

# Beaver Area School District Health Services

College Square School  
724.774.9126, ext. 4137

Dutch Ridge Elementary  
724.774.1016, ext. 3804



For your convenience, information about our Health Office services and policies, as well as the state required screening policies and examination forms, are posted on the district web site. To access this material:

Go to [www.basd.k12.pa.us](http://www.basd.k12.pa.us) and choose Student Services, then Health Services.

If you prefer a hard copy Health Services Booklet, please complete the form below. A copy will be sent home with your student.

Health guidance by school health personnel follows the regulations and guidelines established by the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Department of Education, and the Department of Public Welfare. In order to maintain and/or improve health, please consider the healthy suggestions and best practices provided in this booklet, as well as communications provided throughout the school year.

The school's health service staff is available to students, parents and personnel to discuss any health matter of concern, be it a matter of normal growth and development or a health problem. Our health service staff endeavors to interpret and assist families in securing the needed health resources of the school and community. The health office will cooperate in this assistance in every way possible. Increased attention is given to students with special health concerns and/or those with socio-economic issues.

## **IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS**

The school district must have proof of the required immunizations. Kindergarten students not completely immunized according to the Pennsylvania State Health Immunization Laws may be excluded from school after the eight (8) month provisional period. Your child may be enrolled in school provisionally if you are able to provide proof that immunizations were started and the first antigen of each required immunization has been given. The status of your child's immunizations will be reviewed every 60 days. **If your child's immunizations are not complete by April 30<sup>th</sup>, your child may be excluded from school beginning May 1.**

To ensure that your child's immunizations are up to date according to the current state requirements, please ask your child's physician.

### **TREATMENT WITHIN THE HEALTH OFFICE**

Treatment given at school is *limited* to first-aid assistance in accident cases, sudden illness, and other emergencies. Because of this, ***please do not send your child to school when he/she is ill.***

### **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE**

Every effort is made to control communicable disease. The school suggests that any student having a communicable disease have the care of the physician. A statement for re-admission to school can then be obtained from the doctor at the resolution of the illness/disease. Please deliver the physician's re-admission statement to the Health Office.

#### **Strep Throat:**

If diagnosed with a strep throat infection, the student ***MUST BE on prescribed antibiotic therapy and fever free for 24 hours before returning to school.*** Please notify the school health office if your student has strep throat (as this is a communicable illness).

#### **Exclusions:**

**The Pennsylvania Department of Health Regulations for exclusion from school for specified diseases and infectious conditions are as follows:**

Diphtheria	2 weeks from the onset or until appropriate negative culture test
Measles	4 days from the onset of rash
Mumps	9 days from the onset or until subsidence of swelling
Rubella	4 days from the onset of rash
Pertussis	(whooping cough) 4 weeks from the onset or 5 days from institution of appropriate anti-microbial therapy
Chicken Pox	6 days from the last crop of vesicles or until all vesicles are crusted must be reported to PA Dept. of Health
Strep Throat	may return 24 hours after institution of appropriate anti-biotic therapy; must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of anti febrile medication.

24 hours from institution of appropriate therapy until judged non-infective by the child's physician for the following:

- Pink Eye
- Ringworm
- Impetigo
- Scabies

## HEALTH APPRAISAL

- BMI's calculated yearly
- Height and weight checked yearly
- Vision screening yearly
- Hearing screening of students in K, 1, 2, 3, 7, & 11
- Scoliosis screening in grades 6 (via physical exams) and 7th grade by the nurse
- Physical examinations in K, 6, & 11, Special Olympic participants & athletes
- Dental examinations in grades K, 3, & 7

Body Mass Index (BMI): The BMI is calculated per male, female, birth date, height, and weight. For more information regarding BMI, please read the last page of this booklet. Since many factors influence the BMI percentile, please discuss your student's data with his/her doctor. BMI calculations are mailed once completed.

Physical / Dental Exams: It is recommended that the mandated, grade-specific physical and dental examination be done by the family physician/dentist since they can best evaluate the student's health and can assist with obtaining any necessary treatment. This examination is at the student's expense.

The state mandated forms for these examinations may be obtained from the school nurse or on our web site. The completed physical/dental form needs to be returned to the school nurse during the first week of school or before the school exam is scheduled. [School Physical and Dental Exams take place one day in the winter.]

Parents/Guardians of students not examined by the family physician/dentist by the time the school exams are scheduled will receive the additional permission slips for the health examinations done by the school's physician/dentist. These permission slips must be signed and returned to the school health office. Without the required signatures, the school health office *cannot* schedule your student for the examination.

