

West Sonoma County Schools Health Services

Dear Parents,

As the new school year begins, the nurses of the West County Consortium, would like to take this opportunity to explain our services, and enlist your support for a healthy, happy school experience for your child.

The 21 schools of West County are served by one full-time nurse and three part-time nurses. While our role covers many areas, much of our time is spent screening and assessing students as mandated by the State and as requested by parents, physicians, and school staff. The State mandates that all students are annually screened in kindergarten, grades 2nd, 5th, 8th, and 10th, for vision, hearing, dental and general health. In addition students in grades 6th, 7th, and 8th are screened for scoliosis. We will contact you if your child fails screening and needs a referral for further evaluation by your medical provider.

Please make sure your child's emergency card is completed and kept up to date. When an emergency arises, reaching you and getting immediate care is vital.

We ask you to give your consent on the emergency card for administering an Epi-pen (adrenalin injection) by trained staff should your child have a severe life-threatening allergic reaction to an insect sting or substances. The Epi-pen can be life saving if used immediately while waiting for 911 to respond.

If your child requires prescription medication (e.g. inhalers) to be administered at school, a completed consent form including parent and physician signatures must accompany the labeled prescription container of medication in order to be given by school personnel. Some schools have a policy requiring non-prescription medication (e.g. Tylenol) have parent and physician signatures. Please check with your school.

Please notify the school if your child has lice. This school has a NO NIT policy. Your child will need to be checked in the office before returning to school.

Please keep your child home if he/she has any of the following:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| *Vomiting or diarrhea | *Earache or draining ear | *Suspicious rash |
| *Persistent cough | *Red, draining eyes | *Temp. over 100 degrees |
| *Severe headache | *Wheezing, difficulty breathing | *Stomach ache |
- (Students must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school.)

Please alert the staff and school nurse if your child develops or is diagnosed with a new health condition so we may be aware of their needs and assist in any special care required. Please feel free to contact us with any concerns regarding resources and the health of your child.

Thank you,

Cynthia Formaker, P.H.N.,
Priscilla Griffith, P.H.N.,
Anne Piotrowski-Altman, P.H.N.

School Nurses