



Lyman School District 42-1

Serving the Communities of Kennebec, Lower Brule, Presho, Reliance and Vivian
P.O. Box 1000, Presho, South Dakota 57568-1000

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TO: Lyman School District Families
FROM: Chris Long, Superintendent, Lyman School District
RE: Head Lice

Good afternoon,

The Lyman School District has noted an uptick in head lice cases in both the Kennebec and Presho locations. This letter is to provide information on solutions to this issue for families and also outlines the expectations of the Lyman School District regarding head lice in our buildings. At the district level, we are taking extra steps in cleaning the facilities with chemicals that are safe but designed to counter head lice, but those steps are not effective if the issues in the home are not addressed as well.

Head lice transmission can occur during direct contact with an infested individual. Head-to-head contact or sharing items of clothing, combs, brushes, hats, or headphones may also result in transmission. Shared surfaces such as pillows, mattresses, sleeping bags, cars seats, or upholstered furniture may also transmit head lice. Usually, the first indication of an infestation is the itching on the head. Scratching at the back of the head or around the ears should lead to an examination for head louse eggs (nits) on the hair and can be spread as long as lice or eggs remain alive on the infested person.

Here is a helpful link from the Center for Disease Control on lice treatment for individuals and at home:
<https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/treatment.html>

Local resources are also available for parents. There are head lice treatments available at the Presho Community Pharmacy (605-895-6337), BJ's Food Center in Kennebec (605-869-2256) and Family Dollar in Reliance (605-646-6134). The Lower Brule Health Center Pharmacy has head lice treatments that are available for pick up (605-473-5141).

At the school district level, below outlines the process we will use if your child is found to have head lice.

- If live lice or evidence of nits is found on the student during the school day, the student may remain in school and finish out the day. They are required to treat with medicated lice shampoo and do a thorough comb-through to eliminate nits that same day and/or evening and can return to school the following day. A phone call will be made home.
- The following school day upon arrival, students will be checked by school staff. If the student continues to have evidence of live lice and nits, the student will need to be picked up from school. The school reserves the right to check students for lice until the issue has been remedied.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We appreciate your cooperation in working to solve this issue in our school district. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's school.

Sincerely,

Chris Long