

STUDENTS

5141(a)

Student Health Services

School Medical Advisor

The Board of Education shall hire a school district medical advisor and appropriate medical support service personnel including nurses.

The school district medical advisor, in cooperation with the Board and the board of health/health department for the school district, shall:

1. Plan and administer each school's health program,
2. Advise on the provision of school health services,
3. Provide consultation on the school health environment, and
4. Perform any other duties as agreed between the advisor and the appointing board of education.

School health efforts shall be directed toward detection and prevention of health problems and to emergency treatment, including the following student health services:

- a. Appraising the health status of student and school personnel
- b. Counseling students, parents and others concerning the findings of health examination
- c. Encouraging correction of defects
- d. Helping prevent and control disease
- e. Providing emergency care for student injury and sudden illness
- f. Maintaining school health records

Health Records

There shall be a health record for each student enrolled in the school district that will be maintained in the school nurse's room. For the purposes of confidentiality, records will be treated in the same manner as each student's cumulative academic record.

Student health records are covered by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and are exempt from Health Insurance Portability Act (HIPAA) privacy rule. However, it is recognized that obtaining medical information from health care providers will require schools to have proper authorization and to inform parents that such information once released by health care providers is no longer protected under HIPAA but is covered under FERPA.

Regular Health Assessments

Prior to enrollment in kindergarten, each child shall have a health assessment by one of the following medical personnel of the parents or guardians choosing to ascertain whether the student has any physical disability or other health problem tending to prevent him or her from receiving the full benefit of school work and to ascertain whether such school work should be modified in order to prevent injury to the student or to secure for the student a suitable program of education:

1. a legally qualified physician;
2. an advanced practice registered nurse
3. a registered nurse;
4. a physician's assistant;
5. a school medical advisor;
6. a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, an advanced practice registered nurse, or a physician assistant stationed at any military base.

Health Assessments

A health assessment is required, prior to enrollment, for all students enrolling in the school for the first time. This should be completed and dated no earlier than January 1 of the school entry year. A health assessment is also required for students in seventh grade prior to October 31 of the school year and no earlier than January 1 of the preceding school year. Initial school enrollment and continued school attendance is based on meeting this requirement. Health assessments for initial entrance and seventh grade shall be recorded on forms provided by the state. (Conn. General Statute 10-206b)

Such health assessments shall include:

1. Physical examination which shall include hematocrit and hemoglobin tests, height, weight and blood pressure;
2. Updating of immunizations required under 10-204 and 10-204a;
3. Vision, hearing, postural, and gross dental screenings;
4. Tuberculosis (TB) screening will be required as determined by the child's health care provider or required from children who are at increased risk of acquiring tuberculosis infection and disease. Students entering from outside the United States will be required to have testing for tuberculosis and results reported prior to entry into the District's schools.
5. Any other information including a health history as the physician believes to be necessary and appropriate in order to determine physical disability or other health problems.

Health assessments are the responsibility of the parent or guardian to be scheduled with the student's primary care physician (or with physician of parent's or guardian's choice). If a student meets the eligibility requirements of the FREE and REDUCED Lunch program under the National School Lunch Program or FREE MILK under the special milk program and has no health insurance including (HUSKY), then the student will be eligible for a free health assessment performed by the school's medical advisor's office.

A child will not be allowed, as the case may be, to begin or continue in the school district unless health assessments are performed as required. Students transferring into the district must provide evidence of required Connecticut vaccinations, immunizations, and health assessments at enrollment and prior to school attendance.

Health assessment results and recommendations signed by the examining physician or authorized medical personnel shall be recorded on forms provided by the Connecticut State Board of Education and kept on file in the school. Upon written authorization from the student's parent or guardian, original cumulative health records shall be sent to the school nurse of the school district to which such student moves and a true copy of the student's cumulative health records maintained with the student's academic records.

Students who are in violation of Board requirements for health assessments and immunizations will be excluded from school after appropriate notice and warning.

Vision Screening

All students in grades K-8 will be screened using a Snellen chart, or equivalent screening by the school nurse or school health aide. Additional vision screening will also be conducted in response to appropriate requests from parents/guardians or professionals working with the student in question. Results will be recorded in the student's health record on forms supplied by the Connecticut State Board of Education, and the school nurse shall cause a written notice to be given to the parent or guardian of each student found to have any defect of vision or disease of the eyes, with a brief statement describing such defect or disease.

As necessary, special education provisions may be made for students with handicaps.

Hearing Screening

Audiometric screening will be conducted on all students in Grades K-8 (yearly) or in response to appropriate requests from parents/guardians or professionals working with the student. Results will be recorded in the student's health record on forms supplied by the Connecticut State Board of Education, and the school nurse shall cause a written notice to be given to the parent or guardian of each student found to have defect of hearing or disease of the ears, with a brief statement describing such defect or disease.

As necessary, special education provisions may be made for students with handicaps.

Postural Screening

Postural screening will also be conducted on students in Grades 5, 6 & 8 (Grade 7 students have it done in their medical doctor's office) or in response to appropriate requests from parents/guardians or professionals working with the student. Results will be recorded in the student's health record on forms supplied by the Connecticut State Board of Education, and the school nurse shall cause a written notice to be given to the parent or guardian of each student found to have any postural defect or problem, with a brief statement describing such defect or disease.

As necessary, special education provisions may be made for students with handicaps.

Tuberculin Testing

This is not part of the school health assessment. These tests are performed in a physician's office.

