Child Birth

Note

If you see the telephone symbol () next to any sign below occurring in the student, call for help (EMS/9-1-1, school nurse, first aid-trained staff).

Look for

- Sudden, large amounts of fluids/blood from vagina
- Severe, persistent knife-like pain in lower abdomen and back
- Sudden abdominal pain with fainting
- Seizures
- Baby's head presenting

Listen for statements about

- Gush or slow leak of water or blood from vagina
- Diagnosed, suspected pregnancy
- Need to push; baby is coming
- Persistent abdominal pain, intermittent cramping
- Persistent nausea, vomiting
- Severe headache or visual change

Action

- 1. Remember to use gloves and other personal protective equipment before caring for the student. Protective sheets and blankets may be placed under the student.
- 2. Assist the student to be as comfortable as possible, placing pillows as appropriate.
- 3. Should the baby's head become visible, be ready to support the head and shoulders but **do not** pull on the head or cord.
- 4. Hold the baby with its head lower than its feet; wipe mucous from both nose and mouth. You can stimulate the baby's breathing by rubbing its back or flicking its feet. If breathing does not start within a minute of birth, begin CPR if trained.
- 5. Keep the baby warm with clean blankets/sheets.
- 6. Tie the cord 4 inches from the baby and 2 inches closer to the afterbirth (placenta). (Use shoe strings if necessary.) **Do not** cut the cord; the afterbirth will emerge on its own.