

HEALTH OFFICE INFORMATION:

The following information is provided to inform you of Texas State Law and Moody ISD Health Office procedures.

HEALTH INFORMATION FORMS:

Health information forms should be filled out and returned to the Nurse as soon as possible. This information **MUST** include phone numbers of at least two other emergency contacts in case of injury or illness. **If your child has an allergy to food or a special medical condition, please make sure his/her teacher is informed also.**

ILLNESS:

Do not send students to school if they have vomiting, diarrhea, fever, or severe cough/cold symptoms. Moody ISD policy requires that student's be "**symptom free**" for 24 hours before returning to school. Physician's notes to "return to school" do not override school policy. Please adhere to this policy to prevent the **unnecessary** spread of illness to other students and faculty. This is especially important during cold and flu season.

Make sure to provide emergency contact phone numbers for use in the event you are unable to be reached for a sick or injured student. If you move or your number changes, don't forget to provide updated numbers to the office **and** to the Nurse. In the event that we are unable to reach you or the emergency contacts you have provided, Moody ISD reserves the right to use local law enforcement or EMS at the Administrations discretion.

Common illnesses spread in schools are pink eye, head lice, colds, viruses causing vomiting or diarrhea, etc.

REPORTING ILLNESSES:

If your child is diagnosed with a contagious illness such as chicken pox, strep throat, pink eye, staph, mono, etc., please let the School Nurse know. If your child has a boil or abscess, or what appears to be a spider-bite, let the School Nurse know. Several contagious illnesses are classified as "reportable" and must be submitted to the Texas Department of Health. In cases of an outbreak such as chicken pox, meningitis, hepatitis, etc., letters will be sent notifying you of the condition and any precautions you should take.

HEALTH ROOM VISITS:

Student's visiting the Nurse's Office will be evaluated and treated within the allowable limits of the law. With your permission, Moody ISD uses several over the counter products for minor first aid. A list of these is provided on the Health Information Form which must be filled out for the student's health chart. Students will only be evaluated and treated for illness or injuries which occur during normal school hours. All other complaints will be referred back to the parent. Student's who come to the Nurse before school starts will be instructed to call their parent. Students with a temperature over 100.0 F as well as student's who are vomiting will be sent home. However, vomiting due to coughing, drainage, seeing someone else vomit, or running in Athletics/P.E. will not be sent home. If an injury or illness warrants, we will call you or one of the contacts provided on the Health Information Form.

If a Teacher feels that a student is too ill to stay in class (they are unable to do their work, constant complaining, sleeping, etc.), regardless of whether that student is running fever or vomiting, they have the option of calling the parent themselves.

Students should not come to the Nurse from Band, Music, Special Ed, P.E., Athletics, or lunch **unless** there is a sudden onset of illness or an injury that occurs during that period. They are only in these classes for a short time.

The Nurse **WILL NOT** provide notes of exemption for P.E. or Athletics except in cases of asthma exacerbation.

If your child has episodes of bowel or bladder incontinence, it would be helpful for you to send a change of clothes in their backpack. We do not always have clothes available. If we do send clothes home, please launder and return them to the Nurse as soon as possible. Excessive episodes of incontinence may indicate a need for medical evaluation.

MEDICATIONS:

Please see the enclosed "Medication Policy." A written order from your physician **MUST** accompany **ALL** prescription medications to be administered during school hours. **This includes inhalers that the student is allowed to keep with them.** A Medication Administration Form is available in the Nurse's Office or you may use the form provided by your physician. Medication orders from physicians do not transfer from year to year. These must be renewed yearly. Medications not picked up by the last day of school will be destroyed.

You are welcome to provide over the counter medications for your child to take for minor complaints such as headache, stomachache, sore throat, etc. Again, these should be labeled with your child's name and will not be given to any other students. Over the counter medications will not be given for more than 3 consecutive days without a written order from your physician. Over the counter medications are given according to the label directions. Medications containing Aspirin will not be administered at school unless there is a physician's order to do so.

IMMUNIZATIONS:

Texas State Law requires that all students be current on immunizations to attend school. Students entering Moody ISD from another Texas school will have a 30 day provisional enrollment period while we are obtaining information from their previous school. All students entering Pre-K, Kindergarten, and those entering Moody ISD from a school outside of Texas are required to provide immunization information **prior to or at enrollment**. Students entering from another country must also provide a current immunization record as well as a TB skin test/PPD to enroll. Per Texas State Immunization Laws, student's who are delinquent on immunizations **WILL NOT** be permitted to attend school. Provisional enrollment **does not** include those who are delinquent. In the event that immunization laws change, you will be notified as soon as that information is made available. In these instances provisional enrollment may apply.

HEAD LICE:

All students are susceptible to head lice regardless of economic status, health, or cleanliness. Lice do not discriminate. **Prevention is the best way to tackle this problem.** Teach students not to share combs, brushes, hats, batting helmets, hair accessories, etc. They should place coats, jackets, sweaters, hats, etc. in their backpacks at school when they are not being worn. If your child's class has "read-a-thons" where they bring blankets, pillows, stuffed animals, etc. – run these items through the hottest cycle in the dryer as soon as they get home **before** they come in contact with any other surface. Nits (eggs) take about one week to hatch, then another week to mature and lay eggs. Check your child's hair often. If your child is sent home, an adult must bring them to the Nurse for re-admittance to class.

SCREENINGS:

State law requires vision and hearing screenings in Pre-K (4 yrs old by Sept. 1st), 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th grades, and any new entrants to the District. State law also requires scoliosis screenings in 5th and 8th grades or 6th and 9th grades. Moody ISD conducts scoliosis screenings in the 5th and 8th grades. These screenings are state mandated. The only students who are exempt from the screenings are those who bring a statement/affidavit from their physician stating when and where they had this screening done, and what the results of that screening were. Screenings at school **do not** take the place of your child's regular well child check-ups and doctor's visits. As with immunizations, should the laws change regarding screening requirements, we will let you know as soon as that information is made available.

PUBERTY EDUCATION:

As part of the Health Curriculum, human growth and development and character education takes place for girls in 4th grade and for boys in 5th grade. These presentations are done in the spring.

Finally, preventive care is crucial to your child's health. Well-child check-ups with your physician are recommended yearly to monitor growth and development, update immunizations, and discuss any concerns you have regarding your child's health. Well-child check-ups usually include a more detailed vision and hearing exam, nutritional assessment, and complete physical assessment. Many diseases such as childhood cancers, blood disorders, developmental delays, etc. have been prevented or minimized because they were diagnosed early at scheduled well-child visits.

Information is available in the Nurse's office regarding Texas Health Steps, Children's Medicaid, CHIPS applications, and county health department information.

FACT: HEALTHY KIDS LEARN BETTER!!!

