

Bloodborne Pathogens and Universal Standards

1. In each school, there is a covered plastic storage box, plainly marked in red on the lid with the contents. It contains gloves, gown, goggles, face masks with shields, and red biohazard waste bags. This box needs to remain visible and accessible at all times. It will be kept in the nurse's office at Ekstrand, Middle, and High schools. If you ever use anything out of this box, be sure to replace it or leave a note for the nurse so that it isn't missing an item when someone needs it.
2. Be sure fanny packs are worn outside by at least one person on playground duty. This should contain gloves, band aids, and gauze pads at minimum.
3. There is an exposure plan available for any employee to review at each school, located in the policy book.
4. If an exposure occurs, the employee will need to contact their supervisor immediately and then notify the school nurse of the exposure. If the incident is determined to be a possible or definite exposure, then the employee will be offered testing and follow up at the school's expense.
5. When disposing of biohazard waste, such as bloody bandages, gauze, paper towels, tissues, etc., please place the items in the designated biohazard waste receptacles located in each nurse's office or main office. Actually, the guidelines for this state only those items that are so saturated that you could squeeze or wring fluid out of them are to go in these waste containers. Anything else that is less than this may go into the regular trash.
6. All teachers are advised to keep a couple pair of disposable gloves in their desks or rooms in case they are needed quickly.
7. Not all employees are eligible to receive the Hepatitis series at the school's expense. The employees who are offered this are those who have been identified as having reasonably anticipated contact with potentially contaminated blood or body fluids while working. These employees include, but are not limited to, principals, secretaries, playground supervisors, PE teachers, head coaches, custodians. Those employees will be contacted by the nurse to be offered the series if they have not already received it.

If you have any questions about any of this, please contact the school nurse.