 **No. 201**

**SECTION: PUPILS**

**TITLE: IMMUNIZATIONS AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASES**

**MEDICAL ACADEMY ADOPTED: 10/8/13**

**CHARTER SCHOOL REVISED:**

201. IMMUNIZATIONS AND COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

In order to safeguard the school community from the spread of certain communicable diseases, the Board requires that established policy and guidelines be followed.

Immunization

All students shall be immunized against certain diseases in accordance with state law and regulations, unless specifically exempt for religious or medical reasons.

A student who has not been immunized in accordance with state regulations shall not be admitted to or permitted to attend school, unless exempted for medical or religious reasons.

A student shall be exempt from immunization requirements whose parent/guardian objects in writing to such immunization on religious grounds or whose physician certifies that the student's physical condition contraindicates immunization.

Monitoring of immunization requirements shall be the responsibility of the Principal/CEO.

The Principal/CEO or designee shall:

1. Annually review state standards for immunization and direct accordingly the responsible school personnel.
2. Ensure that parents/guardians are being informed prior to a student's entry to school of the requirements for immunization, the requisite proof of immunization, exemption available for religious or medical reasons, and means by which such exemptions may be claimed.
3. Investigate and recommend to the Board school-sponsored programs of immunization that may be warranted to safeguard the health of the school community. Such program

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shall be subject to Board approval and may be conducted in cooperation with local health agencies.

1. Direct that health guidelines and universal precautions designed to minimize transmission of communicable disease be implemented in school.

Health Records

A comprehensive health record shall be maintained for each student enrolled in the school. The record shall include the results of required tests, measurements, screenings, regular and special examinations, and medical questionnaires.

All health records shall be confidential, and their contents shall be divulged only when necessary for the health of the student or to a physician at the written request of the parent/guardian or as otherwise required by law.

As part of the health record, a certificate of immunization shall be maintained for each student enrolled, as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Attendance

The Board authorizes that students who have been diagnosed by a physician or are suspected of having a disease by the school nurse shall be excluded from school for the period indicated by regulations of the Department of Health for certain specified diseases and infectious conditions.

The school nurse shall report the presence of suspected communicable diseases to the appropriate local health authority, as required by the Department of Health.

Education

Instruction regarding prevention of communicable and life threatening diseases shall be provided by the schools in the educational program for all levels, in accordance with state regulations including HIV.

Parents/Guardians shall be informed of and be provided opportunities during school hours to review all curriculum materials used in such instruction.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1303a, 1402, 1409

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.4, 4.29, 11.20

State Department of Health Regulations – 28 PA Code Sec. 23.81 et seq., 27.1, 27.2, 27.23,

27.71, 27.72