

Health Office Information and Policies

I look forward to working with your student and becoming his/her school health advocate. For the health of our students I want to encourage all parents and students to contact your school nurse with any health related questions or concerns. Together we can improve and maintain our student body health and well-being. Here is some information I want to share:

1. **Immunizations:** KSA 72-6271 Kansas statutes related to school immunization program and KAR 28-120 defines immunizations required for school. An immunization guideline form that easily explains what immunizations are required for each grade level for this school year is at the end of this information.

Medical and Religious Exemptions: K.S.A 72-6262 *“(b) As an alternative to the certification required under subsection (a), a pupil shall present: (1) **An annual written statement signed by a licensed physician stating the physical condition of the child to be such that the tests or inoculations would seriously endanger the life or health of the child, or (2) A written statement signed by one parent or guardian that the child is an adherent of a religious denomination whose religious teachings are opposed to such tests or inoculations”***

2. **Health Assessment:** KSA 72-5214 Kansas state law requires that all pupils under the age of 9 entering a Kansas school for the first time MUST present the results of a basic health assessment done by an approved health care provider PRIOR to admission and attendance in school. Your family physician or the local county health department can do this for you. “The health assessment must have been conducted within the previous twelve (12) months by a physician or person acting under a physician’s direction.”

3. **Head Lice:** Yes, those annoying little head bugs do come around uninvited now and then. No need to panic; together we can send them away. If your child is in a class with a student with head lice, we will notify you. If your child is found to have LIVE head lice, they will be sent home and be allowed to return to school once the school has been notified that treatment with an anti-parasitic medication has been initiated. The student must be checked and monitored by me, the RN, or designee periodically for the next 7-14 days to ensure that the lice have been eliminated.

4. **Medications:** OTC (Over the counter medications) and Prescription medications: May be given at school, per USD 327 policy, as needed with a signed written consent from the parent/guardian and healthcare provider/physician (for prescription meds). It is your responsibility to provide this medication. Please see School Policy for Medications in the School Setting page for more details.

5. **Illnesses:** If your child is ill, please keep him/her home. USD 327 policy states that a child should not be sent to school if he/she has:
 - a. fever in the past 24 hours
 - b. vomiting in the past 24 hours
 - c. diarrhea in the past 24 hours
 - d. chills

- e. sore throat
- f. Strep throat (must have been taking an antibiotic for at least 24 hours before returning to school)
- g. bad cold, with a very runny nose or bad cough, especially if it has kept the child awake at night
- h. head lice

If your child becomes ill at school and is too sick to benefit from school or is contagious to other children, a parent/guardian will be called to pick up the child from school. It is recommended that children and parents/guardians receive the flu vaccine annually. Cold and flu viruses are highly contagious.

6. Food allergies: Any student with a food allergy will need a healthcare provider to complete a meal modification form. Please consult with the school nurse about any allergies.

7. Screenings: Students will be provided the following health screenings:

- a. Vision: A basic vision screen each school year on all grades except for 6th, 10th and 12th and students new in the district and/or with any known problems or educational plans in place.
- b. Hearing: A hearing test each year by Central Kansas Cooperative in Education for students in grades K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and 10th and students new in the district and/or with any known problems or educational plans in place.
- c. Heights and Weights: Every fall and spring for all students.
- d. Dental: Every year for all students conducted by Salina Family Dentistry.

Parents/Guardians may opt out of any of these screenings at their request. There is no charge for these screenings. To support the dental screening program there is an optional fluoride application that requires insurance information for billing purposes. Most insurances allow two to four fluoride treatments per year. If you receive a bill for this service, contact Salina Family Dental at (785) 826-9017.

Other Health Activities and Programs with the School Nurse

American Red Cross Blood Drive: Twice per year at EJSHS for students 16 years and older (and adults). Scholarships for high school students available.

Basic First Aid and communication with 911 dispatchers: Grade 5

Basic First Aid/Mock 911 Call/Hands Only CPR and AED basic introduction: Grade 6

Basic Hygiene/Puberty: Focus is on hygiene for boys and hygiene and puberty needs as our bodies begin to change. Grade 4

Dental Health: Local dentist talks with students about dental care and health. Grade 3

Dental Health Month: Short videos/lessons on dental hygiene. Grades K, 1, 2 and 4

Global Hand Washing Day in October: KSU Extension Office assists with handwashing demonstration with glo germ fun. Grades K-4

Hands Only CPR/Stop the Bleed: Ellsworth County EMS/ECMC provide an hour long course. Grades 9 and new students

Human Sexuality: Reinforcement of hygiene as we start puberty and introduction to our reproductive health. Grades 5 and 6

Human Sexuality: Next level of reproductive health, focusing on communication. Grade 7

Human Sexuality: Ongoing education of human reproductive system and related diseases, focus on abstinence and resources. Grade 8

Immunization Clinics: Ellsworth County Health Department brings a vaccine clinic to the schools to provide required vaccines and influenza immunizations. Dates are determined yearly. Grades K-12
Serving Up My Plate Program: An “EAT SMART – PLAY HARD” 6-week program sponsored by the Child Nutrition and Wellness – Kansas State Department of Education. Focus is on healthier food choices in the five food groups and 60 minutes of physical activity daily. Grades K and 4

Summer Safety Presentations: Sun, bicycle, and water safety presentations. Grades 5 and 6

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School Policy for Medications in the School Setting

1. **Prescription Medications:** May be given at school, per USD 327 policy, as ordered by a healthcare provider/physician and furnished by the parent/guardian, with an expiration date that will outlast the course of therapy. The written order **MUST** be signed by the ordering provider and the parent/guardian and in the possession of the RN prior to any medication being administered. Medications **MUST** be brought to the school office in the original container that the pharmacy filled them in, appropriately labeled with student's name, name of medication, dose, and time to be administered. Your pharmacy is able to make up 2 bottles, one for home and one for school, with each prescription and refill. Please consult with the school RN for full details of school policies if your child will need to be given meds at school.
2. **Over the Counter Medications:** May be given at school, per USD 327 policy, as needed with a signed written consent from the parent/legal guardian. It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to provide this medication. Medication **MUST** be brought to school in the original container and with an expiration date that will outlast the course of therapy. Please consult with me for full details of school policies if your child will need to be given medications at school.
3. **Permission for Self Administration of Prescription Medication:** For medications such as inhalers or epi-pens, a completed permission form is required by a health care provider including a written treatment plan with student instruction of medication use along with the medical condition and written doctor's order for the medication. Form must be signed by physician and parent/guardian.
4. **Self-Management of Students with Diabetes:** Requires a completed authorization form by student's health care provider for self-management of diabetes at school. The health care provider authorization acknowledges student is capable of caring for his/her diabetes at school. Form must be signed by physician and parent/guardian.

All forms are valid for the current school year. A new form must be completed for each school year or with any changes in of instruction or medication.

If your child needs an unexpected dose of any medication, for example Tylenol, parents/guardians are welcome to bring the medication to school and administer the dose. Our priority is to keep the students safe by keeping our medications safely managed by all. Your cooperation is very much appreciated and important for the health and safety of all.

Always feel free to consult with the school nurse with any questions or concerns.