

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Bloodborne Pathogens Information for Staff

### WHAT IS THE LAW?



OSHA has both federal and state laws identified as the Bloodborne Pathogen standard. Our school district has developed an Exposure Control Plan that identifies the processes the district will use to protect staff from Bloodborne Exposure. You may be learning about this because it is a requirement for all staff in our district or because you are in a group of staff who may be more at risk of exposure.

Who would you ask if you wanted to review the Exposure Control Plan?

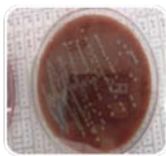
### WHICH STAFF ARE INCLUDED?



You may be identified as more at risk if you are in a job where it is reasonable to believe that you may come in contact with blood as a part of your regular job. This group often includes health staff, custodians, bus drivers, coaches and some special education staff. Your risk is low because of the precautions that you will take and the planning that the school district has implemented to protect all staff.

Do you know if you are in one of the identified jobs in your school district?

### WHAT ARE THE PATHOGENS?



If your job includes regular contact with blood or body fluids containing blood, you may be at risk of coming in contact with microorganisms that can cause disease. Most often these viruses are contracted through casual sexual contact or IV drug use. Because there is a very slight risk of transmission in the school setting, we want you to know about them.

These germs include:

- HIV is the disease that causes Acquired Immunodeficiency Virus (AIDS) This is a fragile virus that is very unlikely to spread through typical school district roles.
- Hepatitis B and C are viruses that affect the liver. Hepatitis B is a strong virus that can last on a surface for up to seven days and could be spread in a school setting.
- Hepatitis C is more likely to be transmitted through IV drug use and in the past may have been spread through some medical procedures.

Who might you ask in your school district if you have questions about these viruses?

## WHAT ARE SAFE PRACTICES?



Universal precautions is the term we use to explain that we treat all blood and body fluid as if it were infectious. It is important to note that most adults and children are not likely to have these germs in their blood. Our practice means that we will use a barrier to protect us from coming in direct contact with anyone else's blood or body fluid containing blood. Gloves are the most common way that we protect ourselves. We may use other types of personal protective equipment (PPE). Your supervisor will help you identify and will supply you with PPE that will help you stay safe in your job.

**What items do you think you need to assure your personal safety?**

## WHAT ABOUT VACCINE?



Vaccine is an important topic for all adults and children. If you are in one of the groups of staff who are specifically identified as more at risk, you will want to consider getting the Hepatitis B vaccine. There are not vaccines available for HIV or Hepatitis C and we will want to use our universal precautions whether or not we receive vaccine.

Hepatitis B vaccine is given in three doses, the first two are a month apart and the third is given 4-6 months after the first. If you are in an identified group, your school district will provide you with more information about accessing this vaccine. If you have already had vaccine or do not wish to get it at this time, you will complete specific forms?

**Who will you get this information from in your school district?**

## WHAT'S AN EXPOSURE?



The likelihood of being exposed to blood or body fluid during our work day is very slight but we need to know what to do, just in case. An blood exposure means that the blood of another person has an opening to get into our blood stream. The most likely exposure in schools is a bite that breaks the skin; this could happen with some of our students who have special education needs. Other exposures could occur with a needle stick or if we have blood on our skin and have an open cut where the blood can get in. Another possible way is if blood spashed into our mouth, nose or eyes.

If a staff person feels that they may have been exposed to another person's blood at work, they must contact their supervisor in a timely way. School district staff from either Health Services or Human Services will help your supervisor to follow the district's post exposure plan and complete the needed paperwork.

**Where will you keep your supervisor's contact information so that it is readily accessible?**