



SCHOOL HEALTH RELATED PROGRAMS

Big Lake Schools complies with all applicable laws related to school health programs. The Board has directed the superintendent/designee to implement rules and procedures in accordance with:

- I. Health Screening
 - A. An Early Childhood Health and Developmental Screening is required for all children before entering Kindergarten or first grade in a public school in the State of Minnesota. A child must not be enrolled in Kindergarten or first grade unless a record indicating the month and year the child received screening and the results of the screening are submitted to the school principal or other designated school personnel. Big Lake Schools notify all parents/guardians of this requirement and makes this Health and Developmental Screening available to all children and families before Kindergarten entrance.
 - B. Students entering school shall be given one month to show proof of screening. Students failing to show proof within this period of time will be excluded from school until proof of screening is submitted. It shall be the responsibility of the Elementary Administrative Assistant to consult with the Early Childhood Screening Program Director or secretary to see that this requirement has been met upon a child's first entrance into a school program (K or 1st grade) and to alert the principal if a student has not met this requirement. It shall be the responsibility of the building principal to set up procedures to enforce this rule.
 - C. Vision/Hearing screening is conducted annually, in compliance with Minnesota Department of Health recommendations. Students may also be screened upon parent or teacher request or by the licensed school nurse when such assessment is appropriate.
 - D. Color Vision screening is also conducted for all students at particular grade levels and as requested by teachers and parents.
- II. Health Assessment
 - A. Each student, upon entering Kindergarten and again upon entering 7th grade, shall submit a report of up-to-date immunizations to the school health office. If a parent or legal guardian objects to such childhood immunizations on constitutional grounds, they shall complete the legal exemptions section of the Pupil Health Immunization Record, and sign and notarize this form prior to returning it to the health office of the school their child attends.

- B. If a student has classroom/activity limitations due to a medical condition, the parent/guardian will request the physician complete a written description of the limitation and submit it to the principal/designee or school nurse/health assistant.
- C. If a student's medical condition requires medical treatments be carried out at school, the determination on if and how treatments can/should be carried out safely and effectively at school will be made by a school team that will consist of the district's school nurse or designated health service staff, parent/guardian, principal and teacher.
- D. Health assessments are provided as appropriate by the licensed school nurse.

III. Immunizations

- A. No student may be enrolled or remain enrolled in any elementary or secondary school within Big Lake Schools until the student or the student's parent or guardian has submitted to the designated school district administrator one of the following statements:
 - 1. A statement, from a parent, physician, or a public clinic, which provides immunizations, stating that the student, received the immunizations required by law, consistent with medically acceptable standards.
 - 2. A statement, from a physician or a public clinic, that provides immunizations, stating that the student received the primary schedule of immunizations required by law and has commenced a schedule of the remaining required immunizations, indicating the month, day, and year each immunization was administered, consistent with medically acceptable standards. It shall be the responsibility of the building principal to set up procedures to enforce this policy and to notify parents and students of the immunization requirements and the consequences for failure to provide the required documentation. The district shall review student health records to determine whether the required information has been provided.
- B. Exemptions from Immunizations:
 - 1. If a person is at least 7 years old and has not been immunized against pertussis, the person will not be required to be immunized against pertussis until 10-11 years old, when a booster shot is required prior to entering 7th grade.
 - 2. If a person is at least 5 years old and has not been immunized against haemophilus influenza type b, the person is not required to be immunized against haemophilus influenza type b.
 - 3. If a person is at least 18 years old and has not completed the polio series, the person is not required to complete the series.
 - 4. If a statement signed by a physician is submitted to the Health Services staff or other person having general control and supervision of the school or child care facility stating that an immunization is contraindicated for medical reasons or

that laboratory confirmation of the presence of adequate immunity exists, the immunization specified in the statement need not be required.

5. If a notarized statement signed by the minor child's parent or guardian or by the emancipated person is submitted to the Health Services staff or other person having general control and supervision of the school or child care facility stating that the person has not been immunized because of the conscientiously held beliefs of the parent or guardian of the minor child or of the emancipated person, the immunizations specified in the statement shall not be required.

C. Home School

The parent or guardian of persons receiving instruction in a home school shall submit one of the required immunization statements to the superintendent/designee of Big Lake Schools by October 1 of each year.

