

HEALTH SERVICES

The school nurse follows the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) **Communicable Disease Guide** for the control of communicable diseases.

Fever, vomiting, and/or diarrhea is warning that all is not right with the body. It is the recommendation of the school and the IDPH that you not allow a child to return to school until he/she has been **free of symptom(s) for at least 24 hours** without the use of medication.

Students becoming ill or involved in an accident during the school day must report to their teacher first. The teacher will then send student to the school nurse or the office. If it is necessary to go home, school authorities will inform parents/guardian.

Physicals and Immunizations

Returning students must comply with this policy by the **first day** of attendance or they shall be excluded from school. **Health examinations and immunizations are required of all pupils entering preschool for the first time, kindergarten or first grade, and sixth grade. NO APPOINTMENT CARDS ARE ACCEPTED.**

Students who participate in any extra curricular activity/ sports must have a physical examination and be certified physically fit to participate in that activity. This certification must be on file at school office.

Dental Examinations

All Illinois children in kindergarten, second, and sixth grades will be required to have an oral health examination. Each child shall present proof of examination by a dentist prior to May 15th of the school year. School dental examinations must have been completed within 18 months of the May 15th deadline.

Vision Examinations

Public Act 95-671, effective January 1, 2008, requires that all children enrolling in kindergarten in a public, private or parochial school and any student enrolling for the first time in a public, private or parochial school shall have an eye examination. Each such child is to present proof of having been examined by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches or a licensed optometrist within the previous year before October 15 of the school year.

Dog Bites/ Animal Bites

On or off school property are reported to Madison County Animal Control as required by law.

Hearing and Vision Screenings

The State of Illinois mandates the following grades to be screened for vision and hearing each school year:

Vision Screenings: preschoolers, kindergarten, second, eighth, special education, and new students.

Screening is not a substitute for a complete eye and vision evaluation by an eye doctor.

Hearing Screenings: preschoolers, kindergarten, first, second, third, special education, and new students.

After these grades have been completed, attempts will be made to screen the remaining students. Teachers and parents may request a student to be screened by contacting the school nurse.

Parents Right to Object to Physical Examinations, Immunizations or Screenings.

A student may be exempt from the district physical and dental exams, immunization requirements, or screenings on religious or medical grounds if the student's parent(s)/guardian present to the superintendent, Mr. Michael D. Gray, stating explanation of objection. A student may be exempt from the above on medical grounds if a physician provides written verification.

Hearing and Vision Impaired Students

Parents will be notified of the services provided from special state schools for students who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind or visually impaired by the Regional Vision Itinerate Teacher.

Medications At School

Students are not to carry **any** medicines with them to school whether they are over the counter, non-prescription or prescription. This includes eye drops, nasal sprays, Tylenol, etc. Certain children with asthma or life threatening allergies may carry medicine with them after physician and parent/guardian have completed the **Medication Administration/Self Administration Consent Form**.

Administering Medications to Students

"Administration of medication to students during regular school hours should be discouraged unless absolutely necessary for the critical health and well-being of the student." Sec. 10-22.21b, Administration of Medications.

Definitions

- ❑ ***Prescription medication means any medication prescribed by a licensed physician or dentist.***
- ❑ ***Non-prescription medication means any medication that can be obtained over-the-counter.***
- ❑ ***School nurse means any person employed by the Board who is licensed in Illinois as a professional nurse, pursuant to the Illinois Nursing Act, III. Rev.Stat. Ch. III. Para. 3401, et seq.***

No school personnel shall administer to any student, nor shall any student possess or consume any medication until an appropriate permission form has been completed, signed, and is filed. A student may receive medication with parent and physician consent when under the supervision of a school nurse, an administrator, a health aide, or certified school personnel as designated by the Superintendent after the **Medication Administration/Self Administration Consent Form** is completed. This form shall be completed by the student's parent(s)/guardian and physician and shall be on file at the school building where the child attends. This form shall be filed prior to the dispensing

of any medication to a student and the form shall specify the times at which the medication must be dispensed and the appropriate dosage.

Any change in prescription orders, including stopping medication, needs a new physician authorization.

Since school districts cannot legally require all personnel to dispense medication, this will be done on a voluntary basis.

Guidelines for Medication Administration

Generally, medication at school is discouraged. Only those medications, which are necessary to maintain the student in school and must be given during school hours, shall be administered. This policy refers to both non-prescription drugs and prescription drugs.

- ❑ **An approved *Medication Administration/Self Administration Consent Form* must be completed by both the parent and the physician. The consent expires at the end of each school year or end of summer school.**
- ❑ **A responsible adult must bring the medication to school in the original package or appropriately labeled container.**
 - **Prescription drugs** shall display:
 - Student's name
 - Prescription number
 - Medication name/dosage
 - Administration route and/or other directions
 - Date and refill
 - Licensed prescriber's name
 - Pharmacy name, address and phone number
 - Name or initials of pharmacist
 - **Non-prescription or over the counter drugs** shall
 - Have manufacturers original label
 - Have student's name affixed to container.
- ❑ **A record shall be kept of all medication dispensed to students, specifying the time of dispensation, dosage and supervising personnel.**
- ❑ **The parent(s)/guardian or responsible adult will be responsible at the end of the treatment regime for removing from the school any unused medication, which was brought to school for their child. If the adult does not pick up the medication by the last day of school, the school nurse will discard the medication in the presence of a witness.**
- ❑ **A new *Medication Administration/Self Administration Consent Form* must be renewed each school year.**

Students Who Administer Their Own Asthma Inhalers

Students may carry their own Asthma Inhalers if parent(s)/guardian and physician authorize “unsupervised self-administration” on the *Medication Administration/Self Administration Consent Form*.

