

Board Policy - Head Lice

Board Policy – 5141.33

BRIDGES School Board recognizes that the school's head lice management program should emphasize the correct diagnosis and treatment of head lice in order to minimize disruption of the education process and to reduce the number of student absences resulting from infestation.

In consultation with the school nurse, the Director or designee may establish a routine screening program to help prevent the spread of head lice.

School employees shall report all suspected cases of head lice to the school nurse or designee as soon as possible. The nurse or designee shall examine the student and other students who are siblings of the affected student or members of the same household.

If a student is found with active, adult head lice, or nits she/he shall be excluded from attendance. The parent/guardian of an excluded student shall receive information about recommended treatment procedures and sources of further information. The student shall be allowed to return to school when there are no nits and/or lice and shall be checked by the nurse or designee before returning to class. Once he/she is determined to be free of lice, the student shall be rechecked weekly for up to three weeks.

The Director or designee shall send home the notification required by law for excluded students. (Education Code 48213)

(cf. 5112.2- Exclusions from Attendance) (cf. 5145.6- Parental Notifications)

The Director and school nurses shall work with the parents/guardians of any student who has been deemed to be a chronic head lice case in order to help minimize the student's absences from school.

When a student in any class has been identified as having a head lice infestation, all students in the class shall be examined. In consultation with the school nurse, the principal may also send information about head lice home to all parents/guardians of the students in that class.

Staff shall maintain the privacy of students identified as having head lice and excluded from attendance.

WEBSITES

California Department of Public Health: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov>

California School Nurses Organization: <http://www.scno.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Parasitic Disease Information, Head Lice:

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice>

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