

HEALTH HANDBOOK

Insurance

Accident insurance is available at a small cost to each student at the start of the school year. The student protection plan offers 24 hour or at-school-only coverage. This individually purchased insurance does not cover interscholastic injuries. All interscholastic athletes are covered by a policy purchased by the Newtown School District. However, in case of an accident, the student must collect first on his/her family health insurance plan. The excess can then be claimed from the school's purchased insurance.

PART VI - HEALTH SERVICES

The nurse's office is open school days from 7:30 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. To see the nurse, the student must get a pass signed by a teacher. All students visiting the nurse's office must either sign in or be signed in by the nurse in the Daily Census Log.

The Emergency Information/Tylenol Permission Form

This form is mailed in the summer to parents and must be returned to the nurse's office within the first week of school. Current health and emergency information on all students is important.

Physical examinations

Examinations are required for tenth grade students. They must be completed by an advanced practice registered nurse, a licensed physician's assistant, a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, or the school medical advisor. The tenth grade physical forms are to be completed and returned to the nurse's office by December of the sophomore year.

Gym excuses

Excuses should be brought to the nurse's office by the student or parent. The excuse will be charted on the student's health record. The nurse will complete a duplicate Medical Physical Education Excuse Form. One copy will be given to the guidance counselor and the other copy will be given to the gym teacher. If medically excused from P.E., a student is required by state law to complete a physical education assignment issued by the assigned semester P.E. teacher.

Injuries-Illnesses

If involved in an accident, the student should report to the nurse's office. He/She should not wait until the following day to discover that the small bruise did amount to something. If a student is injured or has been medically excused from gym or a sport, a written doctor's release is required in order for him/her to return to the gym or sport.

Administration of Medication

The nurses/trained school personnel may only administer medication during school hours with the written permission of a parent/guardian, and a written order by a physician. Medication forms can be obtained from the nurse's office. Medication to be given should be brought to the school by the parent/guardian and must be identified and labeled with the following: the prescription number, the student's name, the doctor's name, the medication name, the dosage, and directions for administration (all medications must be in a pharmacy container). Students may not carry medications on their person with one exception - asthma inhalers.

Transportation

The parent or the person indicated on the Student Health Services Information Form should provide transportation for the ill child. When the parent or person indicated on the Student Health Services Information Form cannot pick up the ill child, the parent must find another person to provide transportation.

Health Records

Graduating students may need immunization records before acceptance into colleges, technical schools, and places of employment. Please keep this in mind before graduation and obtain copies of your records if necessary. Records are only kept for a period of three years.

Student Assistance

The high school Student Assistance Team is composed of staff members (administration, guidance, nurse, teachers, and support staff) who have received special training in recognizing behavioral changes indicating that a student may be at risk. The Student Assistance Team provides a structure to assess their behaviors. If a problem does appear to exist, students and their families are encouraged to seek help. All information is confidential. The goals of the team are:

- Identification of students who may be at risk and who have problems that interfere with their functioning in school.
- Early intervention to prevent the problems from escalating into crisis proportions.
- Increased awareness and knowledge within the school community of issues of concern for Newtown youth.

The teams have been successful in identifying problems and believe that early intervention is most likely to produce positive changes.