

8454 MANAGEMENT OF PEDICULOSIS

The Board of Education recognizes the need to maintain a healthful learning environment for all children in the school district. One way to maintain this healthful learning environment is to manage pediculosis, a condition of a person having head lice. Head lice are very small insects that have claws that cling to hair and spend their entire life cycle on the heads of people. Head lice do not spread any diseases and having head lice is not prevented by personal or household cleanliness, use of shampoos, or length of hair. All social and economic groups can be affected by head lice. Because it is very difficult to totally prevent head lice infestations in schools where children come into close head-to-head contact with each other frequently, the Board of Education will take appropriate steps to manage pediculosis.

A student who is found to have active head lice or who exhibit evidence of eggs (nits) will not be permitted to attend school until there are no active lice and nits in the student's hair and until all live head lice and nits are removed as confirmed by an examination by the school nurse and/or by a medical provider.

The Board recognizes parents have the primary responsibility for the detection and treatment of head lice and the school staff members will work in a cooperative and collaborative manner to assist all families in managing pediculosis. The Board of Education's Management of Pediculosis Information Packet will be published on the district's website and will be provided to parents upon request. The Information Packet will include information about identifying, treating, and managing pediculosis.

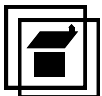
If the school nurse determines a student has active head lice or nits, the parent shall be notified by the school nurse as soon as reasonably possible, but not later than the end of the school day. If requested, the parent will be provided a copy of this Policy. The school nurse shall provide the parent with the district's Management of Pediculosis Information Packet. The school nurse will advise the parent that prompt treatment of head lice is in the best interest of their child. The school nurse will notify the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) and make appropriate pick-up arrangements. If the school nurse cannot contact the parent a copy of this Policy and the district's Management of Pediculosis Information Packet will be sent home with the student. In the event the parent cannot be reached on the day it is determined their child has active head lice, the parent will be required to contact the school nurse the next school day to review the Board Policy and the Information Packet.

The presence of active head lice in the student population will be determined and investigated as follows:



1. Grades Kindergarten through Five – The school nurse will perform head checks of all students in a classroom when a single case of active head lice or nits has been identified in the same classroom within a two week period.
 - a. Grades Kindergarten through Five – When a single case of active head lice or nits has been identified by the school nurse, parents of all children in a class will be notified. The nurse will send home with the students a Head Lice Alert Notice. This notification will inform parents they are expected to notify the school nurse if they find active head lice or nits in their child’s scalp. The school nurse will perform a head check of a student if requested by the parent.
2. Grades Six through Eight – The school nurse will perform head checks of all students in a classroom or on a specific team where one active head lice or nits case in the same classroom or five or more active head lice or nits cases in the same team within a two week period.
 - a. Grades Six through Eight – When a single case of active head lice or nits has been identified by the school nurse, parents of children in a class or on a team may be sent a Head Lice Alert Notice at the discretion of the school nurse and/or administration. These parents may request additional information regarding head lice from the school nurse. The school nurse will perform a head check of the student if requested by the parent.
3. Grades Kindergarten through Eight - When a case of active head lice or nits has been identified by the school nurse, the school nurse shall perform a head check of any of the infested student’s siblings in the school. If a sibling(s) attends a different school in the district, the school nurse in the sibling’s school will be notified and the school nurse will conduct a head check of the sibling(s). In addition, anytime the school nurse has identified active head lice or nits, the school nurse will conduct a head check of other students in the school who are most likely to have had head-to-head contact with the infested child. These other students to be checked shall be identified by the school nurse in consultation with the school administration. The Transportation Department will be notified when an active case of head lice or nits is found if the child receives transportation by the district.

Each school in the district will send home to parents in the beginning of the school year an overview of the district’s Management of Pediculosis Policy.



POLICY

FLORHAM PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION

OPERATIONS

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Management of Pediculosis

A student excluded from school for head lice or nits shall be re-admitted only upon the examination and approval of the school nurse. The examination for re-admittance to school by the school nurse should be, but is not required to be, in the presence of the student's parent. The student will be re-admitted to school only when there is no evidence of active head lice or nits. The student is not permitted to ride on the bus until the school nurse has cleared the child for re-admission.

Cases of active head lice and nits will be recorded by the school nurse in each school for the purpose of tracking incident rates and mandatory reporting of outbreaks will be done according to the New Jersey Department of Health criteria for reporting outbreaks.

The Superintendent of Schools or designee will oversee the development of any additional procedures for the implementation of this Policy.

Adopted: 21March 2016

