

Policy

BEDBUG IDENTIFICATION AND PREVENTION

The Little Silver Board of Education recognizes that control of the spread of communicable disease is essential to the well-being of the school community and to the efficient operation of the schools. The board shall be bound by the statutes and by the rules of the State Board of Education for the exclusion and readmission of students who have contracted a communicable disease, the exclusion of teachers and students who have been exposed to communicable disease, and for the instruction of teachers in health and the prevention of disease. The board shall comply with the regulations of the New Jersey Department of Health and the Board of Health governing the prevention, control, and reporting of communicable disease.

The board recognizes that bedbugs do not live on the humans they feed on and are not known to transmit disease. They can, however, be transmitted or carried from one environment to another, on a person or a person's clothing and/or possessions. The board believes that the presences of such parasites represent a communicable condition that is detrimental to the health and cleanliness of the students in the district schools (N.J.S.A. 18A:40-8). Students and/or staff identified as having bedbugs on their person, clothing, and/or possessions shall be evaluated by the school nurse and may at the discretion of the nurse, be excluded from school (N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.3). Any student excluded from school due to the presence of bedbugs shall be considered absent due to illness (and excused absence – see policy 5111 Attendance, Absences and Excuses). The parents/guardians of any student excluded from school shall be notified of the reason for the exclusion by the school nurse or his or her designee.

When a bed bug is found on a student or the presence of bedbugs is suspected on a student, this may indicate that the student has bed bugs in his/her home. The student shall be treated with discretion, dignity, and respect when dealing with this issue. The following procedures shall be implemented:

- A. The student shall be discretely removed from class and sent to the nurse for inspection, identification, and confirmation of a bedbug presence;
- B. Any bugs noticed should be removed and collected for identification by the nurse or other district employee/representative appropriately trained and qualified to make an accurate identification. Care shall be taken to ensure that specimens collected are as intact as possible;
- C. If a confirmed bedbug is found on the student, the school principal or nurse shall contact the student's parents or guardian to inform them of the bedbug presence on their child. Educational materials shall be provided to the family;
- D. The nurse or the school medical inspector shall determine if the presence of the bedbugs is detrimental to the health and cleanliness of the students in the district schools. If it is determined to be detrimental, the parents/guardians shall be contacted to remove the student from school;
- E. The nurse shall examine and approve any student returning to school after being sent home due to a presence of bedbugs to ensure the prevention of further transmission of the insects;
- F. The district's contracted professional pest management company shall be contacted to conduct a thorough inspection of the affected areas;

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- G. The school principal or nurse shall notify the affected class or classes that bedbugs have been identified in the classroom(s) and of the measures being taken to deal with and eradicate the problem;
- H. The school's licensed pesticide applicator shall be contacted to address bed bugs or any pest infestation issue;
- I. The school custodial staff shall be notified to vacuum the affected area during the end of the day cleaning routine. Place that vacuum bag into a plastic bag/garbage bag and tightly seal for disposal (or for bagless vacuums, empty contents of vacuum into a plastic bag/garbage bag and tightly seal for disposal), and clean the vacuum.

Ongoing pest management that includes the use of pesticides indoors should be overseen by the school principal or designee and be performed by a NJDEP licensed pesticide applicator and must conform to the school's integrated pest management plan (see board policy 3510 Operation and Maintenance of Plant).

The superintendent shall ensure that school personnel and adequately informed of any problems that arise in the school district concerning bedbugs. Staff shall be provided information and/or training as necessary in the identification and prevention of the transmission of bedbugs.

Adopted: July 20, 2017
 NJSBA Review/Update: May 2023
 Adopted: August 24, 2023

Legal References:	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 13:1F-19 through -33	<u>School Integrated Pest Management Act</u>
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:35-4.6 <u>et seq.</u>	<u>Parents Right to Conscience Act of 1979</u>
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-1	Employment of medical inspectors, optometrists and nurses; salaries; terms; rules
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-7, -8, -10, -11	Exclusion of students who are ill
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:16-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Programs to Support Student Development
	<u>See particularly:</u> <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:16-1.4, -2.3,	
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:26-12.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Operation and Maintenance of School Facilities
	<u>See particularly:</u> <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:26-12.2(a)1-2	
	<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 8:57-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Reportable Communicable Diseases

Possible

Cross References:	*1410	Local units
	*3510	Operation and maintenance of plant
	*3516	Safety
	*4112.4/4212.4	Employee health
	*4131/4131.1	Staff development; inservice education/visitations/conferences
	*4231/4231.1	Staff development; inservice education/visitations/conferences
	4151.2/4251.2	Family illness/quarantine
	*5111	Admission
	*5125	Student records
	*5141.1	Accidents
	*5141.2	Illness

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*5141.3	Health examinations and immunizations
*5141.4	Child abuse and neglect
*5141.21	Administering medication
*5142	Student safety
*5200	Nonpublic school students

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.