MIDDLE BUCKS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: HIV INFECTION

ADOPTED: January 11, 2016

REVISED:

		203.1. HIV INFECTION
1.	Purpose	The Executive Council is committed to providing a safe, healthy environment for its students and employees. The purpose of this policy shall be to safeguard the health and well-being of students and staff while protecting the rights of the individual.
		This policy is based on current evidence that the HIV virus is not normally transmissible by infected individuals within the school, except as noted in this policy.
2.	Definitions	HIV Infection - refers to the disease caused by the HIV or human immunodeficiency virus.
		AIDS - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.
		CDCP - United States Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
		Infected students - refers to students diagnosed as having HIV virus, including those who are asymptomatic.
3.	Authority	This policy shall apply to all students in all programs conducted by the school. The Executive Council has established school rules relative to illnesses and other diseases among students shall also apply to infected students.
		The Executive Council shall not require routine screening tests for HIV Infection in the school setting, nor will such tests be a condition for school attendance.
4.	Delegation of Responsibility	The Administrative Director or designee shall be responsible for handling and releasing all information concerning HIV Infection and infected students.
	Pol. 248	All employees shall strive to maintain a respectful school climate and to prohibit physical or verbal harassment of any individual or group, including infected students.

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All employees shall be required to consistently follow infection control/universal precautions in all settings and at all times, including school buses. Employees shall notify the designated central contact of all incidents of exposure to bodily fluids and when a student's health condition or behavior presents a reasonable risk of transmitting an infection.

On an annual basis, administrators shall notify students, parents/guardians and employees about current Executive Council policies concerning HIV infection and shall provide reasonable opportunities to discuss the policy and related concerns.

5. Guidelines

Attendance

SC 1327 Pol. 103 Infected students have the same right to attend school and receive services as other students and shall be subject to the same policies and rules. HIV Infection shall not factor into decisions concerning class assignments, privileges or participation in any school-sponsored activity.

School authorities shall determine the educational placement of infected students on a case-by-case basis by following policies and administrative regulations established for students with chronic health problems and students with disabilities.

A Screening Team comprised of the Administrative Director or designee, school nurse, school physician, student's parents/guardians, and attending physician shall evaluate the infected student's educational placement. Placement decisions shall be based on the infected student's need for accommodations or services and the criteria proposed by the CDC.

First consideration must be given to maintaining the infected student in a regular assignment. Any decision for an alternative placement must be supported by specific facts and data.

SC 1329 Title 22 Sec. 11.25 Pol. 117 An infected student who is unable to attend school, as determined by a medical examination, shall be considered for homebound instruction or an alternative placement.

SC 1329, 1330 Pol. 204 An infected student may be excused from attendance if the parent/guardian seeks such excusal based on the advice of medical or psychological experts treating the student.

An infected student's placement shall be reassessed if there is a change in the student's need for accommodations or services.

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Confidentiality

35 P.S. Sec. 7607 The Administrative Director shall determine which school personnel will receive information about an infected student. The number of individuals informed of an infected student's status shall be kept to the minimum required to ensure proper care and supervision of the student as well as to protect to school population. Anonymity shall have high priority.

All school personnel have a responsibility to preserve the confidentiality of all information concerning an infected student.

Information about infected students in the school setting shall not be disclosed to the general public, other school personnel or other groups without a court order or the informed, written, signed and dated consent of the infected student or his/her parent/guardian if a legal minor.

SC 1409 35 P.S. Sec. 7607 All health records, notes and other documents referring to an infected student's condition shall be secured and kept confidential.

Infection Control

Universal precautions as recommended by the CDC, shall be followed for exposure. Employees shall treat all bodily fluids as hazardous and shall follow universal precautions for any exposure to bodily fluids.

The school shall maintain and keep reasonably accessible all designated equipment and supplies necessary for infection control.

Staff Development

All employees shall participate in a planned Bloodborne Pathogen/HIV education program.

Designated employees shall receive additional, specialized training appropriate to their positions and responsibilities.

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References:
School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1301, 1327, 1329, 1330, 1409, 1850.1
State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.4, 4.29, 11.25
PA Confidentiality of HIV-Related Information Act – 35 P.S. 7601 et seq.
Executive Council Policy – 103, 105.1, 105.2, 117, 204, 248