

2024-2025

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

We welcome you and your student to our school. Please take a moment to read the following information regarding our district policies for Health Services.

<u>Registered Nurses</u>: Nurses in our district cover more than one school and are in each school at least once a week. The nurse at your school has regular communication with the Health Para. The nurse is available for health care needs and emergencies.

Health Para: All schools have an assigned Health Para. **Health Para's are not Nurses**. They have received training in Basic First Aid, CPR, and Concussion assessment. Medication administration is delegated to them by the school RN.

Health Room: The health room will have a Health Para and/or school nurse present at all times. Any student entering the Health Room will be allowed to remain there for up to 10 minutes. If there is a need to contact parents/guardians, we will use the phone numbers provided at the beginning of the school year. **Please provide the school with current emergency contacts and update this information if it changes.**

<u>Medication Policy</u>: Please be aware that Colorado State law governs our medication policy. If your student must take medication during school hours, parents/ guardians must provide the following documentation before it can be administered at school.

- A written physician's order (including drug name, dose, route, time, duration of treatment, physician signature and parent/guardian signature). This includes all over-the-counter, prescription, and/or homeopathic medications. Blank medication prescription forms are located at <u>D49.org/ our services/ nursing services</u>.
- Medication must be in the original container it was purchased in, complete with a label and current physician signed medical orders. PLEASE NOTE: The pharmacy label applied to the medication bottle will not suffice for physician orders.
- Medications are kept in a secure cabinet in the health room. If a student must selfcarry a medication such as: inhaler, Epi-Pen, or diabetic supplies, a physician order is required, along with the Self-Carry Contract signed by the legal parent/guardian, student and school RN.

• For the 2023-2024 school year, High School students will be allowed to self-carry one to two doses of over-the-counter medication (ie: Tylenol, Motrin) without an order from the physician with the approval of the school nurse. A Self-Carry Contract will have to be signed by the legal parent/guardian, student and the school nurse. The Self-Carry Contract can be revoked by the school nurse if the student fails to comply with the contract.

<u>**Personal Care Items</u>**: The following items may be applied to your student if needed: Vaseline, lotion, and Band-aids. Please inform your school Health Room if you **do not** want these items applied to your student.</u>

<u>**Crutches and Wheelchair</u>**: Each Health Room has a wheelchair for emergency use only. If your student requires temporary use of parent/guardian provided crutches or wheelchair, a physician's order is necessary. Accommodations may include: extra time to transition from class to class, elevator pass, rest breaks and/or PE accommodations.</u>

<u>**Immunizations**</u>: Colorado State law requires all students to be up-to-date on school required immunizations and/or have a written exemption certificate on file at the school.

Effective July 1, 2021 there will be two different ways to submit a non-medical exemption:

1. Submit the Certificate of Non-medical Exemption with a signature from an immunizing provider who is a licensed physician, advanced practice nurse or physician's assistant.

-OR-

2. Submit the Certificate of Non-medical Exemption received upon the completion of Colorado Health Department's Online Immunization Education Module. <u>https://cdphe.colorado.gov/vaccine-exemptions</u>

All non-medical exemptions expire June 30th each year and must be resubmitted the following school year.

<u>Illness Guidelines</u>: can be located at <u>D49.org/ our services/ nursing services</u>

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school health room.

Sincerely,

Nancy Wilcox RN, BSN – School Nurse 719-205-6152. nancy.wilcox@d49.org Shannon Funk– Health Para 719-495-5215

All above information and health services forms can be found at <u>https://www.d49.org/nursingservices</u>