

Important Health Information: Please Keep for Future Reference

From the Desk of the School Nurse

Dear Parents,

Greetings from the Health Office! Welcome to all new and returning families. Please take a few minutes from your busy day to note some very important information that will help the health office staff provide the best care and service to your family.

MEDICATIONS:

OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATIONS: SCVUSD # 35 DOES NOT dispense or keep supplies of over the counter oral medications such as: Acetaminophen (Tylenol), Ibuprofen, cough drops, throat lozenges and antacids. (Board Policy JLCD & ARS 15-341 &15-344)

No student will be given medication except upon written request from a licensed physician/healthcare provider who has the responsibility for the medical management of the student. Only medication prescribed by an Arizona licensed physician, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant or dentist, and purchased in the United States can be administered. If your child requires prescription or non prescription medication during school hours, the health office staff will administer the necessary medication with *parental and physician signature*. Parental and physician medication authorization forms must be renewed annually. The medication must be provided by the parent in the original, properly labeled container. (Most medications, *even those scheduled for three times a day can usually be given outside of school hours*).

Medications to be given at school must be:

- In the original, properly labeled container (no baggies or envelopes will be accepted)
- Up to date (check expiration date before bringing it to school)
- Age appropriate in dosage
- Accompanied by a medication form completed and signed by the physician and also signed by the parent or guardian (Medication forms are available in the school health office and can be found on the District's web site; www.santacruz.k12.az.us)

Special Reminder: For reasons of safety, parents, guardians or other designated adults will need to bring medications to school. A parent, guardian or other responsible adult will also need to pick these up at the end of the school year.

Students are NOT allowed to carry medication with them EXCEPT in the case of diagnosed anaphylaxis (life threatening allergic reaction) and breathing disorders requiring handheld inhaler devices or epi-pens. Medication authorization forms are available in the health office and on the District's web site.

FIRST AID FOR ILLNESS AND INJURY: We make every effort to safeguard your child's health at school. In the event of a serious accident or emergency, you will be contacted immediately. **To ensure optimum care, it is important to update us continually with new phone number, changes in your child's health, new medications, or anything that impacts his or her well-being at school.**

ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES FOR ILLNESS:

Please do not send your child to school if any of the following signs or symptoms are present DURING THE PREVIOUS TWENTY-FOUR HOURS:

- **Elevated temperature (100 degrees or greater) .Child should be fever free for 24 hours (without medication) before returning to school**
- **Acute cold, sore throat, or persistent cough**
- **Vomiting, nausea, or severe abdominal pain (child should be free from symptoms 24 hours before returning to school)**
- **Repeated diarrhea**
- **Pus-like discharge from the nose or eyes. Red or inflamed eyes/lids.**
- **Suspected and untreated skin rash, impetigo, ringworm, scabies, or lice**
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Please contact the health office when you are not sure if your child is well enough to attend school. Also, it is wise to contact us when your child is on the “borderline” of being ill. (Be sure to let the school know where you may be contacted in case your child’s condition worsens). **SPECIAL NOTE:** If your child complains often of headaches or stomachaches or frequently does not feel well, please notify your physician or health care provider.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS:

In accordance with *state law*, students must have the following *before* they may enroll and attend school:

- **Diphtheria/tetanus (DTap,DTP, DT, etc.) –Four doses with at least one given after age 4; then one dose every 10 years thereafter. If it has been 5 years since your child’s last DT or DPT vaccination, please contact your physician about a new vaccine (Tdap) that is required for children 11 years and older.**
- **Polio (OPV/IPV)–Three doses with THE THIRD dose given on or after age 4, OR 4 DOSES TOTAL (even if all are before the age of 4 years).**
- **Measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) –Two or more doses with the first dose on or after age 1.**
- **Hepatitis B –Three doses given at appropriate intervals**
- **Varicella – Varicella vaccine is required for all students for the 2014-2015 school year. The health office requires verification of chicken pox illness or proof of vaccination. Students who have been vaccinated at 13 years of age or older will require a second dose.**
- **For school year 2014-2015 students entering grades 6th through 12th are required to have the Tdap vaccine (Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis) if they are 11 years old and it has been 5 or more years since their last DPT/TD dose.**
- **For school year 2014-2015 students entering grades 6th through 12th are required to have the MV (Meningococcal Vaccine) if they are 11 years old.**

For students with religious or medical exemptions, special forms are located in the health office and can be found on the District’s web site; www.santacruz.k12.az.us.

By law, records must show day as well as month and year of each dose administered and must have the signature or stamp of the physician/health facility that administered these.

HEARING SCREENING

Each year students in preschool, kindergarten, first grade, second grade, sixth grade and ninth grade, those with IEP’s and those new to SCVUSD #35 will have their hearing screened.

PARENTS: IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR CHILD TO RECEIVE A HEARING SCREENING YOU MAY OPT OUT. CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL’S HEALTH OFFICE TO OBTAIN OPT OUT FORM,

WHICH MUST BE SIGNED AND RETURNED TO YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE BEGINNING OF SCHOOL

You are encouraged to share any concerns or problems relevant to your child's health. If you have any questions or would like to meet with any of the health office staff, please do not hesitate to call at your child's school.

Best wishes for a fantastic school year,
SCVUSD #35 Health Office Staff