

### **Policy Statement:**

The Pataula Charter Academy Superintendent or designee will develop and implement procedures related to the impact of infectious diseases on school system management and operations. Such procedures will be consistent with the requirements of the Georgia Board of Education Rule 160-1-3.03 and will require the following actions:

1. Annual provision to employees of information, education, or training related to infectious diseases, including transmission, the use of personal protective equipment as appropriate to tasks with potential exposure, risk reduction, and standard precautions, based on guidelines or recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
2. Making provisions for personal protective equipment (PPE) to be readily available and appropriate to task when the potential for exposure to infectious disease exists.
3. Immediate notification of the person, or if the person is a minor, to the parent or guardian, of the need to obtain an appropriate medical evaluation where there exists reasonable suspicion that an employee or student has an infectious disease.
4. Involvement of the:
  - (a) Superintendent,
  - (b) Governing Board Chair,
  - (c) School's designated licensed healthcare provider,
  - (d) State and/or local public health agency representatives, and
  - (e) Any other necessary health care professionals

in operational decisions concerning an employee or student determined to have an infectious disease. The decision will be whether reasonable accommodations will allow the student to perform in the classroom or other educational setting or the employee to meet the essential functions of his or her job. If an accommodation that does not impose undue financial hardship or administrative burdens can be made, then neither

student nor employee shall be denied the right to participate in Pataula Charter Academy Education programs or to be employed by the Pataula Charter Academy.

4. The disclosure of health-related information only as permitted by state or federal law.
  - (a) Medical information about a student will only be disclosed with consent of the parent or guardian (or student who is 18 years old) or as otherwise permitted by FERPA.
  - (b) Medical information about an employee will only be disclosed with the consent of the employee or when otherwise determined to be necessary and in accordance with state and federal law.

LEGAL REF: JGCC 160-1-3-.03

ADOPTED: 1/11/16