

Students

Head Lice

The Governing Board recognizes that head lice infestations among students require treatment but do not pose a risk of transmitting disease. The Principal or designee shall encourage early detection and treatment in a manner that minimizes disruption to the educational program and reduces student absences.

The Principal or designee may distribute information to parents/guardians of preschool and elementary students regarding routine screening, symptoms, accurate diagnosis, and proper treatment of head lice infestations. The Principal or designee also may provide related information to school staff.

School employees shall report all suspected cases of head lice to the principal or designee as soon as possible.

If a student is found with active, adult head lice, he/she shall be excluded from attendance. The parent/guardian of any such student shall be given information about the treatment of head lice and encouraged to begin treatment of the student immediately and to check all members of the family. The parent/guardian also shall be informed that the student shall be checked upon return to school the next day and allowed to remain in school if no active head lice are detected.

Upon the student's return to school, the Principal or designee shall check the student for active head lice. If it is determined that the student remains infected with head lice, the principal or designee shall contact the student's parent/guardian to discuss treatment. As needed, he/she may provide additional resources and/or referral to the local health department, health care providers, or other agencies.

If a student is found consistently infested with head lice, he/she may be referred to a multidisciplinary team, which may consist of the principal or designee, representatives from the local health department and social services, and other appropriate individuals, to determine the best approach for identifying and resolving problems contributing to the student's head lice infestations.

When it is determined that one or more students in a class or school are infested with head lice, the principal or designee may, at his/her discretion, notify parents/guardians of students in that class or school and provide them with information about the detection and treatment of head lice.

Staff shall maintain the privacy of students identified as having head lice.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48320-48325 School attendance review boards

49451 Physical examinations: parent's refusal to consent

(7/99 7/06) 7/12