

File: J49

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES AND REQUIREMENTS

Activities may include identification of student health needs, health screening tests (including eye and hearing screening tests), communicable disease prevention and control, promotion of the correction of remediable health defects, emergency care of the ill and injured, health counseling, health and safety education, and the maintenance of a healthful school environment.

The District recognizes that parents have the primary responsibility for the health of their students. The school will cooperate with appropriate professional organizations associated with maintaining individual and community health and safety.

The District shall provide the services of a medical consultant who shall render medical and administrative consultative services for personnel responsible for school health and athletics.

Student Illness or Injury

In case of illness or injury, the parent or guardian will be contacted and asked to call for the student or provide the transportation. Transportation of an ill or injured student is not normally to be provided by the school. If the parent cannot provide transportation and the student is ill or injured, an ambulance may be called. Expense incurred as a result of emergency ambulance use will not be borne by the District. Transportation of a student by school personnel will be done only in an emergency and by the individual so designated by the school administrator.

Whenever the school nurse finds a child suffering from any disease or medical problem, the situation will be reported to the parent or guardian in writing, or by personal visit if remedial treatment is recommended. A copy of the report will be filed at the school.

Procedures for Emergency at School

School personnel shall give only emergency care to students who become ill or injured on school property, buses, or while under school supervision.

Each year parents shall supply information including contact information for parents/guardians, as well as two additional emergency contacts in case the parent/guardian is not available, contact information for physician and dentist, health and dental insurance information, where the student is to be taken in case of an emergency, and any allergies, medical conditions or diseases the student might have.

The District shall maintain a Medical Emergency Response Plan, as required by law, and an Emergency Procedures Handbook, which shall be utilized by District personnel for handling emergencies.

Physical Examinations of Students

Every student will be examined for screening in sight, hearing, Body Mass Index (BMI), and for other physical problems as provided in the law and regulation. A record of the results will be kept by the school nurse.

Height, Weight and Body Mass Index (BMI)

Screenings are conducted with students in grades 1, 4, 7, and 10 annually for height and weight in the Chicopee Public Schools Body Mass Index (BMI) Screening Program. In accordance with the law, M.G.L. c.71, §57, the Chicopee Public Schools will notify families in advance of these screenings; and if the results of these screenings are requested by the parents or guardians of the students, they will be mailed home by the school nurse.

Vision and Hearing Information

Screenings are conducted with students each year in grades kindergarten through 3 for hearing, kindergarten through 5 for vision, and grades 8 and 10 for both hearing and vision in the Chicopee Public Schools as mandated by M.G.L. c.71, §57. Parents/guardians of students who are found to need further evaluation by their own health care provider will be notified in writing.

Scoliosis Information

Screenings are conducted with students in grades 5 through 9 annually for scoliosis in the Chicopee Public Schools. In accordance with the law, M.G.L. c.71, §57, the Chicopee Public Schools will notify families in advance of these screenings and referral notices will be mailed home when follow-up by a physician is indicated.

Physical Examinations of Student Athletes

Every candidate for a school athletic team will present the signed consent of a parent or guardian in order to participate on a squad and will be examined by a physician to determine physical fitness. A written report stating the fitness of the student to participate signed by the physician will be sent to the school principal.

School Physician

The school physician will make a prompt examination of all children referred to him/her by the school nurse. He/she will examine school employees when, in his/her opinion, the protection of the student's health may require it. Except in an emergency, the school physician will not prescribe for or treat any student.

Legal Refs.: MGL c. 71 §53; §54; §54A; §54B; §55; §55A; §55B; §56; §57; c. 69 §8A
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