

## SHEPHERD PUBLIC SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

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Welcome back to school!

I hope that everyone had a wonderful summer and you were able to take the chance to enjoy the hot weather. I would like to take this opportunity to go over a few things going into this new school year.

First, let's get the dreaded C-word information out of the way. The CDC and health department have not changed their guidelines from what we ended the previous school year with. This means we will continue to have a 5-day quarantine period, with a return to school on the 6th day. Contact tracing will no longer occur. Instead, an automated phone call, text and email will be sent out to the contact information that you provide the school with. This will notify you that a positive case has been identified within a particular building. Each building will get notifications for their building only. Attached, you will find the COVID Policy that you may review for further information.

I would also like to take this opportunity to reiterate the 24-hour policy as listed below:

If a student has been exhibiting symptoms of a communicable disease, the parents/guardians should keep the student home in accordance with the 24-hour guidance. A student must be 24 hours free from:

- Fever without the use of fever-reducers (including tylenol and Ibuprofen)
- Nausea and vomiting
- Diarrhea
- After the start of antibiotics or drops.

If a student is diagnosed with the norovirus, the child can return after 48 hours of symptom resolution.

If the health department or physician determines that a student should be out of school for a differing amount of time, a student may be ineligible to attend school in person for that duration.

Secondly, you should be receiving a Google form titled Student Health Information. My goal is to have this filled out for every student, so I can compile a database of students and their pertinent information. This will help guide me in the care of your student and something that I can update as things change. As much as I would love to be able to remember each student and everything unique to them, I know there would be something I would forget. This will also aid me in assisting

staff to be aware of your child's needs. This link will be posted on our website if you don't receive it with your other back-to -school information. I am also going to post the link below.

Next, I would like to remind everyone that all medications need to have a medication authorization form signed by the parent, doctor and myself on file. This includes tylenol, ibuprofen, albuterol inhalers etc. Students cannot self carry medications without a medication authorization form on file in my office. The medication authorization form needs to state that the student can self administer and self carry the medication in order for a student to carry the medication. If you are unable to get a doctor's appointment, I am able to fax the medication authorization form to the physician's office for signature. This will also need to be done for any medications that need to be administered during the school day and for any as needed medications. For any student that requires a rescue medication, I will also need a medication authorization form for that medication.

I know that this is a lot of work, but I appreciate your help in getting these to me. In order for me to administer any medication to a student, I have to have a doctor's order to do so. These medication authorization forms act as that order. This helps keep your student safe and allows me to keep an eye on your child throughout the year. I am able to look at trends of use and identify possible needs for your child.

Lastly, I wanted to touch on food allergies or accommodations. If your child has a food allergy, or requires any dietary modifications be made, a special diet form must be on file. The Food Services Director and myself will be keeping a database of students with allergies or required modifications. This will help us keep track of your child's needs. This will also allow me to assist staff members in party planning (example: valentines, celebration pizza party, etc).

I hope that everyone has an amazing school year. My door is always open to you and your students. If you have any questions or concerns, you can reach out to me. Thank you for assisting me in providing the best possible care to your child!

Sincerely,

Alayna Nederhoed BSN, RN, NCSN

Shepherd Public Schools Nurse 301 S. Fourth St. Shepherd, MI 48883 989-828-6601 x2248

Student Health Information Form: <a href="https://forms.gle/L9sP6NLsNbagAXrQ8">https://forms.gle/L9sP6NLsNbagAXrQ8</a>

Special Diet Form: Special Diet Form.pdf

Medication Authorization: Microsoft Word - The newest Medication Authoriz.pdf

COVID Policy: COVID Policy 2022-2023