



Brown County Schools

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July 20, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As we are approaching the beginning of the 2020-21 school year we would like to inform you of some changes that we will be making in the health offices to ensure that each student is well cared for in a safe manner. We have been advised by many governing agencies that it is imperative to reduce the number of unnecessary office visits to lower the risk of otherwise healthy students being exposed to students with symptoms of COVID-19 that may be in the health office.

Every student that visits the health office for non-routine care will quickly be screened for symptoms of COVID-19 by the Health Assistant or Registered Nurse. This will involve a temperature check with a no-touch infrared thermometer and a couple questions about the symptoms they are experiencing. If students have a fever or complaining of symptoms of COVID-19 they will be given a mask and moved to our isolation room. While students are in the isolation room they will be monitored by the Health Assistant, Registered Nurse, or another staff member. We ask that family please pick up their child promptly when called by the health office staff.

We are supplying each Pre-K through 6th grade classroom with a health kit that includes some supplies for teachers/staff to use for minor health problems as well as a guide for quick treatment options. Some things that can be cared for in the classroom include non-bleeding abrasions, chapped lips, minor injuries, headaches, dry skin, etc.

Medications

We will continue to administer prescribed medications to students during the school day. We encourage parents to take responsibility for administering any before-school medications to reduce the potential exposure for healthy students. Many medications administered early in the day by the school nurse are for ADHD and actually are best given before school so they have time to enter the bloodstream prior to the educational day. However, if that is not possible we can administer the medication at school.

We will no longer be routinely administering the over-the-counter medications that we have in the past including, acetaminophen, ibuprofen, tums, and benadryl. This is to help further reduce office visits. If your child has a health condition that occasionally requires over-the-counter medication (i.e. migraines, chronic upset stomach, allergies, etc) we ask that you supply an unopened container of that medication to be kept in the health office along with the proper paperwork. The Permission for Prescription or OTC Medication form can be found on the Health Services page of the Brown County Schools website. You can also contact your child's school for the correct form.

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We encourage families with students who have asthma to meet with their physician prior to school and fill out an asthma action plan, which can be found on our website as well. We are no longer doing nebulizer treatments in the school setting due to the risk involved with aerosolized procedures. This recommendation has come from multiple agencies and they advise families to talk with their physicians about switching to an MDI with spacer for the school setting.

We also would like families to know when their child visits the health office the Health Assistant and/or Registered Nurse will be wearing a surgical grade mask and gloves during every student encounter. Gloves will be exchanged and hands will be washed/sanitized between visits. Students will also be asked to wear their mask while in the Health Office. This is for the student's safety as well as the health office staff's safety. Also, anytime your student visits the health office you will receive a copy of that visit via Skyward to your email.

Please contact us with any questions or concerns that you may have with any of these changes. Again, our goal is to provide the safest and best care for the health of your child. We are looking forward to a great school year!

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