Board Policy: TUBERCULOSIS SCREENING OF STUDENTS AND SCHOOL PERSONNEL

Adopted: November 6, 2000

Revised: October 15, 2007
       May 5, 2014

1. PURPOSE.

The Fayette County Board of Education (FCBOE) recognizes the need for controlling and preventing tuberculosis infection and disease in the school setting.

2. STUDENT REQUIREMENTS.

2.1. Students transferring from out-of-state must show proof of an approved tuberculin skin test certified by a licensed medical provider given within four months prior to the beginning of the school year with results recorded prior to entry into school.

2.2. Positive reactors must be evaluated by a physician. Students found to have tuberculosis in a communicable stage will not be allowed to attend school until the disease has been arrested and is no longer communicable.

2.3. A student identified by the school nurse who is considered to be “at risk” for tuberculosis may be referred for tuberculin skin testing.

2.4. The state commissioner of the bureau of public health has the authority to require selective testing of school-aged students for tuberculosis when there is reason to believe there has been exposure to the tuberculosis organism.

3. SCHOOL PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS.

3.1. All new personnel (employees, volunteers, and other persons having regular contact with students) must have a Mantoux method tuberculin test when their employment begins, unless they have documentation of a previous positive reaction. New personnel with documentation of a previous positive reaction shall be referred to a licensed physician for evaluation and clearance.
3.2. The state commissioner of the bureau of public health has the authority to require selective testing of school personnel for tuberculosis when there is reason to believe there has been exposure to the tuberculosis organism or has symptoms indicative of the disease.

3.3. The tuberculin skin test will be administered to school personnel at their time of employment.

   a. The tuberculin skin test must be given and read by their physician or local health department who has been trained and has been informed of the most recent guidelines in tuberculosis control.

   b. All positive skin tests will be reported to the local health department.

   c. A first time positive reactor or a tuberculin skin test converter shall be referred to the local health department or a physician for evaluation and treatment or further studies.

   d. Persons with history of a documented positive skin test reaction will follow the recommendation of their physician and obtain a written copy for clearance to begin employment and any follow-up directives for personnel records.

   e. School personnel suspected of or found to have tuberculosis in a communicable stage shall have their employment suspended until their disease has been arrested or, in the opinion of the local health department or physician, they are no longer communicable.

4. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this policy or application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this policy.