

## HEALTH REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES

All children in Illinois shall present proof of having had a health examination and received such immunizations against preventable communicable diseases as required by the Department of Public Health. ***These records are to be presented to the school before the first day of school.***

### **Health Examinations and Proof of Immunization**

All children in Illinois shall have a health examination as follows:

\*prior to entering into any public, private or parochial preschool or transferring from outside of the State of Illinois,

\*prior to entering kindergarten or the first grade, sixth, and ninth grades

The examination must have been done within one year prior to the child entering the required grades. Students who are transferring from another Illinois school at any other grade level may present a copy of the physical examination report form that was done at the last required grade level.

### **Dental Examinations**

All children in kindergarten and the second and sixth grades shall have a dental examination by a licensed dentist. The examination must have been done within eighteen months prior to the child entering the required grades.

### **Vision Examinations**

All children enrolling in an Illinois public, private or parochial school for the first time or entering kindergarten shall have an eye exam. The examination must be made by an optometrist or a physician who provides eye examinations and done within one year prior to the child entering school.

### **Medical Objections to Immunization**

The Physician Statement of Immunity or reason for withholding immunizations must be attached to the Certificate of Child Health Examination form.

### **Religious Objections to Immunization and Vision Examination**

Under Illinois law, a religious objection to immunizations or vision examinations must be in writing and must set forth the specific religious belief which conflicts with each immunization or examination. The Archdiocese of Chicago has the responsibility to determine whether the written statement constitutes a valid religious objection.

### **Medication in School**

Administration of medication is discouraged unless necessary for the critical health and wellbeing of the student. No student will be allowed to carry medicine on his person with the exception of medically authorized asthma inhalers or EpiPens. Please read **School Medication Procedures**.

### **Hearing Screening**

Hearing screening in Illinois is a state mandated activity. Children in preschool, junior kindergarten, kindergarten, first, second, and third grades will have their hearing screened at school. Parents of students in other grades may request that a hearing screening be done. Parents are notified of the screening results only when a child fails a screening. The purpose of hearing screening is NOT to diagnose hearing problems but to identify children who are *suspect* for hearing loss and in need of an examination by a medical doctor for possible medical treatment.

### **Vision Screening**

Vision screening in Illinois is a state mandated activity. Students in preschool, junior kindergarten, kindergarten, second, and eighth grades will have their vision screened at school. Parents of students in other grades may request that a vision screening be done. Parents are notified of the screening results only when a child fails a screening. The purpose of vision screening is NOT to diagnoses vision problems but to identify children who are *at risk* for vision impairment and in need of an examination by an vision professional. Vision screening is not a substitute for a complete eye and vision examination by an eye doctor. Your child is not required to undergo the vision screening if an optometrist or ophthalmologist has completed and signed a report indicating that an eye examination has been administered within the previous 12 months.

### **Medical and Emergency Information Notification Information**

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to update emergency information as necessary. Parent/guardian will be contacted by the school when a student is seriously injured or becomes ill at school. Students who have a temperature of 100 or higher, have a rash of undetermined origin, are vomiting, or have diarrhea need to leave school.