

Immunizations

In order to safeguard the school community from the spread of certain communicable diseases and in recognition that prevention is a means of combating the spread of disease, a student is required to present evidence of his/her having been immunized against the following diseases: diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), poliomyelitis, measles, rubella, mumps, hepatitis B, tetanus, varicella (chickenpox) and haemophilus influenza type B disease. A student satisfies the measles or chicken pox requirement upon a physician's verification that the student has had measles (rubeola) or chicken pox (varicella).

Immediately upon enrollment in the District, a certificate of immunization status, distributed by the Washington Department of Health, shall be completed by the student's parent. The certificate shall be made a part of the student's permanent record.

If a student has not received some or all of the required immunizations, he/she shall submit evidence of the initiation of an immunization schedule and be placed in a "conditional admittance" category. He/she may remain in school for one school year provided that there is documentation that the immunization schedule is being maintained. Failure to maintain the schedule or submit documentation shall be sufficient cause to exclude the student from school.

Exemptions from one or more vaccines shall be granted for medical reasons upon certification by a Licensed Health Care Provider (MD, DO, ND, PA, ARNP) that there is a medical reason for not administering the vaccine. Documentation of this medical exemption requires the signature of a Licensed Health Care Provider. Exemptions from one or more vaccines shall be granted for personal, philosophical or religious reasons once a signed Licensed Health Care Provider statement documenting that the parent or guardian has received information on the benefits and risks of immunization from that individual has been provided. The final exemption for religious membership requires the parent or guardian to provide the name of the Church or Religious Body whose teachings or beliefs do not allow for medical treatment from a health care practitioner.

The permanent file of students with exemptions shall be marked for easy identification should the Department of Health order that exempted students be excluded from school temporarily during an epidemic. If proof of immunization or a certificate of exemption is not received upon the student's enrollment in school, the principal shall provide written notice to the parents or guardians informing them of:

- A. The immunization requirements;
- B. The denial of further attendance by the student;
- C. The student's procedural due process rights; and
- D. The immunization services that are available.

Notice to the parents or guardians shall be delivered in person or by certified mail. The notice shall be provided to the parents or guardians in their native language if feasible. Following notification, the school shall exclude the student for noncompliance with the immunization laws subject to the appeal process procedures for student expulsions. Parents shall have a right to a hearing provided they notify the school in writing within three school days after receiving the exclusion order from the school principal. If the parent requests a hearing, the parent or guardian

and school principal shall be notified in writing of the time and place for the hearing and shall present the case to a hearing officer appointed by the superintendent.

Information distribution about Meningococcal and Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Immunizations

The district shall provide parents and guardians of students in sixth grade and above with information about meningococcal and Human Papillomavirus diseases at the beginning of every school year. The information shall address where to find additional information about the diseases; vaccinations for children; and current recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding receiving the vaccines.

Life-threatening Health Conditions

Prior to attendance at school, each child with a life-threatening health condition shall present a medication or treatment order addressing the condition. A life-threatening health condition means a condition that will put the child in danger of death during the school day if a medication or treatment order and nursing plan are not in place. Following submission of the medication or treatment order, an emergency action plan shall be developed by the school nurse.

Students who have a life-threatening health condition and fail to present a medication or treatment order to the school shall be excluded from school, to the extent that the district can do so consistent with federal requirements for students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Prior to excluding a student, the school shall provide written notice to the parents, guardians or persons in loco parentis in person or by certified mail of the following:

- A. The requirements of the applicable law and regulations.
- B. The fact that the student shall be excluded from school immediately and until a medication or treatment order is presented.
- C. A description of the rights of the parents and student to a hearing, the hearing process, and an explanation that the student's exclusion from school continues until the medication or treatment plan is presented or the hearing officer determines that the student should no longer be excluded from school.
- D. If the parents request a hearing, the district shall schedule one within three school days of receiving the request, unless more time is requested by the parents. The hearing process shall be consistent with the procedures established for disciplinary cases pursuant to Chapter 392-400 WAC.

Cross References: 3241 - Classroom Management, Corrective Actions Or Punishment
2162 - Education of Students With Disabilities Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
2161 - Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students
2100 - Educational Opportunities for Military Children

Legal References: Chapter 28A.210 RCW Health — Screening and requirements
Chapter 246-105 WAC Immunization of child care and school children against certain vaccine-preventable diseases
WAC 392-182 Student — Health records
WAC 392-380 Public school pupils — Immunization requirement and life-threatening health condition

Management Resources: 2012 - August Issue
2011 - August Issue
2011 - June Issue
Policy News, August 2007 Human Papilloma Virus Disease Notification
Policy News, April 2006 Chickenpox Immunization Required
Policy News, June 2005 Distribution of Information on Meningococcal Disease
Policy News, October 2002 Legislature Addresses “Life-Threatening Conditions”

Adopted: March 17, 1986 North Thurston School District Board of Directors

Amended: May 19, 2003 North Thurston Public Schools Board of Directors

December 3, 2007
June 22, 2009
April 23, 2013
September 6, 2016