

The Holton-Arms Student Health Statement of Philosophy

The Holton-Arms School is dedicated to the education not only “of the mind but of soul and spirit”, the Student Health Department/Infirmary is dedicated not only to achieving the wellness of body, but of spirit as well. The Holton-Arms School Nurse and Director of Student Health adheres to the principles of nursing philosophy of Betty Neuman, that health is equated with wellness and, “the condition in which all parts and subparts (variables) are in harmony with the whole of the client” (Neuman, 1995). That the school nurse is a unique professional that is concerned with all of the variables which influence the response a person might have to a stressor. The students are seen as whole people, shall be treated with respect and their parents treated as the nucleus of the student’s life. The school nurse shall act to assist the entire student body, faculty and staff to maintain a maximum level of wellness, with the primary aim of reducing stressors that impede maximum health.

Holton-Arms School's Infirmary is located in the administration building on the first floor. There is one registered nurse for the school. The Infirmary is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m Monday through Friday while school is in session. In an effort to enhance student learning, the School Nurse strives to increase student attendance and reduce early dismissals by alleviating minor health complaints that interfere with student performance. Parents are reminded that the Infirmary is meant to handle first aid and emergencies and to provide care for students who become ill during the course of the day. Holton-Arm’s School has 10 AEDs on campus for emergencies, school assigned Epipens, and Emergency Glucagon Kit. The school nurse and certified/licensed athletic trainer work closely to manage students who suffer concussions, the policy and process are covered in a separate section.

An annual physical is required for all Holton-Arms School students and must be done after August 1 and is good until the next consecutive school year. The Physician Examination Form, Medication Administration Form, Emergency Health Care Plans (if applicable) and Immunization Certificate (for new students only) must be completed by a medical doctor. The Student Information Sheet (all students) is to be completed by a parent/guardian. Copies of these forms are available on this website and from the School Nurse in the Infirmary. Students are expected to be in compliance with the Maryland immunization schedule. The school is required to exclude from school children who are out of compliance with the state immunization schedule. Copies of the Student Information sheet will be given to the Certified Athletic Trainer. Medical information pertinent to the safety and well-being of the student may be confidentially shared with the applicable teacher(s) and/or athletic coach.

If a student is injured or becomes ill during school hours, he/she must comply with the division specific policy on illness dismissal located in the student handbooks. Students should not be using their cell phones to contact a parent about going home prior to seeing the nurse.

The parent/guardian will be contacted by the school nurse, and if the situation warrants he/she will need to be taken home. Your child will be cared for until you arrive, but please remember that under such circumstances, the comfort of your child will be increased if you come as quickly as possible. If an ill or injured child warrants immediate action, the rescue squad at 911 will be called.

If your child wakes up not feeling well and/or with a fever, please keep him or her home. Not only is he/she not at his/her best to learn, but he/she might very well infect his/her peers and teachers. If your child has seen a doctor, please get instructions on when your doctor feels it is appropriate, based on the illness and treatment, to return to class. If your child is treated for a contagious condition such as strep throat, conjunctivitis (pink eye), infectious mononucleosis, head lice, etc., please let the School Nurse know as soon as possible. Please see "When to Keep Your Child Home" to determine if your child should be and/or return to school.