

HIGH SCHOOL HEALTH & IMMUNIZATION POLICIES

BELLEVUE SCHOOL DISTRICT Bellevue, Washington 2008-2009

Life Threatening Health Conditions:

Prior to the 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 providing authority to a R.N. and nursing plan are not in place. Following submission of the medication or treatment order, a nursing plan shall be developed by the School Nurse. Students who have a life threatening health condition and no medication or treatment order presented 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 Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. It is the parent responsibility to contact the School Nurse prior to attending school.

Immunizations:

Students may not be enrolled in school unless a completed Certificate of Immunization Status is submitted.

The Washington State Immunization Law requires that any student entering a school district for the first time, must present to the school the dates (month, day, and year) of immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR). In addition, students entering kindergarten through grade eleven must present evidence of immunization against Hepatitis B. Hepatitis B is recommended for 12th graders but not required.

Students entering kindergarten through twelve (k-12), must show proof of a second measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) immunization since age one. Having the disease of measles, mumps, or rubella, does not exempt a student from the required immunization unless proof of a positive laboratory titer is presented. The regulations exempt a student from the immunization requirements if religious or philosophical objectives are expressed by the parents or a valid medical reason exists to contraindicate immunizations. Following proper notification, the school shall exclude the student for noncompliance with the immunization laws pursuant to the appeal process procedures for student expulsions. Please see the Washington State School Immunization Requirement sheet to make sure your student has all the required immunizations for their grade level.

Health Examination:

In accordance to Bellevue School District Policy (4320 – School Health Services), a health examination is required before entering kindergarten, middle school and high school and is recommended at the third-grade level. Students new to Bellevue schools are also required to have a health examination or to submit the results of a previous examination at the required school level while a resident in another school district. A dental examination is highly recommended. Students entering Bellevue schools in grade 12 will not be required to furnish a health-status report except as required for participation in interscholastic athletics.

If you are unable to submit the results of a previous health examination, please take the enclosed card to your private physician and ask him/her to assist us by providing the information requested. If you wish to request an exemption from the physical examination requirement, you may request an exception from your child's school.

Interscholastic Activities Physical Examination – High School Only:

Participation in interscholastic athletic activities requires compliance with the regulations of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA). These regulations require every student who participates in interscholastic athletic activities to have passed a physical examination every two years before participation at the high-school level. No exemptions from this regulation are granted. Forms can be obtained at your child's school or on the district web site.

Medications at School:

Bellevue School District has a **no drug** policy, **which includes any over-the-counter medication, herbal medications and prescription medications**. In the event that there exists a valid health reason which requires the administration of any medication to a student during school hours, proper notification and authorization must be completed in compliance with RCW 28A.210.260 and the Washington State Nurse Practice Act. A prior written request and authorization form must be filled out by **both the parent and a licensed physician** for any over-the-counter medication, prescription medication, herbal medications and epinephrine injections. This form must be on file in the office and are good for the current school year, unless a shorter period is specified. The Medication Authorization form is available in the school office and on the district web page.

Bellevue School Nurse Health Information:

On Bellevue School District's Web site, the school nurses have put information about health requirements as well as many of the health forms that are required for school attendance. You can find suggested guidelines for deciding if your child is too sick to attend school, what immunizations are required for your child's grade level, copies of different Health Care Plans if you would like to communicate your child's health care during school days and links to community sites that parents might find useful. Go to the Bellevue School District Web site at www.bsd405.org. Click on Quicklinks and then click on Health Services Information.

Vision and Hearing Screening:

The Bellevue School District provides vision and hearing screening programs. Vision and hearing screening is conducted annually in kindergarten through fifth grade, and in seventh grade. A student at any grade level having a suspected hearing or vision problem can obtain a vision or hearing screening. Referrals can be originated by the teacher, parents, or students themselves.

Scoliosis Screening:

The Bellevue School District conducts scoliosis (curvature of the spine) screening annually at grades five, seven and nine. Referral of students with suspected curvature will be made to parents for professional follow-up.