

Welcome to the School Nurse Office



What does the school nurse do? Here's a glimpse:

- **Maintain health records of all students**-This includes
 1. **Immunizations**- Please make sure your child/children are up to date before school starts. **New immunizations guidelines were introduced March 2017 and went into effect August 2017. Please see me if you have any questions.**
 2. **Physical exams**-recommended by School district (**annual**)
 3. **Health History**-this includes medical diagnoses, surgeries, current medications (**given at home as well as in school**) **Allergies**- (seasonal, drug, food, life threatening and any other medical pertinent health information about your child.
- **Assess and treat illness or injury**- Whether it's a scraped knee, tummy ache, fever, or more serious issue such as allergic reaction, broken bone or concussion, I am the first responder to any medical need.
- **Administer medication**- The school district of Philadelphia policy allows medication to be given at school if the **parent authorization and physician authorization forms-MED ONE are completed.** This applies to prescription and over the counter medication. The forms are available in my office if needed. No child is to take or carry over the counter prescription medications to school. If a child, by the order of a Physician must receive medication in school, a change in state law requires both the parent and physician signature prior to administering medication. Therefore, a prescription label order is not acceptable in lieu of an MD's order. A written order must be obtained.
- **Monitor illness and "exposure vs. outbreaks"**- Please contact the school office in the morning if your child will be absent due to illness. **If your child has been ill, he/she should be free of a temperature for 24 hours before returning to school.** If several students are diagnosed with a communicable illness (such as strep throat, flu, varicella aka "chickenpox", scabies, head lice, pink eye, viral/diarrhea) the student must bring in a MD note stating that they have been seen and treated by a MD. The exclusion time for each is as follows:
 - **Strep Throat-Flu with fever-24 hours after initial dose of antibiotic**
 - **Chickenpox aka varicella-7 days or until all lesions are crusted over**
 - **Scabies/ringworm-24 hours after initial dose of medication**
 - **Pink eye (Conjunctivitis)-24 hours after initial dose of medication**
 - **Head lice-after hair has been treated and nits removed**

NEBINGER

- I will send notes home according to whether it's an **exposure (3 children or less to that specific classroom)** or an **outbreak (4 children or more then the whole school is notified)**.
- **Hearing and vision screenings-** Students in Kindergarten through the eighth grade are screened periodically throughout the school year. However, screenings can be performed any time for any student if there are concerns in regards to the student learning in the classroom. If your child wears glasses remind them to wear them every day or how they have been prescribed by the MD.
- **Participate in Care team, 504, IEP meetings-**as needed to address and or support a student's health issues.
- **"Emotional Band-Aids" aka "health counseling"**-Sometimes a child is sad, homesick, depressed, or overwhelmed in class and just needs some TLC. A little one on one attention, patience, a willing ear is sometimes all a child needs to help them refocus and rejoin the classroom. **The school nurse works with the counselor in the building to provide this service to ensure your child is healthy and happy and safe at school.**

If you have any questions, concerns please call or email me- I check my phone and email messages upon arrival each morning and throughout the day.

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