Health Office Memorandum to Parents

Health Office

Registered (School) Nurses are available during school hours. The School Nurse may be assigned to more than one school. In addition to the School Nurse, the school provides school personnel trained in first aid, CPR, and medication administration.

Contact Information

In the event of an accident or illness, the school must be able to have valid daytime phone numbers of parents or other adults who will assume responsibility for the child. *Update*, *update*, *and update the new numbers for home*, *work*, *or emergency contacts*. The school must have alternative contact numbers-the more the better- in case the parent cannot be reached.

Health Conditions/Health History

The *parent* is responsible for notifying the School Nurse (yearly-more often if changes occur) of any condition that a child has that might result in an emergency (e.g. asthma, diabetes, seizures, allergic reactions of any kind) or affect academic achievement. Healthcare plans need to be completed in order to meet the child's health needs.



Immunizations

Indiana statute requires that immunizations be up-to-date or completed by the first day of school. Verification of immunizations must be on file with the school. Objection forms must be renewed at the beginning of <u>each school year</u>. Please notify the School Nurse of any other immunizations your child might receive during the school year.

Medications

<u>Most medications should be taken at home</u>. Medications with directions for three times a day should be given about every 8 hours so they may be given before school, after school, and at bedtime unless the physician requests other times in writing.

If medications must be taken during the school day, please contact the school for appropriate forms *before* sending in the med. Ask the pharmacy to provide a separate "School Bottle" for school use. Most do so free of charge.

Note** medications can only be dispensed from the original prescription bottle or over-the-counter package. Medications can only be given with a *completed and signed* Medication Permit. Aspirin is not given to children under 19 years of age unless ordered and signed by a physician. Unused medicine may be picked up by parents or sent home with the student if that is indicated on the Medication Permit. FWCS policy is to discard any remaining medications after the last day of each school year.

Illness

<u>Please keep your child home</u> when symptoms of illness are present (fever, undiagnosed rash, constant cough, vomiting, diarrhea, etc.) Please notify the school if you think your child has any contagious conditions or illnesses. Remember to call the school each day the child will be absent. Post-illness School Attendance

Children should be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications like Tylenol and Motrin before returning to school. Conditions that require antibiotic medications like strep throat or pink eye usually require at least 24 hours of medications before children are healthy enough for school. It is helpful to check with your doctor when medication is prescribed and provide the school with written recommendations for school attendance.

Head Lice

Children identified with head lice must be treated at home before returning to school. Prevention is the key. It is the *parent's responsibility* to inspect their child's hair frequently at home and call the School Nurse if there are any questions.

School Nurses support the success of every child. To promote positive educational outcomes, the School Nurse strives to help chronically ill, physically challenged children, and provide nursing care of accidents illnesses, and other medical situations. They provide health education and encourage the prevention of disease. They assist faculty and staff in making health-related adaptations to the school program. School Nurses encourage parent participation in this process to promote good health and maintain a healthy, safe school environment for staff and students.

Thank You, Your School Nurse