

## **Students**

### **Health Assessments and Immunizations**

The Board recognizes the importance of periodic health assessments according to state health regulations. As required by state law, all students shall have health screening and health assessments at regular intervals for the reasons and under the circumstances clearly enunciated in the state statutes.

Parents and school and health officials must increase efforts to prevent the occurrence of those vaccine preventable illnesses.

The Board of Education adheres to those state laws that pertain to school immunizations and health assessments. The Board may deny continued attendance in school to any student who fails to obtain the health assessments required under C.G.S. 10-206.

Parents wishing their children exempted or excused from health assessments may request such exemption to the Superintendent of Schools in writing. This request must be signed by the parent or guardian. No record of any student medical assessment may be open to the public.

### **Immunizations**

1. At the time of school entry all primary age children initially entering kindergarten and all children newly entering any other grade, shall be required through active immunization, unless there are specific counter-indications as spelled out in the law, to be protected against:
  - A. Diphtheria;
  - B. Tetanus and pertussis;
  - C. Polio;
  - D. Measles;
  - E. Mumps;
  - F. Rubella;
  - G. HIV; and
  - H. Any other mandated immunizations
  
2. When parents or guardians are seeking to enroll their children in schools without evidence of the required immunizations, these students shall not be allowed in school attendance.

## **Students**

### **Health Assessments and Immunizations**

**Legal Reference:** Connecticut General Statutes

10-204 Vaccination.

10-204a Required immunizations.

10-204c Immunity from liability.

10-205 Appointment of school medical advisers.

10-206 Health assessments.

10-206a Free health assessment.

10-207 Duties of medical advisers.

10-208 Exemption from examination or treatment.

10-208a Physical activity of student restricted; boards to honor notice.

10-209 Records not to be public.

10-212 School nurses.

10-214 Vision, audiometric and postural screenings.

**Policy adopted:** August 14, 1995

**NEW HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
New Haven, Connecticut

## **Students**

### **Health Assessments and Immunizations**

#### **Statement of Responsibility**

These regulations apply to all students in attendance in the New Haven Public Schools. Particular requirements exist for all new students who are applying for membership as well as students who are already in attendance but who must periodically update their health records in order to be in compliance with State and local regulations.

#### **Requirements of All Newly Entering Students**

1. The student qualifies for school enrollment if documentation is presented that:
  - A. All required immunizations have been received in writing and
  - B. A current health assessment/health screening has been conducted dated and signed by a health care provider.
2. A student who fails to provide this documentation as required shall not be enrolled in school unless there are exemptions.
3. Exemptions Allowed by Law:
  - A. Immunizations
    - (1) Presents a certificate from a physician or a local health agency stating that initial immunizations have been given to the child and **ADDITIONAL IMMUNIZATIONS ARE IN PROCESS.**
    - (2) Assess each student's health document for selective information pertaining to the immunization, health screening and physical examination status.
    - (3) Give interpretation of the health history to principals, recommend to admit the student, recommend not to admit the student.
    - (4) Advise parents/guardians as to where needed health services may be obtained.
  - B. When Nurse is Present and Students are Registering
 

Send all newly entering students and parents/guardians to nurse's office for assessment of immunization/health assessment/ health screening status.

## **Students**

### **Health Assessments and Immunizations**

#### **Requirements of All Newly Entering Students (continued)**

##### **C. When Nurse is Not Present and Students are Registering:**

Principal/clerk obtains student's immunization/physical examination information documents if available.

- (1) If health history complete or parent/guardian presents letter covered by exemptions (see page 1, item #3), admit student, forward health forms to nurse. School nurse will assess information.
- (2) If health history is partially complete (see page 1, item 3a, 1),
- (3) If health history information is not in compliance, do not admit student under any circumstances. Suggest (a) obtaining the required health services immediately and, (b) contacting the nurse to inform her of parent/guardian's plan to comply.

#### **Requirements of On-Going Students - Grades 6 & 11**

##### **1. Immunizations**

Students at entry to grade 6 and again at entry to grade 11 shall be reassessed in terms of their immunization status and must be "boostered" accordingly.

##### **2. Health assessment/Health Screenings**

Students at entry to grade 6 and again at entry to grade 11 shall satisfy the requirements of a health assessment and all required health screenings.

##### **3. Exemptions Allowed by Law**

See page 1, item #3.

## Students

### Health Assessments and Immunizations

#### Requirements of On-Going Students - Grades 6 & 11 (continued)

#### 4. Exclusions/Failure to Comply

On-going students in grade 6 and grade 11 who do not meet the health requirements and all efforts to have student comply have failed must be excluded.

- parent/guardian duly notified/student remains in non-compliance.
- student absent on day in-school medical service planned
- student does not keep scheduled appointment with outside health provider.
- selected date for compliance is reached and student still has not complied.

#### 5. Role of the Public Health Nurse

##### On-Going Students

- a. To identify and duly notify, in the previous spring, those students who in the following September will be entering grade 6 and grade 11 who must show proof of a current health assessment including screenings such as hemoglobin, blood pressure, scoliosis, etc., as well as up-dated immunizations.
- b. To refer students/families to a source of health care in the community.
- c. To follow up with families or source of health care to see that the appropriate health information is received within the time specified.
- d. To refer students to the Health Departments Children's Clinic where needy students may obtain free preventative health services.
- e. To plan and schedule during September and October in-school medical sessions per the usual procedure.
- f. To compile a list of students who remain in non-compliance both for the principal as well as for Nursing Administration.
- g. To continue to pursue students on the Non-Compliance list until list is forwarded by Department of Health to Department of Education as a final transaction, i.e., no further action by health services is possible as all resolve/resources have been exhausted.

## **Students**

### **Health Assessments and Immunizations**

#### **Definition of Health Requirements**

1. **Immunizations**

A. **Newly Entering Students:**

Kindergarten or any other grade shall be immunized "before being permitted to attend" school, i.e., students must show proof-specific dates of being appropriately immunized according to state mandates.

B. **On-Going Students:**

Immunization history must be assessed and the immunization's status updated as appropriate to the regulations.

2. **Appropriately Immunized**

An individual shall be considered appropriately immunized if up-dated immunization are in accordance with current state mandates.

3. **Health Screenings**

A presumptive identification of disease or physical defect by the application of brief tests.

For example:

- |                |              |             |
|----------------|--------------|-------------|
| - gross dental | - hemoglobin | - scoliosis |
| - vision       | - hearing    |             |

#### **Availability of Health Services**

1. **In the Community - Entering or On-Going Students**

Private physicians, clinics, hospitals, and other health providers of the parent/guardian's choice.

## **Students**

### **Health Assessments and Immunizations**

#### **Availability of Health Services (continued)**

#### **2. In the Health Department - Entering or On-Going Students**

Every Thursday afternoon from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., the Department of Health conducts an immunization and physical examination clinic, free of charge, where students may receive health services. Parents or other responsible adult must accompany student as "informed consent" forms must be signed prior to the administration of any vaccine.

#### **3. In-School - On-Going Students Only**

In those cases where pupils are eligible for free health assessments, the school nurse, with parental consent, can schedule a physical examination and/or needed immunizations at a school medical session.

#### **Responsibilities of Principal**

- 1. To communicate this regulation and related policy to all staff members as well as executive board members of the school's G.M.G.**
- 2. To establish a process in which a regular review of students' health information is discussed by the principal and school nurse.**