Epinephrine Medication at School

Students with severe allergies that may cause an anaphylactic reaction may carry their medication (such as an EPIPEN) with them so that they have easy access in case of emergency, if parent(s)/guardian and physician authorize “unsupervised self-administration” on the *Medication Administration/Self Administration Consent Form*.

PE and Recess Excuses and Return to School

If a student is not able to participate in PE or recess, the school will need a note from the physician with details and a start and stop date.

Head Lice Policy and Guidelines

The School Board recognizes that a student infected with head lice is eligible for all rights, privileges and services provided by law and the District’s policies. The District shall balance those students’ rights with the District’s obligation to protect the health of all district students and staff.

When authorized school health personnel identifies a student as having head lice or nits in their hair, attempts will be made to contact their parent/guardian to remove the student from school. A parent letter will also be sent home with the student.

The student will be excluded from school until **the day after** the first pediculicide treatment.

Check In Procedure: The student may return to school **only** when accompanied by an adult. **A student will not be inspected unless accompanied by an adult. The student must be brought in before the start of the school day. Anytime after the start of the day, the parent must call the school nurse to establish a mutually agreeable time and place for inspection by authorized school health personnel.** (The reason for this is the school nurse may already have scheduled screenings or appointments with parents. The lunch/recess time is not a good time for the school nurse to recheck students.)

Authorized school health personnel will inspect the student’s hair for nits/lice to obtain approval for readmission. Upon this inspection, if one nit/egg is found, the adult accompanying the student may remove the nit/egg. If a second nit/egg is found, the student will be sent home with the adult to have all nits/eggs removed. This procedure will repeat itself until the student is inspected by school health personnel and found to be lice and nit/egg free.

A student will be given a pass back to class to notify the teacher the student has been rechecked and is able to return to class. If a student returns to class without a pass, the teacher will send the student to the school health personnel. The school health personnel will then determine what further steps need to be taken for readmitting the student to school.

School health personnel will decide when all school screenings and individual classroom checks are needed. Administration, teachers, and staff will be consulted about day and times.

The school health personnel will make every effort to work with the student's family to educate them on the prevention and the reoccurrence of head lice.

It is the parent's responsibility to check your child for nits/lice on a regular basis (minimum weekly) and report any cases to the school. Parents/guardians and the school must work together to deal with this situation.

Students absent for ten (10) days of unexcused absences as a result of head lice/and/or nits will be reported to the East Alton Family Resource and the Madison County Truant Office.

TREATMENT REQUIRED TO RETURN TO SCHOOL

1. Shampoo

Several shampoos to control lice are available on the market. All people in the household should be treated on the same day, even if the other members do not appear to have lice/nits. Treated person should put on clean clothes after shampooing.

2. Lice/Nit Removal

School requires nits/lice be removed from hair following treatment since it is not possible to determine if nits are dead or alive by observation. After shampooing use a good nit comb to comb the hair section by section. Then comb the entire scalp. Clean the comb between brushes/strokes. Dry the hair and inspect section by section. Nits appear as whitish teardrop shaped objects firmly attached to the shaft of a hair. Pull the nits off by taking fingernail and firmly pulling the nit all the way to the end of the hair. Manual removal of nits with a good nit comb, manual extraction with fingers, or a combination of both is recommended using a bright light or outside light if possible. All persons treated should be treated again for a second time in 7-10 days or as the package directions indicate.

3. ALTERNATIVE TREATMENTS:

There are many alternative treatments that may work. There are also commercial enzymatic nit remover products available. Discuss these with your school nurse, pharmacist and physician.

CHARACTERISTICS:

- ❖ Head lice are not life threatening and do not transmit communicable disease. Head lice appear to have developed a resistance to the normal lice shampoos.
- ❖ Head lice are transferred from one person to another by direct contact with an infected persons head or by contact with personal items such as hats, combs, bedding, etc.
- ❖ Head lice crawl; they do not jump or fly.
- ❖ Head lice can infect anyone regardless of age or wealth.
- ❖ Head lice are completely dependent on a person for nourishment; their only source of food is human blood.
- ❖ The incubation period for eggs (nits) ranges from 7-14 days
- ❖ It takes 10 days for newly hatched eggs to start laying their own eggs.
- ❖ Head lice have a 30-day life span.
- ❖ Eggs (nits) can live for up to 10 days without being on a person.
- ❖ Eggs (nits) will not hatch until their environment reaches 87 degrees.
- ❖ Newly hatched eggs (nits) will die within 1 hour of hatching without a blood meal.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- ❖ Infestation can come from anywhere.
 1. Has your child tried on hats, scarves, or coats at the mall or department stores?
 2. Has your child gone to the movies, church or shared helmets with others?
 3. Has your child put their coat on top of other coats during a school or other out of school activity?
 4. Has your child attended a sleep over or spent the week end outside their home?
 5. Has your child been instructed not to use or share combs, brushes, and hair accessories?
 6. Has your child been instructed not to play with another student's hair?
- ❖ Vacuum thoroughly all pieces of upholstered furniture that might harbor nits/lice. Immediately contain vacuum bag in a plastic bag and dispose of.
- ❖ Using very hot water, wash clothing, towels, bed linens, etc., used by all persons being treated.
- ❖ Combs and brushes should be cleaned daily in hot water to dislodge nits.
- ❖ Washable toys or baseball caps can be washed by hand daily or in the dishwasher.
- ❖ Non-washable toys or stuffed animals can be sealed in plastic bags for 10 to 14 days.
- ❖ Dry clean all clothing, hats, scarves, book bags, etc. which cannot be washed.