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BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: February 12, 2002

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: Dr. J. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: Revision of Superintendent's Rule 5420

ORIGINATOR: Christine M. Johns, Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

RESOURCE
PERSON(S): Dr. Donald Mohler, Executive Director for Student Support Services
Ms. Michele Prumo, Coordinator for Health Services

INFORMATION

That the Board of Education receive as an information item
an update to Superintendent's Rule 5420, Health Services.

The changes to the rule reflect current practice in the Baltimore County Public Schools. The changes not only reflect current practice, but also include the right of the Health Department to exclude students from school who, due to a communicable disease (such as tuberculosis), cannot attend school.

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Appendix I - Superintendent's Rule 5420

STUDENTS: Services to Students

Health Services

1. Physical Examination

A physical examination by a student's usual source of health care is required upon entering Maryland's public schools for the first time. A physical examination is requested but not required upon entering middle school.

2. Health Appraisal

A health appraisal shall be done by the registered nurse-school nurse on all students who have identified health problems in order to institute measures to prevent these problems from interfering with learning.

3. Dental Examination

A dental examination is requested of all students in kindergarten and grade[s] 6 [and 9].

4. Immunization COMPLIANCE

Immunization requirements must be met by all students at school entry. [but no later than twenty (20) calendar days after entering school.] STUDENTS LACKING PROOF OF AGE APPROPRIATE IMMUNIZATIONS MAY BE TEMPORARILY ADMITTED FOR UP TO 20 CALENDAR DAYS. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH IMMUNIZATIONS REQUIREMENTS WILL RESULT IN THE STUDENTS' WITHDRAWAL FROM BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS UNTIL THE REQUIREMENTS ARE MET. ONLY STUDENTS WITH DOCUMENTED RELIGIOUS OR MEDICAL EXEMPTIONS MAY ENTER AND REMAIN IN SCHOOL WITHOUT THE REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS.

Hearing and Vision Screening

Hearing and vision screening tests are [conducted at preschool registration and] REQUIRED for all students IN THE YEAR THEY ENTER SCHOOL FOR THE FIRST TIME [enrolled in pre-kindergarten] AND in kindergarten, grades 3, 5 and 8. THESE SCREENINGS ARE CONDUCTED by technicians from the Baltimore County Department of Health. Any student who is suspected of having a possible hearing or vision problem is screened regardless of grade. [Students in special education classes (k-8) are screened annually.] The registered nurse-school nurse [is responsible for] COLLABORATES WITH THE BALTIMORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ENSURE PROPER follow-up of

students who fail the screenings. Color screening tests are included in the program for students [in grade 5] ENTERING KINDERGARTEN.

5. Scoliosis Screening

Scoliosis screening is required for all female students in grade 6 and male students in grade 8. The registered nurse-school nurse is responsible for coordinating this program [with the physical education department] and for the screening process, referral, and follow-up of students who fail the screening.

Medications for Students While in School

The administration of medications to students while in school is the sole responsibility of the registered nurse-school nurse. The REGISTERED NURSE-school nurse, in collaboration with the principal, shall formulate a plan for medication administration when the nurse or substitute nurse is unavailable. This plan must be in accordance with Board of Nursing Regulations, the State School Health Standards (COMAR 13A.05.05.05-15), and Baltimore County Public Schools procedures.

All prescription and non-prescription medication needed TO BE ADMINISTERED IN SCHOOL on a regular basis [must be accompanied by] REQUIRES a written order signed by a physician/nurse practitioner/dentist. Parental consent for administering the medication [must accompany the physician order] SHOULD BE OBTAINED.

In accordance with Board of Nursing Regulations and under the authority of the Baltimore County Department of Health, the registered nurse-school nurse may implement the appropriate nursing protocols in response to students' health needs, which may include the administration of medication from a formulary of approved discretionary drugs. Parental consent is required for administration of all medications, both prescribed and discretionary.

7. Communicable Diseases

Any knowledge of a case or a suspected case of communicable disease shall be reported to the principal and the registered nurse-school nurse who shall determine if the communicable disease is reportable according to state regulations. IF THE REGISTERED NURSE-SCHOOL NURSE DETERMINES - THAT THE COMMUNICABLE DISEASE IS REPORTABLE, THE OFFICE OF HEALTH SERVICES, BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL BE NOTIFIED. THE OFFICE OF HEALTH SERVICES WILL MAKE THE REPORT TO THE BALTIMORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, BUREAU OF DISEASE CONTROL. [The Baltimore County Department of

Health's Division of Disease Control shall be notified of any reportable communicable diseases in compliance with Title 18 of the Health General Article, Annotated Code of Maryland. Notification of parents in the community shall only take place when directed by the Division of Disease Control, Baltimore County Department of Health.] THE BUREAU OF DISEASE CONTROL SHALL MAKE THE DECISION ON WHETHER STUDENT(S) NEED TO BE EXCLUDED DUE TO THE DISEASE. THE BUREAU OF DISEASE CONTROL, OFFICE OF HEALTH SERVICES, AND THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL WILL COLLABORATE ON ANY DECISIONS REGARDING ANY DISEASE-RELATED INTERVENTIONS, INCLUDING COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION.

Legal References: Education Article 7-401
 School Health Standards: COMAR 13A.05.05.05-15
 Communicable Diseases: COMAR 10.06.01

Rule		
approved:	11/21/68	Superintendent of Schools
revised:	7/12/84	
revised:	8/9/94	
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