



## **SCHOOL HEALTH RELATED PROGRAMS**

### **I. PURPOSE**

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:

### **II. 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 or as needed, 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 as requested by teachers and parents.

### **III. 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 (additional information can be found in Policy 530).
- B. If a student has long term or on-going 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 health office staff.

#### **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**

A. 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.

B. 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.

#### **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**

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.

- 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 (8<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2004)
  - Op. Atty. Gen. 169-W (July 23, 1980)
  - Op. Atty. Gen. 169-W (Jan. 17, 1968)