

# CARLISLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: HEALTH EXAMINATIONS/  
SCREENINGS

ADOPTED: July 20, 2006

REVISED: January 17, 2008  
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## 209. HEALTH EXAMINATIONS/SCREENINGS

### Authority

In compliance with the School Code, the Board shall require that district students submit to health and dental examinations in order to protect the school community from the spread of communicable disease; to ensure that the student's participation in health, safety and physical education courses meets his/her individual needs; and to ensure that the learning potential of each student is not lessened by a remediable physical disability. [1] [2] [3] [4]

### Guidelines

Each student shall receive a comprehensive health examination upon original entry, in sixth grade, and in eleventh grade, conducted by the school physician. [2] [5] [4]

Each student shall receive a comprehensive dental examination upon original entry, in third grade, and in seventh grade, conducted by the school dentist. [3] [5] [4]

A private health and/or dental examination conducted at the parents'/guardians' request and expense will be accepted in lieu of the school examination. [5]

The district will accept reports of privately conducted physical and dental examinations completed within one (1) year prior to a student's entry into the grade where an exam is required.

Each student shall receive, from the school nurse or medical technician, vision tests, hearing tests, height and weight measurements (body mass index), scoliosis tests, and other tests deemed advisable, at intervals established by the district. Height and weight measurements shall be used to calculate the student's weight-for-height ratio. [2] [4] [6]

A student who presents a statement signed by the parent/guardian that a medical examination is contrary to his/her religious beliefs shall be examined only when the Secretary of Health determines that the student presents a substantial menace to the health of others. [9] [10]

Where it appears to school health officials or teachers that a student deviates from normal growth and development, or where school examinations reveal conditions requiring health or dental care, the

parent/guardian shall be informed; and a recommendation shall be made that the parent/guardian consult a private physician or dentist. The parent/guardian shall be required to report to the school the action taken subsequent to such notification. When the parent/guardian informs the school of financial inability to provide an examination, the school shall advise him/her of the availability of public assistance. Where no action is taken, the school may conduct further examinations. [2] [11] [4]

Parents/Guardians of students who are to receive physical and dental examinations or screenings shall be notified. The notice shall include the date and location of the examination or screening and notice that the parent/guardian may attend or may have the examination or screening conducted privately at the parent's/guardian's expense. Such statement may also include notification that the student may be exempted from such examination or screening if it is contrary to the parent's/ guardian's religious beliefs. [12] [13]

In the event that the parent/guardian objects to or refuses to obtain a regular or special medical or dental examination or refuses to permit the child to be examined as arranged by the school nurse or school physician, the school nurse, in consultation with the school physician, shall determine whether the student appears to have unaddressed health conditions such that under the circumstances the refusal should be reported to the Pennsylvania Department of Health or other appropriate authorities.

Where school health officials or staff have reasonable cause to suspect that a student may be the victim of child abuse, the school employee shall make a report of suspected child abuse in accordance with law and Board policy.[15] [16]

#### Health Records

The district shall maintain for each student a comprehensive health record which includes a record of immunizations and the results of tests, measurements, regularly scheduled examinations and special examinations. [2]

All health records shall be confidential and shall be disclosed only when necessary for the health of the student or when requested by the parent/guardian, in accordance with law and Board policy. [17] [18] [19]

The district may disclose information from health records to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency when necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals, in accordance with applicable law and Board policy. [17] [18] [19] [20] [21] [22]

Designated district staff shall request from the transferring school the health records of students transferring into district schools. Staff shall respond to such requests for the health records of students transferring from district schools to other schools. [17]

The district shall destroy student health records according to the District's record retention guidelines. [16] [23]

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall instruct all staff members to continually observe students for conditions that indicate health problems or disability and to promptly report such conditions to the school nurse. [2]

The Superintendent or designee shall request an adequate health record from the transferring school for each student transferring into the district. [7]

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that notice is provided to all parents/ guardians regarding the existence of and eligibility for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). [11]

Legal References:

1. SC 1401
2. SC 1402
3. SC 1403
4. Title 22 Sec. 12.41
5. SC 1407
6. Title 28 Sec. 23.1 et seq
7. SC 1409
8. Pol. 216
9. SC 1419
10. Title 28 Sec. 23.45
11. SC 1406
12. SC 1405
13. Title 28 Sec. 23.2
14. 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232h
15. 23 PA C.S.A. 6311
16. Pol. 806
17. 24 P.S. 1409
18. Pol. 113.4
19. Pol. 216
20. 20 U.S.C. 1232g
21. 34 CFR Part 99
22. Pol. 805
23. Pol. 800