

## HEALTH SERVICES

### [Board Policy 209](#)

Health services are available in every building, staffed by healthcare professionals. These individuals provide first aid care, administer prescribed medication to a student in accordance with the written directions of a licensed prescriber, and monitor the health, safety and immunization status of all of our students.

In compliance with the Pennsylvania School Health Code, the Plum Borough School District mandates the following schedule of examinations:

Physical Examination <a href="#">Form Link</a>	- Grades K, 6 and 11
Dental Examination <a href="#">Form Link</a>	- Grades K, 3 and 7
Vision Screening	- Annually, All Grades
Hearing Screening	- Grades K, 1, 2, 3, 7 and 11
Scoliosis Screening	- Grades 6 and 7
Height, Weight and Body Mass Index	- Annually, all grades

School Nurses perform the mandated exams as above, except for the Physical and Dental Exams. However, Physical, Dental, and Scoliosis examinations may be done by your own health care provider or by the School Doctor / Dentist. Families are encouraged to establish a relationship with a private health care provider to assure continuity of treatment that is not possible in school exams. This is a lesson, which if learned, will pay dividends in adult life. Private exam forms will be sent home with students or can be downloaded from the district website under District, then Nursing Services. The forms can be completed based on any exam done within one year of the beginning of the grade in which they are due or by January 15<sup>th</sup> of the current school year in which they are due.

Preference forms will be sent to determine if a private exam will be submitted, or if a school exam is desired. Failure to return the signed preference form implies consent for a school exam. Any parent who chooses to have a private exam, but does not submit the completed form by January 15<sup>th</sup> of the year in which the exam is due, also gives implied consent for a school exam to be done. Mandated School Exams are held in the Nurse's Office, and will be completed any time after January 15<sup>th</sup> of the school year. A parent/guardian who wishes to attend the exam with his/her child may select that option on the preference form, and they will be notified of the date & time of the examination.

Students may be exempted from any of the above examinations or screenings if it is contrary to the parent's religious beliefs **and** the parent submits written notification to the school nurse. A student who presents a statement signed by the parent/guardian that a medical examination is contrary to his/her religious beliefs shall be examined only when the Secretary of HHealth determines that the student presents a substantial menace to the health of others.

## **FIRST AID**

### [Board Policy 209.1](#)

When accidents or illnesses occur, first aid is administered. First aid is defined as the immediate, temporary care given in case of accident or sudden illness. Usually first aid is administered by one of the following school personnel: nurse or principal. Further decisions and actions concerning the accident are the responsibility of the parent. The parent completes an [Emergency Care Form](#) for each child authorizing the school as to who should be contacted in the event emergency care is needed. Parents should keep this form up-to-date and inform the school of changes of phone numbers or persons listed.

## **ACCIDENT INSURANCE**

### [Board Policy 211](#)

Each year the District provides the opportunity for the family to secure school related insurance for the student at a nominal fee. This insurance covers medical, dental, and hospital expenses resulting from accidental injury that might occur during school hours and on the way to and from school. The policy offers several plans with the premium varying according to the coverage. The school is not the insurance carrier; it simply selects and enters into an agreement with the insurance company for their service. Applications can be found by clicking in this link provided [Application link](#) or by going to the "Departments" tab on the PBSB website, selecting Athletics, and then Supplemental Insurance from the menu bar on the left.

# ADMINISTERING MEDICATIONS TO STUDENTS

## [Board Policy 210](#)

Pennsylvania State Law governs the administration of all medications, including over-the-counter medications. The law forbids a nurse to administer any medication without a physician's or dentist's written order and signed permission by the parent or guardian. The Plum Borough School District recognizes that when students' health needs make it necessary for medication to be taken during school hours, certain procedures must be followed.

Obtain from your School Nurse or Download from the District Website:

1. ["Authorization for Medication to be Given at School" form.](#)
2. **Written Order from a Licensed Prescriber** - Prescription medications, over-the-counter medications, nutritional supplements, or herbal supplements will not be administered without providing the school with a written order from a licensed prescriber. The pharmacy label does not suffice as this written order.
3. **Written Parent Permission** - The school must be supplied with written parent or guardian permission in order to have any medications given at school.

