

## POLICY 411 - STUDENT HEALTH POLICIES

(Immunization Policy 411a, below)

### 411 School Health Services

1. Each school should have a school health committee to assist in providing the following core school health services:
  - communicable disease control
  - medication administration
  - health record maintenance, audit, and follow-up
  - first aid / emergency care
  - health screening
  - consultation for serving students with special health needs
  - health appraisal and counseling
2. Schools with 375 F.T.E. or more students should employ a registered nurse at least half-time.
3. Schools with 750 F.T.E. or more students should employ at least one full-time registered nurse.
4. Schools with 1,125 F.T.E. or more students should employ at least 1.5 F.T.E. registered nurses.
5. A **cumulative health record** for each student shall be kept on file.
6. Catholic schools do not insure students for injuries or accidents that may occur at school, on school premises, or at school-related events. Student Accident Insurance may be offered to each family on a voluntary basis.
7. **Immunizations** – As a condition of enrollment each year, every student must verify proper immunization and have a current Kansas Certificate of Immunization signed by a medical or osteopathic doctor (or their representative), a Health Department official, or a diocesan nurse using official records supplied by the parent. K.S.A. 72-5208 through 72-5211.

[Immunizations and records which pertain to the immunization status of persons against childhood diseases may be disclosed and exchanged without a parent's written release to ensure compliance with State statutes or to achieve age appropriate immunization status for children. K.S.A. 65-531 (See policy 411a.)]
8. **Vision Testing** – Basic vision screening must be provided to every student during the first year of admission and not less than once every two years thereafter. Schools are required to encourage any student having difficulty mastering basic reading, writing or math to seek a professional eye exam at parental expense if public or private insurance coverage is unavailable. K.S.A. 72-5204 through 72-5202
9. **Hearing Testing** – Hearing screening must be provided to every student during the first year of admission and not less than once every three years thereafter. A person competent in the use of calibrated audiometer shall perform all tests. K.S.A. 72-1204 through 72-1207.
10. **Medications in school** – Diagnosis and treatment of illness and the prescription of medication, including over-the-counter drugs, are not the

responsibility of the school and shall not be practiced by any school personnel including the school nurse without proper authorization; “proper authorization” means a written [request] from a physician for in-school administration of all medicine, including over-the-counter drugs. Parents must provide a written request that the medication be given at school, but no school shall be required to administer any medication. (See Guideline 317-T.)

State law allows students in grades K-12 to carry and self-administer emergency medications (inhalers and EpiPens) for asthma or allergy under the supervision of school personnel. HB 2478 (See Guideline 317-U.)

11. **Dental inspections** – Free dental inspections will be provided annually for all students except those who hold a certificate (dental card) from a legally qualified dentist, current within three months of the first day of school. Schools may choose an on-site dental inspection or may use the card referral program.
12. **Health Assessment** – Up to one year prior to or within 90 days after the first day of school, each student 8 years of age and younger entering a school in Kansas for the first time must submit the results of a health assessment performed by a physician or KDHE-certified nurse.
13. **Health Records** – Health records must be retained until the student exits the school.

#### **411a Immunizations**

In each school year, every pupil enrolling or enrolled in any school for the first time in this state, and each child enrolling or enrolled for the first time in a preschool or daycare program operated by a school, prior to admission to and attendance at school, shall present to the school certification from a physician or local health department that the pupil has received such tests and inoculations as required by state law. Pupils who have not completed the required inoculations may enroll or remain enrolled while completing the required inoculations if a physician or local health department certifies that the pupil has received the most recent appropriate inoculations in all required series. Failure to complete all required series in a timely manner shall be deemed non-compliance.

As an alternative to the certification required (above) a pupil shall present:

- 1) an annual written statement signed by a licensed physician stating the physical condition of the child to be such that the tests or inoculations would seriously endanger the life or health of the child, or
- 2) a written statement signed by one parent or guardian that the child is an adherent of a religious denomination whose religious teachings are opposed to such tests or inoculations. The Catholic Church is not opposed to immunizations, and therefore Catholics may not claim a religious exemption.

On or before May 15<sup>th</sup> of each school year, the school shall notify the parents or guardians of all known pupils who are enrolled or who will be enrolling in the school of the provisions of this act.

- 3) Each school is authorized to exclude from school attendance any pupil who has not complied with the requirements of K.S.A. 72-5209 and K.A.R. 28-1-20. A pupil shall be subject to exclusion from school attendance under this

section until such time as the pupil shall have complied with the requirements of K.S.A. 72-5209 and K.A.R. 28-1-20. The written notice of exclusion shall:

- a) indicate the reason for the exclusion from school attendance,
- b) state that the pupil shall continue to be excluded until the pupil has complied with the requirements of K.S.A. 72-5209, and
- c) inform the parent or guardian that a hearing shall be afforded them upon request (K.S.A. 72-5211a).

The immunization requirements for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 school years contain some significant changes for Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis (Tdap); Hepatitis B; and Varicella. (See 2009 KCI form for specific requirements.)