

Tuloso-Midway Independent School District

School Health Services

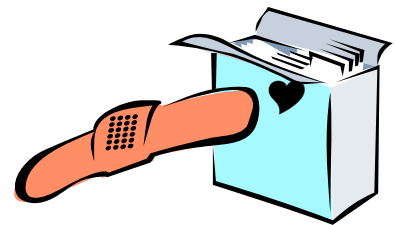


HEALTH PACKET

Contents ...

- ✓ School Nurse Letter

- ✓ Summarized District Health Policies
(Medications, Illness, & Immunizations)



PLEASE RETAIN FOR FUTURE REFERENCE



Important Health Information: Please Keep for Future Reference.

✦ From the Desk of the School Nurse ✦
2009-2010 School Year



Dear Parents,

Greetings from TMISD Health Services! Welcome to all new and returning families. As your school nurse, I enjoy the very special privilege of caring for your child. Please take a few minutes from your busy day to note some very important information that will help me provide the best care and service to your family:



Medication: I am happy to assist students who need medications at school, and request that all medications be brought to school by a parent, guardian or designated adult--not a child for reasons of safety. Medications, both prescription and over-the-counter, will require written consent and dosage instructions by a parent or guardian. Please note that Texas law does not permit public schools to dispense nonprescription drugs such as Tylenol, Advil, or cough syrups, etc. unless they are supplied from home. **Please see the attached sheet for more information about TMISD's Medication Policy.**

First Aid for Illness and Injury: We make every effort to safeguard your child's health at school. In the event of a serious accident or emergency, you will be contacted immediately. When a parent or guardian cannot be reached, the student will be transported by ambulance to an appropriate medical facility and accompanied by a nurse, administrator or designated faculty member. To ensure optimum care, it is important to update us continually with new phone numbers, changes in your child's health, new medications, or anything else that impacts his or her well-being at school.

Health Screening: Vision and hearing screening is performed on all Pre-K, kindergarten, all odd grade levels and new-to-district students in accordance with Texas guidelines. Additionally, students who show signs of vision or hearing difficulty (any grade) may be screened to rule out a problem. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like your child screened at any time during the school year. If a problem exists, you will be notified and referred for further medical evaluation if needed.



Control of communicable diseases and illness: Your child's good health is important to me! Hygiene and health are taught and emphasized throughout the year. Please call or see me whenever you are not certain about sending your child to school. Attached is specific illness policy information to guide you. **For example, it is vital that students with fever greater than 100 degrees stay home and rest for at least 24 hours.** With this packet you will also find attached an information sheet about immunization requirements and about *pediculosis* ("head lice"), a remarkably common childhood condition – a nuisance I'd like to help you avoid!

You are encouraged to share any concerns or problems relevant to your child's health. If you have any questions or would like to meet with your school nurse, please do not hesitate to call us at the number listed below. Clinic hours are from 7:30-3:00 (Primary & Intermediate) 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (MS & HS) Monday through Friday.

Best wishes for a fantastic school year,



Maggie DeLosSantos, RN – HS Nurse 903-6710
Arianne Hight, LVN – MS Nurse 903-6610
Juli-An Barrera, LVN – Intermediate Nurse 903-6560
Patricia Bennett, RN – Primary Nurse 903-6510

From the Desk of the School Nurse

Important Information:

TMISD Health Guidelines Summary

ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR ILLNESS

Please do not send your child to school if any of the following symptoms or signs is present in the previous twenty four hours:

- ◆ **Elevated temperature (100 degrees or greater)**
- ◆ **Acute cold, sore throat, or persistent cough**
- ◆ **Vomiting, nausea, or severe abdominal pain**
- ◆ **Repeated diarrhea**
- ◆ **Pus-like discharge from the nose or eyes, or ◆ Red or inflamed eyes/lids,**
- ◆ **Suspected and untreated impetigo, scabies, or lice.**

Please contact the school nurse when you are not sure if your child is well enough to attend school. Also, it is wise to contact her when your child is on the “borderline” of being ill. (Be sure to let the school know where you may be contacted in case your child’s condition worsens). SPECIAL NOTE: If your child complains often of headaches or stomachaches or frequently does not feel well, please notify your physician or health care provider.

MEDICATION POLICY

We are happy to assist students who need medication at school, and for safety reasons ask for the utmost compliance and cooperation regarding very specific district and state requirements. *Most medications, even those scheduled for **three** times per day, can usually be given outside of school hours.* Texas state law does not permit public schools to provide Tylenol, Advil or cough preparations or other over-the-counter medications to students unless they are supplied from home (and have written parent consent). If any medication (prescription & non-prescription) is going to be given longer than 2 weeks we will need a long term medication form signed by your child’s physician.



Medications must be:

- In the original, properly labeled container (no baggies or envelopes, please!)
- One medication per bottle
- Up to date (check expiration date before bringing it to school)
- Age appropriate in dosage.