D. Presence of a Communicable Disease

When there is evidence of the presence of a communicable disease, or when required by any state or federal agency and/or state or federal law, students and/or their parents or guardians may be required to submit such other health care data as is necessary to ensure that the student has received any necessary immunizations and/or is free of any communicable diseases.

E. Enrollment Dependent upon Immunization Record

1. No student may be enrolled or remain enrolled in any elementary or secondary school within the school district until the student or the student's parent or guardian has submitted the required data. The school district may allow a student transferring into a school a maximum of 30 days to submit a statement required by this policy. If the student fails to do so within 30 days, the student will be excluded from school until the required statement and immunization documentation is provided
2. The district will maintain a file containing the immunization records for each student in attendance at the school district for at least 5 years after the student attains the age of majority. Upon request, the school district may exchange immunization data with persons or agencies providing services on behalf of the student without the consent of the student's parent or guardian. Under all other circumstances, immunization data is private data and disclosure of such data shall be governed by the district's data practices policy.

IV. Health Records

Each school is required by law to maintain a health record for every student. This record shows evidence of immunization and screening dates. It also may contain pertinent health data about a student. All health records are legally considered private data under Minnesota law and District policy.

V. Illness/Communicable Disease

If a student becomes ill at school, the teacher or Health Service staff shall isolate the student and an appropriate assessment will be made to determine if the parent/guardian should be notified and the student be sent home. If upon assessment, a student is suspected of having a communicable disease; Health Service staff shall determine exclusion and return to school protocol. The parent or guardian will be notified of the possibility of a communicable disease and the recommended school protocol.

VI. Accidents

A. When a student is injured while at school, school health staff shall administer first aid according to guidelines set forth by the District and under the direction of the school nurse. If, in the judgment of the Health Service staff, principal, or other school official acting in their stead, the injury requires emergency medical attention, 911 will be called and the parent or guardian notified as soon as possible. If an injury is not identified as emergency but medical care by a physician is indicated, the parent/guardian will be notified as soon as possible.

B. A student injured in school or on the school grounds should report to the health room. A School Accident Report may be completed by a student or staff person witnessing the accident when deemed appropriate. This shall be given to the health service staff of the building and principal/designee for review and filed in the health room.

VII. Medications

A. Diagnosis and treatment of illness and the prescribing of drugs and medications are never the responsibility of a school and should not be practiced by any school personnel. It is the expectation of the District that all students' medications be administered by a parent at home. However, the District acknowledges that some students may require prescribed medication during the school day. If such medication is necessary during school hours, the School District's licensed school nurse or designated person(s) shall administer the medication in compliance with appropriate law and District administrative procedures. (See Policy 516 – Medications and Regulations for 516.)

VIII. Medically Fragile Children

Big Lake Schools support inclusion of medically fragile students in conventional school settings. Efforts will be made to provide safe and healthy environments where students' health needs are met by licensed health professionals and trained support staff. If health care needs of students exceed that which can reasonably be met in a student's school, an alternative education program will be determined. Students' health needs and appropriate school setting will be determined by the building team, including the District licensed school nurse in consult with health service staff.

Rationale: *Big Lake Schools complies with the laws related to student health, screenings and individual education plans.*

Legal References: Minn. Stat. 245.91

Early Childhood Screening Law M.S. 121A.16

Minnesota Statute 245.9

General powers of independent school districts M.S. 123B.02

Health standards; newly enrolled students M.S. 121A.15

Minnesota Statute 121A.22 Nurse Practice Act

Minnesota School Immunization Law M.S. 121A.15

Health records; children of school age. M.S. 144.29

Minn. Stat. § 13.32 (Educational Data)

Minn. Stat. § 121A.15 (Health Standards; Immunizations; School Children)

Minn. Stat. § 121A.17 (School Board Responsibilities)

Minn. Stat. § 144.29 (Health Records; Children of School Age)

Minn. Stat. § 144.3351 (Immunization Data)

Minn. Stat. § 144.441 (Tuberculosis Screening in Schools)

Minn. Stat. § 144.442 (Testing in Schools)

Minn. Rules Parts 4604.0100-4604.1000 (Immunization)

McCarthy v. Ozark Sch. Dist., 359 F.3d 1029 (8th Cir. 2004)

Op. Atty. Gen. 169-W (July 23, 1980)

Op. Atty. Gen. 169-W (Jan. 17, 1968)