## SCHOOL MEDICAL REFERRALS

Any family covered under the Medical Assistance Program is eligible for free annual eyeglasses and dental care from participating health care organizations.

- For eye care, call the Pennsylvania Association for the Blind at 724-843-1111.
- If your child is not covered under the Medical Assistance Program and you feel that you are unable to afford the cost of treatment, please contact the County Board of Assistance at 724-773-7300. They will help you determine if your family is eligible, and can give you a Medical Assistance Identification card if your family qualifies.

## INDIVIDUAL MEDICATION POLICY

Administration of individual medication to a student during school hours should be kept to a minimum. To protect your child and the other students, a permission form must be completed and returned to school if your child is to receive prescribed medication or non-prescription medication during the school day that does not appear on our health enrollment form. **ALL** orders are good for that school year only and you must have new medication order forms filled out at the beginning of each school year. (Please complete the Licensed Prescriber Form on the BASD web site [or the form at the end of this booklet].)

## **PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION (Long-term administration of medication)**

In accordance with district policy, **ALL** medication must be brought to school by a parent or responsible adult in a container with the prescription labeled by a pharmacist or physician. Do not send unlabeled containers (bottles, baggies) to school. Do not send medication to school with the student. Please make sure that the "Licensed Prescriber" permission form is filled out completely and signed by both the Physician and the Parent/Guardian.

Any change in medication dosage must be reported to the school nurse immediately, along with the physician signature confirming the change. For ongoing prescription medication (for example, asthma), new parental permission forms must be obtained at the start of each school year. (Please complete the "Licensed Prescriber" Forms on the BASD web site [or the "Licensed Prescriber" Form at the end of this booklet].)

## **OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATION**

Distribution of over the counter medication is discouraged during school hours, however by signing the health enrollment form at the beginning of each school year, you can give the school nurses permission to administer certain non-prescription medications according to district policy and our School Physician's standing orders. All other **non-prescription (over the counter)** medications not listed on the health enrollment form require "Licensed Prescriber" forms to be filled out and signed by your personal physician. Over the counter medications are **NOT** to be brought to school by a student, only responsible adults are permitted to deliver over the counter medications to the nurse.

*Note:* Throat lozenges are no longer available in the elementary school's health offices for sore throats (only middle/high school). If you feel your student needs cough drops during the school day, you may send a small supply of **non-medicated cough drops (those containing only pectin)** in to the school nurse with written permission from the parent/guardian. Cough drops are not supplied by the school.

## **ASTHMA and ALLERGIES**

For students with asthma or life threatening allergies, inhalers and epi-pens may be kept in the health office or in the student's possession dependent on the physicians', parents', and school nurse's decision. For exercised-induced asthma, please have your child's inhaler available for gym class. If you feel your child is capable of carrying his/her own inhaler or epi-pen, a "Licensed Prescriber" form must be filled out completely and signed by both Physician and Parent/Guardian and it must state clearly that the student is capable of self administration. This must be cleared with the school nurse.

## **BEE STING**

If a student is known to have a severe allergy to a bee sting, or other stinging insects, written documentation from the student's doctor should be obtained and sent to the school's health office.

This would give permission for the school nurse to follow Beaver Area School District's Standing Orders, written by the school doctor. If an Epi-pen is ordered, one must be kept in the health office. (Please complete the "Licensed Prescriber" form on the BASD web site [or the form at the end of this booklet].)

## **FOOD ALLERGY**

Please report all life-threatening food allergies to the school nurse immediately. A care plan form will be sent home for the student's physician to complete. Epi-pens or other medication should be supplied to the health office. (Please complete the "Licensed Prescriber" form on the BASD web site [or the form at the end of this booklet].)

**HEAD LICE**

**Please report all cases of head lice to the nurse; strict confidentiality will be maintained.**

When a case of lice is found, the entire class may be checked in order to determine if other students may also have lice.

The nurse will work closely with the parent to aid in the elimination process. This may include checking the student for a period of 2 weeks after the initial infestation and communicating with the parent about nits or live lice that remain.

**GRADE 4 AND 5 HYGIENE/PUBERTY PRESENTATION**

A presentation and video on feminine hygiene/puberty are presented to the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls separately by the school nurse. A physician speaks to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys on maturation. These presentations take place in April or May. Permission letters are mailed home prior to the presentations.