Injectible Medications:

- May only be given at school for life-threatening/urgent conditions (for example epinephrine for severe allergic reaction or insulin for diabetes management).
- Must have parent and physician authorization on file. (Long term medication form is available in the school clinic.)
- May only be administered by a nurse (or specially trained school designee).

“Controlled Medications”: Ritalin, Adderall and all other “controlled” **medications must be brought to the clinic by a parent, guardian or responsible adult.** Please do not send these medications to school with your child because of modern safety concerns. All controlled medications are locked in a secure cabinet.

Summary of Health Policies (Continued). . .

Asthma Inhalers: “Rescue” inhalers for asthma (such as Albuterol/Ventolin) may be carried by older, responsible students who have both parent *and* **physician consent in writing (form available in the school clinic)**...

Special Reminder: For reasons of safety, parents, guardians or other designated adults will need to bring medications to school. A parent, guardian or other responsible adult will also need to pick these up at the end of the school year.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS*

In accordance with state law, students must have the following before they may enroll and attend school:

Diphtheria/tetanus (DPT, DT, etc.)— Four doses with at least one given after age 4; then one dose every 10 years thereafter. **All 7th grade students are required to have a Tdap booster on file prior to school entry** (only if it has been 5 years since last tetanus-containing vaccine).

Polio (OPV, IPV)—Three doses with at least one dose given on or after age 4.

Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) –Two or more doses with first dose on or after age 1. **All students entering Kindergarten are required to have two doses of MMR vaccine prior to school entry.**

Hepatitis B—three doses.

Varicella (“chicken pox”)—one dose unless vaccine was received after age thirteen then two doses are required. **All Kinder and 7th grade students will be required 2 doses prior to school entry.** Students who have had chicken pox disease are exempt and need only to provide a note from the parent or doctor stating *month and year* of the illness.

Haemophilus (HibCV--or equivalent doses)—At least one dose for students under age 5.

**For students with religious or medical exemptions, special forms are available at the local health department.

Hepatitis A – All students entering Kindergarten must have 2 doses of Hepatitis A vaccine.

Meningococcal Vaccine – **All students entering 7th grade are required to have one dose prior to school entry.**

Special Note: By law, records must show “day” as well as month and year of each dose administered and must have the signature or stamp of the physician/health facility that administered these.

*Please note that request for copies of your child’s immunization record from the school nurse require 48 hour notice by written request.

TUBERCULOSIS TESTING

All students entering District schools for the first time, in any grade, shall be required to complete the TB questionnaire. The results of the questionnaire will determine if a TB skin test is required. All students entering District schools for the first time in any grade from a foreign country shall provide evidence of having received a tuberculosis test within 12 months prior to enrolling. The results of the skin test shall be submitted to the District at the time of enrollment.

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Pediculosis Management Guidelines and Procedures

Pediculosis (head lice) infestation has become a national epidemic, with over 10 million children and adults affected annually. Head lice affects more children than all other communicable childhood diseases combined, excluding the common cold. TMISD nurses are actively involved in the education and surveillance process and will make every effort to prevent and control head lice outbreaks through the following measures:

1. Grades Pre-K – 5 screen for head lice at the time of health screenings and/or any other time during the school year that the nurse believes is appropriate.
2. Minimum criteria: Grades K – 5 when a student in one classroom is known to be infested a classroom screening may be conducted. Grades 6 – 12 when one student is identified, close contacts of that student will be screened.
3. When the nurse discovers lice in a student's hair, the student will be sent home.

The nurse will:

- a.) Give verbal and written instructions to the parent on appropriate treatment and prevention: i.e.: shampoo student and all family members as soon as possible and repeat per instructions on the over-the-counter or prescription head lice shampoo, or as directed by the physician.
 - b.) Teach the parent how to identify and eliminate nits (eggs).
 - c.) Re-examine the student upon return to school and note treatment used. Perform Follow-up screening as applicable.
- Special Note: Student may return to school immediately after one shampoo treatment has been completed and no live lice are seen.
4. Screen siblings and exposed contacts of infested students as soon as possible. Inform other school nurses of known contact cases for students in other schools.
 5. Screening Procedure and Confidentiality: The nurse will use a bright light source and clean sticks (for example, 6 in. “applicator” sticks), tongue blades or gloves to screen each student. Disinfectant such as rubbing alcohol, or soap and water will be used to cleanse hands if hair is inadvertently touched. Review findings with student as promptly as possible, and with confidentiality to protect privacy.
 6. Education: Provide classroom, grade level and/or school wide information and instruction about pediculosis prevention. Assist teachers with precautions such as keeping coats and hats separated, head phones clean, and preventing students from sharing combs, brushes, hats, etc. As a courtesy to parents, a notice may be sent home when a case of head lice has been discovered in a classroom.

If a student has been sent home three school days in one month, the child cannot return to school until ALL EGGS (nits) are removed.