Immunization/Vaccinations

No student will be allowed to enroll in any program operated as part of the school district without adequate immunization against the following diseases:

1. Measles
2. Rubella
3. Poliomyelitis
4. Diphtheria
5. Tetanus
6. Pertussis
7. Mumps
8. Hemophilus influenza type B
9. Any other vaccine required by Section 19a-7f of the C.G.S.
10. Hepatitis B
11. Varicella (Chickenpox)
12. Hepatitis A
13. Pneumococcal disease
14. Influenza
15. Meningococcal disease

All students in grades K-12 are required to have received 2 doses of measles, mumps and rubella vaccine or serologic proof of immunity. Students entering kindergarten and seventh grade shall show proof of having received 2 doses of varicella vaccine, laboratory confirmation of immunity, or present a written statement signed by a physician, physician assistant or advance practice registered nurse indicating the individual has had varicella based on family or medical history. (Varicella requirement effective August 1, 2011)

All seventh grade students must show proof of 1 dose of meningococcal vaccine and 1 dose of Tdap in addition to the completion of the primary DTP series.

Before entering seventh grade, each child shall receive a second immunization against measles or show proof of serologic evidence of infection with Hepatitis B.

Students shall be exempt from the appropriate provision of this policy when:

1. parent or guardian present a certificate from a physician or local health agency stating that initial immunizations have been given and additional immunizations are in process under guidelines and schedules specified by the Commissioner of Health Services, or;
2. parent or guardian present a certificate from a physician stating that in the opinion of such physician, immunization is medically contraindicated because of the physical condition of such child, or;
3. parent or guardian present a written statement along with a card identifying their religious affiliation, that such immunization would be contrary to the religious beliefs of such child, such statement to be officially acknowledged by a notary public or a judge, a court clerk/deputy clerk, a justice of the peace, or a Connecticut attorney, or;
4. in the case of measles, mumps or rubella, present a certificate from a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse, or from the Director of Health in such child's present or previous town of residence, stating that the child has had a confirmed case of such disease;
5. in the case of hemophilus influenza type B the child has passed his or her fifth birthday, or;
6. in the case of diphtheria, tetanus, or pertussis, has a medical exemption confirmed in writing by a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse (per C.G.S. 19a-7f).

The school nurse will report to the local Director of Health any occurrence of State of Connecticut defined reportable communicable diseases.

Health Assessment/Interscholastic Sports Programs

Any student participating in any athletic activity (practice and/or contests) must be determined physically fit through a physical examination performed within 13 months of the initial practice and updated so that no more than 13 months passes before the next physical. After the initial examination, repeat examinations are required every year.

Health assessments are the responsibility of the parent or guardian to be scheduled with student's primary care physician (or with physician of parent's or guardian's choice). If a student meets the eligibility requirements of FREE and REDUCED LUNCH program under the National School Lunch Program or FREE MILK under the special milk program and has no health insurance (including HUSKY), then that student will be eligible for a free health assessment performed by the school's medical advisor at the medical advisor's office.

Health assessment results shall be recorded on forms provided by the Connecticut State Board of Education, signed by the examining physician, school medical advisor or advisor's designee, filed in the student's health folder and maintained up to date by the school nurse. Coaches and physical education staff shall ensure appropriate monitoring of an athlete's physical condition.

Student Medical Care at School

School personnel are responsible for the immediate care necessary for a student whose sickness or injury occurs on the school premises during school hours or in school-sponsored and supervised activities. If the school nurse deems it necessary for a student to be dismissed due to illness, a parent or designated emergency contact will be expected to pick up the student in a timely manner.

The school shall maintain files of emergency information records for each student. If a child's injury requires immediate care, the parent or guardian will be called by telephone by the school nurse, the building principal, or other personnel designated by the principal, and advised of the student's condition. When immediate medical or dental attention is indicated, and when parents or guardians cannot be reached, the student will be transported to the nearest hospital unless otherwise indicated on the student's Emergency Information record. The hospital (Emergency Room) where the child is being transported will be notified.

(cf. [5142](#) - Student Safety)

(cf. [5141.4](#) - Child Abuse and Neglect)

(cf. [5141.5](#) - Suicide Prevention)

(cf. [6142.1](#) - Family Life and Sex Education)

(cf. [6142.5](#) - Interscholastic/Intramural Athletics)

(cf. [6171](#) - Special Education)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

- 10-203 Sanitation
- 10-204 Vaccination
- 10-204a Required Immunizations (as amended by PA 15-174 and PA 15-242)
- 10-204c Immunity from liability
- 10-205 Appointment of school medical advisors
- 10-206 Health Assessments
- 10-206a Free health assessments (as amended by PA 07-58 and PA 11-179)
- 10-207 Duties of medical advisors (as amended by PA 12-198)
- 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 (as amended by POA 03-211)
- 10-210 Notice of disease to be given parent or guardian
- 10-212 School nurses and nurse practitioners
- 10-212a Administration of medicines by school personnel
- 10-213 Dental hygienists
- 10-214 Vision, audiometric and postural screening; When required; notification of parent re-defects; record of results

10-214a Eye protective devices

10-214b Compliance report by local or regional board of education

Federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (sec 438 of the
General Education Provisions Act, as amended, added by section 5130

fP.L 93-568, codified at 20 U.S.C. 1232g.

42 U.S.C. 1320d-8, P.L. 104-191, Health Insurance Portability and
Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)

Adopted: December 10, 2009

Revised: January 12, 2021

NORTH CANAAN BOARD OF EDUCATION

North Canaan, Connecticut