

## HEALTH POLICIES

### A. Communicable Diseases

Please do not send your child to school if he/she has a temperature of 100° F or above, has vomited, has diarrhea, or has a rash that may be disease related or with no known cause. In such cases, please consult your physician before sending your child to school. If your child will be absent, please notify the school office. The South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Disease Prevention recommends the following attendance policies for these conditions. For a complete list of recommendations visit their website [www.doh.sd.gov/documents/SchoolExclusion.pdf](http://www.doh.sd.gov/documents/SchoolExclusion.pdf) See also Department of Health disease fact sheet website at [www.doh.sd.gov/DiseaseFacts](http://www.doh.sd.gov/DiseaseFacts) for information pertaining to specific conditions.

<u>DISEASE</u>	<u>SYMPTOMS</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE RULES</u>
<u>Influenza and Influenza-like illness</u>	Fever, body aches, headache, runny nose, cough	Exclude from school as long as a fever of 100° F is present in unmedicated state. Additional exclusions may be necessary for documented novel strain or pandemic influenza based on state or federal guidance.
<u>Chicken Pox</u>	Slight fever, runny nose with rash resembling water blisters appearing 3-4 days later. Blisters dry and scab.	Exclude from school until afebrile, no new pox, and pox dry and scab.
<u>Streptococcal infection (Strep throat, scarlatina, scarlet fever)</u>	Fever, sore throat, headache, nausea. If associated with a rash, scarlatina/scarlet fever.	Exclude from school until treated by physician, on <b>antibiotic for 24 hrs.</b> , afebrile, and student feels better.
<u>Pink Eye, scabies, head lice, ring worm, herpes gladiatorum, molluscum contagiosum, and rashes without fever</u>	Varies depending on type of condition	Generally no exclusion; considerations may exist for certain sports, extra- curricular activities or behaviors that might increase risk of transmission.
<u>Shingles (Herpes zoster)</u>	Painful, fluid-filled blisters in a band, strip or small area on one side of the body, usually on the abdomen or face. History of Chicken Pox.	Generally no exclusion if lesions can be covered. If lesions cannot be covered exclude until rash or lesions have crusted over.
<u>Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus(MRSA)</u>	Skin infections that start as small red bumps, pimples or boils, but quickly develop into deep painful abscesses. May stay confined to skin or may spread to other body systems.	Exclude only if confirmed MRSA is present from a wound in which drainage is occurring and cannot be covered and contained.

<u>Whooping cough(Pertussis)</u>	Cold symptoms followed in 1-2 weeks by a characteristic cough (bursts of coughing followed by a long inspiratory breath and “whoop” sound).	Exclude until 5 days of appropriate antibiotic therapy has been completed.
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**B. Immunizations**

South Dakota State Law (SDCL 13-28-7.1) requires that any pupil entering school or an early childhood program in this state shall, prior to admission, be required to present to the appropriate school authorities certification from a licensed physician that the child has received, or is in the process of receiving, adequate immunization against poliomyelitis, diphtheria, pertussis, rubeola, rubella, mumps, tetanus, and varicella, according to recommendations provided by the Department of Health. This law applies to all children entering a South Dakota school for the first time. This would include children in early intervention programs, preschool, as well as kindergarten through twelfth grade.

Children transferring (at any grade level) during the school term, and who have not previously completed the required immunizations, must be informed of the necessary requirements. They may then be given up to 45 days to show compliance. Failure to obtain the required immunizations is basis for excluding the child from attending school until immunizations are completed.

**C. Injury/Illness**

If your child becomes ill or is injured at school, we will contact the parent/guardian. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to transport the ill child home unless we are given verbal/written permission otherwise.

**D. Nursing Services**

Brandon Valley School District employs five full time RN's. They service all attendance centers and provide complete school health services including periodic screenings, first aid, dispensing of prescribed medications, and wellness promotion.

Staffing hours and locations are determined by numbers of students and need. If you need to discuss your child's medical situation, please do not hesitate to call the nurse at your child’s school.

**E. Physical Examinations**

Students involved in sponsored or sanction athletics and marching band are eligible to participate in practices only after all required forms are completed and on file in the Activities Director’s Office. Parents and students must complete annually the SDHSAA (South Dakota High School Activities Association) Physical Examination Form, the Pre-Participation History form, the Parent and Student Consent Form the Consent for Medical Treatment, HIPPA, and Concussion Forms. Student athletic physicals are to be conducted by an SDHSAA allowable licensed medical personnel every year (unless a serious injury requires an updated physical) and the physician must complete the BVSD Physical Examination form which is available in the principal’s office. Annual Physicals must be completed after April 1 to be valid for the ensuing school year.

**F. Medication Policies**

If your child requires medication during school hours, a parent must bring the medication to school and complete proper paperwork. Do not send medications with your child to school. Forms can be found in each school office or on the school website under the parent tab, and then click on school nurse. Medications must be provided in the original medication bottle that is properly labeled with the medication and the child’s name. This includes prescription and over-the-counter medications. Unused medications must be picked up by a parent on or before the last day of school. Any medication left at school after the last day will be properly disposed.

1. Emergency Medication Policy: Any student requiring prescribed emergency medication such as Glucagon, Epinephrine (Epi-pen), inhaled respiratory medication, etc., will be required to supply necessary emergency medication to the school for use throughout the school year. Students in extra-curricular activities, before/after regular school hours, must provide additional emergency medication and inform supervisory

school personnel of medication location.

2. Prescription Medication: In those cases where medicine is prescribed necessary by a physician during school hours, a Medication Treatment and Authorization Form must be signed by a physician (includes any person authorized to prescribe medications in the State of South Dakota), stating the name of the medication, the medical diagnosis, specific time and dose to be taken at school, and possible adverse reactions. A parent signature is also required on this form. All prescription medications must be in pharmacy labeled containers with student's name, prescribing physician's name, directions, and medication name.
3. Non-Prescription Medication: School personnel will not provide any "over the counter" medications. School personnel will only dispense or supervise "over the counter" medications that have been provided by the parent. A Medication Treatment and Authorization Form must be signed by a parent stating the medication's name, dosage, times to be taken and any side effects. This form may be obtained on the district website, at the principal's office or from the school nurse. The medication must be in its original container. Any non-prescription medication taken daily for two weeks or longer will need a physician's signature.