I. Policy

II. Procedure

A. Overview

Serious risks are associated with blood-typing activities in the classroom. The identification of the AIDS virus and the recognition of the significant risks associated with other blood-borne pathogens necessitate the restriction of blood-typing activities.

B. General Guidelines

1. Science Curriculum

Authentic blood-typing activities are prohibited in science activities or courses supervised by the science curriculum office. When blood-typing activities are necessary to support mastery of the essential curriculum for specialized courses, the use of simulated blood is required. Simulated blood products are designed for use by high school students and available from a variety of laboratory supply companies. These products allow students to conduct the same scientific processes without the risk of exposure to blood-borne pathogens.

2. Career and Technology Education (CTE) Health Care Programs

The nature of the CTE Health Care programs requires students to develop skills in drawing blood as well as testing blood. Instructional staff will be trained and certified in accordance with the Nurse Practice Act of COMAR, and versed in monitoring compliance with OSHA/MOSHA regulations as they apply to blood exposure, including all universal precautions protocols. These protocols are described in Regulation 200-23 “Bloodborne Pathogen Control Plan.”

Parental permission is required prior to student participation in CTE Health Care Programs requiring students to draw or test blood.

Approved:

Original signed by

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Superintendent