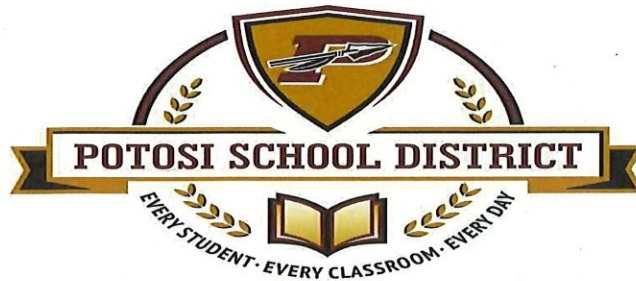


Kurt Cohen
District Administrator
(608) 763-2162

Tammy Cooley
Pupil Services Director
(608) 763-2162



Mike Uppena
K-12 Principal
(608) 763-2161

Mark Siegert
Athletic Director
(608) 763-2161

5/19/21

Dear Parents:

As you may know, head lice cases are common among school aged children. An estimated 6 to 12 million infestations occur each year in the United States, most commonly among children ages 3 to 11. I am writing to you to help you learn what you can do if lice hit your home and to tell you there is a confirmed case in the school and that treatment measures have already been taken.

To detect the presence of head lice early, we suggest checking your family members' heads on a weekly basis. This is done by parting the hair in small sections with a comb looking for bite marks, redness, nits or eggs. The nits are usually found about ¼ inch to 2 inch from the scalp. They adhere themselves onto the hair shaft and cannot be easily removed. The louse is a small flat, wingless, brownish-gray creature with a stubby antennae and six legs each ending in a sharp curved claw. They are most commonly found behind the ears and at the nape of the neck, although they may be found anywhere on the head. The louse can be seen with the naked eye. This check should take 15 minutes or more to do and must be done in good light.

Head lice are not related to cleanliness. In fact, head lice often infest people with good hygiene and grooming habits. Infestations can occur at home, school, or in the community. Head lice are mostly spread by direct head-to-head contact. To help prevent infestation, we suggest instructing all family members to avoid borrowing personal items, combs, brushes, hats, towels or clothing from each other or from friends or sharing toys or stuffed animals. It is best for everyone to use only their own personal articles at home and at school.

If you think your child has head lice, it's important to talk to your family healthcare provider right away to discuss the best treatment approach. There is no clear evidence that home remedies such as homeopathic shampoos mayonnaise, or oils work, and they may just end up prolonging the problem. If lice or nits are found, they need to be treated with anti-lice shampoo. Clothing and bedding should be washed as well. Students with live lice are not allowed to come to school so the spread of lice can be prevented until treated and no live lice are found. When a case of live lice is found at school, the student is sent home until treated with an appropriate lice kit and no live lice remain. As always, we will continue to send notice letters to all the parents if more cases arise. Many families will experience a head lice infestation at some point during their child's school years. If your child is diagnosed with head lice, know you are not alone. As your school nurse, I want to provide you with the information you need to address any head lice issue that may occur, and encourage you to talk with your healthcare provider to resolve the problem as quickly and effectively as possible. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly at the number above—my main focus is your child's health!

For more information regarding head lice detection and treatment, please contact the Grant County Health Department at 723-6416 or you can contact us at school at 763-2161.

Sincerely,

Jessica Schuler, RN
Grant County Health Department

"Every Student, Every Classroom, Every Day"