

PARENT NOTIFICATION LETTER

Blood Borne Pathogens

Dear Parent:

We recently have been notified by the Federal government that the Corporation is subject to new regulations from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to restrict the spread of hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immune deficiency virus (HIV) in the workplace. These regulations are designed to protect employees of the Corporation who are, or could be, exposed to blood or other contaminated bodily fluids while performing their job duties.

Because of the very serious consequences of contracting HBV or HIV, the Corporation is committed to taking the necessary precautions to protect both students and staff from its spread in the school environment.

Part of the Federally-mandated procedures include a requirement that the Corporation request the person who was bleeding to consent to be tested for HBV and HIV. This information would then be provided both to the exposed employee and the treating physician to determine proper medical treatment.

The law does not require parents or guardians to grant permission for the examination of their child's blood, but it does require the Corporation to request that consent. Although we expect that incidents of exposure will be few, we wanted to notify parents of these requirements ahead of time. That way, if the situation does develop you will understand the reason for our request and will have had an opportunity to consider it in advance. These are serious diseases, and we sincerely hope that through proper precautions and cooperation we can prevent them from spreading.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the School City of Hobart's Coordinator of Student Health Services, Regina Guarnero at 219-942-8885.