

HEALTH POLICIES

GENERAL POLICIES

1. The responsibility for the health of each child is primarily that of the parents/guardian. The Conway School District health services program will strive to protect and improve student health in cooperation with parents, making use of community resources, educational materials, and a sound health program.
2. Confidentiality of all health related issues will be maintained at all times.
3. The use of volunteers, under the direct supervision of school health professionals, for various aspects of the health program, is encouraged.
4. Students who are unable to participate in the total school program shall present a letter from their health care provider stating the reasons and the approximate duration of limitation.

STUDENT HEALTH

1. First Aid - Appropriate assessment and emergency care will be given to students injured while at school.
2. Medications - Any student in grades K through 12, who is required to take prescribed medication during the school day, SHALL BE ASSISTED by the school nurse or in the absence of the school nurse, another member of the school staff, as designated by the building principal, to take the medication according to the medication procedure, (see Appendix A).
3. Illness - Children who are ill should be kept at home to receive care. Students who remain out of school for 5 days or more may be required to bring a note from their primary health care provider upon return. Any student not in class because of illness may be required to report to the health office upon return. Students who become ill while at school will be placed under the care of the family or other authorized person as soon as possible. Transportation, except in an extreme emergency, will be provided by the family. No sick child should be allowed to walk home alone or to be brought home to an empty house.
4. Immunization Requirements - The State of New Hampshire regulations for Immunization RSA 141-C, which includes criteria for exemptions, will be followed (see Appendix B).
5. Physical Exam Policy - A complete physical exam at the parents' expense shall be required (NH Law RSA 200:32 and 200:33) of all children within the last 12 months upon entering school in Conway, or with a practitioner's documented appointment date for conditional enrollment.
6. Sports Physicals - A pre-participation physical exam, at parents' expense, for competitive interscholastic sports will be performed within one year on entry into junior high and within one year on entry into senior high school, and every other year thereafter. A more recent appraisal of

the child's health may be required if deemed necessary, requested by either the school nurse or the athletic director.

7. Health Appraisals – In accordance with State recommendations, students will be given periodic health assessments by the school nurse. These may include screenings for vision, hearing, height, weight, blood pressure, dental and scoliosis. Confidential health records will be maintained on all students.
The school nurse shall notify parents of any concerns detected during routine inspections and screening tests. Parents shall be responsible for the follow-up care with a qualified health care practitioner.
Parents are requested to notify the school nurse of any change in their child's health status throughout the school year. Medical examinations by their own health care practitioner, and immunizations, should also be reported, as well as any medication taken regularly or treatment required for any condition.
8. Anaphylactic Reaction - Anaphylaxis is a rare, extremely serious form of allergy, which may occur in persons not previously known to be allergic. Causes of this may be an extreme sensitivity to one or more of the following: insect sting such as wasp or bee, medication or immunizations by injection, food or pollen, chemicals or their vapors. Following an assessment by a registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse, epinephrine (adrenalin) would be used in an extreme emergency for those persons not previously known to be allergic. (RSA 318:42) Persons with a known allergy may need to carry or keep in the health office epinephrine to be used in an anaphylaxis emergency. This would need to follow the medication policy and procedure. State of New Hampshire guidelines will be followed (see Appendix C).
9. Medical Treatments and procedures - Shall not be provided in school without written order of the primary health care provider and parental / guardian consent.
Schools accommodate children who have a variety of medical conditions. Children who require specialized nursing care such as: catheterization, injections, or tracheostomy care will be given care subject to the provisions of the NH Nurse Practice Act, RSA 326:B and RSA 200:29 and 200:31 (see Appendix D).
10. Child Abuse/Neglect Reporting Policy - It is the policy of the Conway School District to comply with the requirements of RSA 169-C in reporting suspected child abuse and neglect. Further, it is our policy to cooperate with the New Hampshire Division for Children, Youth & Family Services, child protection social workers, and law enforcement agencies in the course of investigations into alleged child abuse or neglect as outlined in RSA 169-C (see Appendix E).
11. Vocational Education Safety and Health Policy - The personal safety and health of each student is of primary importance to the Vocational Education Department. The prevention of accidents, injuries, and illness is of such consequence that it will be given precedence over any instruction given as part of a program. To the greatest extent possible, instructors shall provide, maintain, and require the use of such mechanical and physical devices required for personal safety and health of students in keeping with the highest standards, (see Appendix F).

STAFF HEALTH

Physical Examination and Tuberculosis Screening

- A. Pre-employment medical examination May be required of all employees of all schools in the Conway School District. This examination shall be performed by the employee's own health care provider within the last 12 months at the employee's expense unless otherwise stated in employee's contract. (Reference specific employee contract.)
- B. Medical examinations Shall be required of bus drivers and cafeteria personnel at their own expense (except for those Conway employees who are members of AFSCME - their exam shall be at the District's expense) every year in September (reference specific employee contract). A written recommendation from the examining physician shall indicate that the employee is medically capable of performing his/her designated assignment and shall be filed in the office of the Superintendent of Schools where it will be held in confidence.
- C. Additional Examinations The superintendent may request a medical examination for any employee if at any time he/she has reason to believe that the employee's physical or mental health may be harmful to the welfare of students or other employees. The cost of such examination will be borne by the district.
- D. Tuberculosis Screening Refer to state recommendation on tuberculosis screening (see Appendix G).

Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the SAU office to report any violation of the above policy to the Superintendent of Schools and to keep accurate records as evidence of compliance with the above policy.

The principal of each school is instructed to take such action as is required to implement this policy.

Rubella

It is recommended that all female staff have a Rubella vaccination if not previously vaccinated or show evidence of a positive Rubella titer.

INFECTION CONTROL

Standard Precautions

All body fluids of all persons may transmit various infections. Some infections such as Hepatitis B and HIV are transmitted via body fluids including blood. Many other infections such as colds, influenza, Hepatitis A, and cytomegalovirus are transmitted via other body fluids such as nasal discharge, saliva, vomitus, feces, and urine. In order to prevent the greatest number of infections, STANDARD PRECAUTIONS shall be utilized (see Appendix H).

Communicable Diseases

1. Communicable diseases are to be reported to the school / health office. A student shall be excluded from school whenever he/she exhibits symptoms of contagion and shall be readmitted after required isolation and /or treatment. RSA 200;32,38,39 (see Appendix I).
2. All reportable communicable diseases will be reported to the NH Division of Public Health Services. (see Appendix I)
3. In the case of exposure to blood borne pathogens, a referral to the exposed person's primary health care provider will be recommended.

The STATE of NH DEPARTMENT of HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES

All activities of the Department of Health and Human Services, in relation to the schools, will be through the offices of the principal and school nurse. If indicated, a written report will be filed with the superintendent and principal for transmittal to the School Board, maintaining confidentiality per existing policy.