1. **Immunizations**
   a. A parent/guardian/responsible adult applying to have a student enrolled for the first time in a Grand Rapids Public School must present, at the time of registration, a copy of immunization records or statement of exemption. The immunization record must demonstrate that the child has received all required doses of vaccines or that the child has received at least one dose of each of the required vaccines and is waiting to receive the subsequent doses at appropriate time intervals. (A copy of the Current Immunization Requirements pamphlet is available from the Michigan Department of Community Health.)
   b. The Kent County Health Department (KCHD) will communicate certain circumstances in which a required vaccine may be waived or delayed. The KCHD will supply the necessary forms for exemption.
   c. Schools will submit additional required immunization reports as required by law. The KCHD will communicate immunization requirements each year.

2. **Communicable Diseases Spread by Casual Contact**
   a. Parents/Guardians will be informed to keep children home when they are ill.
   b. Students who have unexplained symptoms of communicable disease (as follows) may be excluded from school:
      - Fever - above 101
      - Sores on skin with pus or liquid drainage
      - Rash or blisters
      - Diarrhea - (more than 3 stools in 24 hours)
      - Vomiting - 2 or more times in 24 hours
      - Cough that disturbs normal activity
      - Tiredness that prevents normal activity
      - Complaints of sore throat
      - Shortness of breath

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• Wheezing
• Chills
• Stiff back or neck
• Abdominal cramps or pain

c. When students have a communicable disease, they will be cared for in an area away from other staff or students until they are sent home. It is imperative that those who come in contact with the child follow procedures to prevent spread of communicable diseases when caring for sick children. The school nurse will advise on the need to contact the EMS or will contact the child's health care provider for recommendations. The area where the sick child rested needs to be cleaned according to District procedures after the child goes home.

d. Parents/Guardians will be informed that the child needs to be taken home because of a possible communicable disease. If parents/guardians cannot be reached, school personnel will attempt to reach emergency contacts. If they cannot be reached, school staff will contact the school nurse for advice on the urgency of the need for a medical evaluation of the child. EMS (Emergency Medical System) or 9-1-1 may be called if needed.

e. Parents/Guardians will be informed that students should be kept home from school until they do not have symptoms or present a statement from licensed healthcare provider that they are not contagious and may return to school.

f. The school nurse may be consulted for suspected communicable diseases. The school nurse will refer to the American Academy of Pediatrics Redbook and/or the KCHD Communicable Disease Unit to guide in determining control measures and need for EMS.

g. Schools will report suspected communicable diseases as required to the KCHD Communicable Disease Unit on the IP-10 Forms. (The form is available from the KCHD). The Communicable Disease Unit will be notified immediately if the following diseases are suspected/diagnosed: anthrax, botulism, haemophilus influenzae, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis-
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h. The District will follow recommendations of the KCHD Medical Director or designated staff for the control of communicable diseases.

i. If school personnel disagree with a licensed health care provider regarding the return of a student with a communicable disease, they may notify the school nurse coordinator. The coordinator will do an assessment and consult with the KCHD Communicable Disease Unit for advice. The District may seek a second medical opinion. The student will not be allowed to return until the District is sure that the condition is no longer contagious.

Rules Accepted: June 29, 2009
Reviewed: February 10, 2014 (no changes)