



School Nurses Care for Children

Health Services
Mat-Su Borough School District
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P: (907) 746-9200

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Many questions arise regarding health records at registration time. We would like to answer some of these questions and explain some procedures which will require your cooperation.

IMMUNIZATIONS: Alaska State Law requires all students be adequately immunized **PRIOR** to entering school. The parent/guardian must provide the school with a valid medically verified immunization record from a clinic, health department or private physician showing the dates of all immunizations given. This record will be checked and verified by the school nurse at your child's school. Children without valid verified immunization records will not be allowed to start school.

(Provisions are available for medical or religious exemptions.)

PHYSICALS: Pursuant to MSBSD Board Policy 5141.3, health examinations by a Medical Doctor, Doctor of Osteopathy, Physician's Assistant, Nurse Practitioner or chiropractor will be required for the following students:

- Annually for all students participating in interscholastic athletics. The completed physical form should be returned to the school as soon as possible.

HEALTH CONCERNS: If your child has a health concern (such as allergies, asthma, diabetes, etc.) please indicate this at the time of registration. There are Individual Healthcare Action Plans for the following conditions; allergies, asthma, diabetes, and seizures. These forms need to be completed by you and your health care provider and submitted to the school nurse as soon as possible. These forms can be located on the District web site under health forms. Please feel free to discuss these health concerns with the school nurse, teachers and counselors.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS: **Emergency phone numbers are vitally important to the school.** If you work, do not have a phone, or plan to be out of town, please provide additional emergency contacts who may be contacted should your child become ill or injured. Please update these emergency numbers frequently. **WE MUST BE ABLE TO REACH YOU !**

MEDICATIONS: We understand that it may be necessary for your child to take medication during the school day. **All medications are to be delivered by the parent or adult representative to the nurse's office.** The appropriate MSBSD Medication Authorization forms must be signed by the parent and accompany all medication for administration. Prescription medications to be taken for over 2 weeks must also be authorized and forms signed by the prescribing physician or health care provider. Medications must be in pharmacy labeled prescription bottles. Ask your pharmacist to provide a second labeled bottle for school. We ask for your cooperation as we are concerned with your child's safety as well as the safety of the other MSBSD students.

Self- Carry and Administration of Emergency Medications for ALLERGY/ANAPHYLAXIS and ASTHMA

- A student may be permitted to carry medication (such as an Epinephrine Pen or Metered dose inhaler) that has been prescribed or ordered by a physician to stay on or with the student due to a pressing medical need. Students who have received instruction in the self-administration of asthma or anaphylaxis medication shall be permitted to carry and self-administer the medication upon written authorization of the parent/guardian **and** health care provider (Allergy Action Plan or Asthma Action Plan) and clearance by the school nurse that the proper authorizations are on file. Written authorization must be submitted annually.
- If these students self-administer the EPIPEN at school it must report to the nurse immediately to monitor the student for shock and to call 911. These students should report if they have to use their inhaler a second time while at school so the nurse can monitor for additional health needs. Our medical advisor suggests that all students use an appropriate spacer with their inhaler for better utilization of the medication. Please talk with your health care provider regarding obtaining a separate inhaler or EPIPEN to be stored in the nurse's office.

HEALTH SCREENING: During the course of this year, various health screenings will take place. These screenings may include vision acuity and color perception, hearing, height, weight, blood pressure, and a brief dental screening. You will be contacted if any of these basic screening tests indicate that further testing or follow-up is necessary.

As health professionals, we are concerned that the physical and mental health of your student does not interfere with his/her ability to learn. If at any time you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your school nurse.