**\*\* If the order is for an Inhaler or Epinephrine Injector parent must also complete and submit the corresponding forms: [Board Policy 210.1](#)**

✓ [Self-Administration of Asthma Inhalers](#)

✓ [Self-Administration of Epinephrine Injector](#)

✓ [Student Asthma Action Plan](#)

✓ [Information for Student w/Severe Allergy](#)

4. **Types of Medications Given at School** - Only essential prescribed medications will be given at school. Pre-planning will permit most medications to be administered at home. Self-medication by students is not permitted. Exceptions will be made for emergency medication such as an asthma inhaler or epinephrine injector. The licensed prescriber must designate in the order on file that the student is qualified and able to carry & self-administer the medication. Another exception is for students who must wear an insulin pump, where the medication is contained inside the device.
5. **Prescription Medications** - For prescription medications required at school, please request that your pharmacist supply a separate, properly labeled, pharmacy medication bottle with a **safety cap**.
6. **Over-the-Counter Medications** - Medications must be in the manufacturer's original packaging, and labeled by the parent with the student's name.
7. **Persons Administering Medications** - Medications may be administered by the nurse, if the guidelines above are met. Otherwise a parent or other adult designated by the parent such as a grandparent, etc. may come into the school to give a necessary medication until such time that an order can be obtained.
8. **Transporting Medications** - Students should not carry medications to or from school. A responsible adult should bring medications to and pick up medication from the health room. Any medication not picked up by the end of the last day of school will be discarded unless alternate arrangements have been made with the school nurse.
9. **Yearly Medication Order** - For those medications that extend from one school year to the next, a new order from the licensed prescriber and new parent permission must be provided for each school year.
10. **Noncompliance with the Above Policy** - Noncompliance will result in the medication not being given at school.

## KINDERGARTEN REQUIREMENTS

The kindergarten program provides developmentally appropriate experiences aimed at preparing the child for the task of interacting successfully in a school environment and building a foundation for future academic skills. The kindergarten program is a full-day program in which students receive instruction in literacy, numeracy, general education, art, music, physical education and basic computer development skills.

**Registration information is available after February 1<sup>st</sup> in the school office or online at [pbsd.k12.pa.us](http://pbsd.k12.pa.us)**

## IMMUNIZATIONS

[Board Policy 203](#)

**PENNSYLVANIA LAW REQUIRES THAT** your child be excluded from starting school if he or she does not have at least one dose of every required vaccine. **ALSO WITHIN 5 DAYS OF STARTING SCHOOL**, the school must be provided with proof that your child has received all "Required Vaccines." If further doses of needed vaccine(s) are not medically appropriate during the first 5 days of school, then on or before the fifth day, you must submit a medical plan, signed by your healthcare provider, listing dates the remaining doses will be given. For more info go to [www.dontwaitvaccinate.pa.gov](http://www.dontwaitvaccinate.pa.gov)

### All Students in Grades K-12 need:

- ❖ 4 doses of DTaP, DTP, DT, or Td - diphtheria/tetanus/acellular pertussis (1 dose on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday)
- ❖ 4 doses of polio (4<sup>th</sup> dose on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> birthday and at least 6 months after previous dose given)
- ❖ 2 doses of MMR - measles/mumps/rubella
- ❖ 3 doses of Hepatitis B
- ❖ 2 doses of Varicella - chickenpox (or evidence of immunity through a written statement from physician/designee indicating month and year of disease or serologic proof of immunity)

### All Students in Grades 7-12 also need:

- ❖ 1 dose of DTaP - diphtheria/tetanus/acellular pertussis (to enter 7th grade)
- ❖ 2 doses of MCV - meningococcal conjugate vaccine
  - 1st dose to enter 7th grade (11-15 years old)
  - 2nd dose to enter 12th grade (on or after the 16th birthday)

The State of Pennsylvania in cooperation with the Center for Disease Control has made chickenpox a mandatory reportable disease. Therefore, if your child develops chickenpox, please notify the school nurse, who will report the case to the Allegheny County Department of Health. Health Department personnel will then contact the parent to collect the required information.

Also, anyone requesting a medical or religious exemption from the above requirements must also contact the school nurse. Non-compliance with the vaccination regulations may result in your child being excluded from attending school as per the ACHD and the Pennsylvania Department of Health regulations.