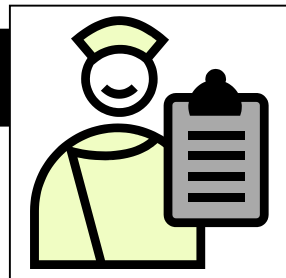


Notes from the School District Nurse



Physical Examinations

Students entering kindergarten, 6th and 9th grades must have a current physical exam, as well as up-to-date immunizations. The examination must be documented on the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) form and completed in its entirety. Ninth grade physicals may also be used for freshmen who plan to participate in sports. Parents may make a copy of the 9th grade physical and present it to the athletic department. Please note: The IHSA sports physical will not take the place of the 9th grade examination.

IHSA Sports Physicals

Middle and High School students who plan to participate in sports will need to see a doctor and present the school with a completed IHSA sports physical form prior to beginning practice.

Dental Examinations

Students in grades Kindergarten, 2 & 6 must have a current dental examination. The examination must be documented on the new dental form and completed in its entirety. Please keep in mind that your child's dental health is very important and we encourage all students to see a dentist on a regular basis.

Vision Examination

A new State law requires eye examinations for children enrolling for the first time in Illinois schools. Thus, all Kindergarten students will be required to have an eye examination. Check with your local eye clinic to see if they have special rates for eye examinations.

Vision & Hearing Screenings

During the school year, the district nurse may conduct vision and hearing screenings for students. Vision screening is not a substitute for a complete eye and vision evaluation by an eye doctor. Your child is not required to undergo this vision screening if an optometrist or ophthalmologist has completed and signed a report form indicating that an examination has been administered within the previous 12 months. If the student currently wears glasses, they will not be screened.

Administering Medicine at School

When a student requires daily or regular medication, the responsibility to complete the proper form(s) rests solely upon the parents/guardians. There are three forms available from the school office or nurse's office and parents should obtain and complete the appropriate form, if the need arises:

School Medication Authorization Form

This form should be completed by the parent/guardian and doctor for all prescription medicine which needs to be taken during the school day. This medication must be in the original pharmacy container clearly marked with the student's name and all prescription information.

Asthma Medication Form

Students with asthma may self-administer their asthma medication, but an asthma medication authorization form must be on file in the school office.

Parents are always welcome to request a copy of the district policy concerning the administration of medication to students. This request should be directed to the Administration Office at 630/552-8978.

Other Important Information

Students transferring from another school, in state or out of state, may have to meet other health requirements. The nurse will review this information with new students.

All of the physical, dental, vision and medication forms mentioned in this article are available on the website, in the school office, the nurse's office or the Administration Office.

Please remember to make a copy of your child's completed physical, dental and/or vision forms before you turn them in to the school.

If you have any questions about these forms or any medical issues, please leave a message for School District Nurse Sue Gerardot at one of the schools. ❖

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

English Language Learners

The District offers opportunities for resident English Language Learners to develop high levels of academic attainment in English and to meet the same academic content and student academic achievement standards that all children are expected to attain. Parents/guardians of English Language Learners will be: (1) given an opportunity to provide input to the program, and (2) provided notification regarding their child's placement in, and information about, the District's English Language Learners programs. Contact your building principal for more information.

Title I

The District receives funds under Title I, Improving the Academic Achievement of the Disadvantaged, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, to supplement instructional services and activities in order to improve the educational opportunities of educationally disadvantaged or deprived children. The District maintains programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents/guardians of students receiving services, or enrolled in programs, under Title I in grades K-6. Contact your building principal for more information. Parents may request, and the district will provide the parents on request, information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers.

Homeless Children and Youths

Homeless children and youths shall be provided comparable services including transportation services, educational services, and meals. For more information contract your school social worker or the district homeless liaison, Valerie Patterson at 630/552-8978.

Student Privacy

All surveys requesting personal information from students, as well as any other instrument used to collect personal information from students, must advance or relate to the District's educational objectives. School officials and staff members shall not request, nor disclose, the identity of any student who completes any survey. The student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may inspect the survey or evaluation upon, and within a reasonable time of, their request, and may refuse to allow their child to participate in the activity. The school shall not penalize any student whose parent(s)/guardian(s) exercises this option.

The student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may inspect instructional material used as part of their child/ward's educational curriculum. No school official or staff member will subject a student to a non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as a condition of school attendance.

Health Education

No student is required to take or participate in any class or course on AIDS, family life instruction, sex abuse, or organ/tissue transplantation, if his or her parent/guardian submits a written objection to the Building Principal. Parents/guardians shall be provided the opportunity to preview all print and non-print materials used for instructional purposes. Refusal to take or participate in any such course or program shall not be reason for disciplinary action or academic penalty.

Education of Students with Disabilities

The School District provides a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the District, as required by the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and implementing provisions of The School Code, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans With Disabilities Act. For students eligible for services under IDEA, the District follows procedures for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in the Illinois State Board of Education's Special Education rules. Parent(s)/guardian(s) may have the opportunity to examine relevant records, an impartial hearing, representation by counsel, and a review procedure.

Grievance Procedures

A student, parent/guardian, employee, or community member should notify any District Complaint Manager if he or she believes that the School Board, its employees, or agents have violated his or her rights guaranteed by the State or federal Constitution, State or federal statute, or Board policy, or have a complaint regarding:

1. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act;
2. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972;
3. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973;
4. Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq.;
5. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. §2000d et seq.;
6. Equal Employment Opportunities Act (Title VII of the Civil Rights Act), 42 U.S.C. §2000e et seq.;
7. Sexual harassment (Illinois Human Rights Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972);
8. Misuse of funds received for services to improve educational opportunities for educationally disadvantaged or deprived children;
9. Curriculum, instructional materials, and/or programs;
10. Victims' Economic Security and Safety Act, 820 ILCS 180;
11. Illinois Equal Pay Act of 2003, 820 ILCS 112;
12. Provision of services to homeless students; or
13. Illinois Whistleblower Act, 740 ILCS 174/1 et seq. 3

The Complaint Manager will attempt to resolve complaints without resorting to this grievance procedure and, if a complaint is filed, to address the complaint promptly and equitably.

Student/Parent Handbooks and Newsletters

Handbooks and newsletters contain a summary of board policies governing the district. Complete board policies are available at the district administration office or at the district website, www.plano88.org. Handbooks may be amended during the school year without notice. ❖

Random Drug Testing

The District maintains an extracurricular drug-testing program in order to foster the health, safety, and welfare of its students. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and to provide a legitimate reason for students to say "NO" to drug and alcohol use, Plano Middle School and Plano High School will conduct random drug testing for student participants. This program is not designed to be punitive. It is designed to prevent drug, alcohol, and tobacco use; to create and maintain a safe and drug-free environment for all students; and to identify students who may need assistance.

Each student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) must consent to random drug and alcohol testing in order to participate in any extracurricular or voluntary activity. Failure to sign the District's "Random Drug and Alcohol Testing Consent" form will result in non-participation. ❖