

## **326 STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES**

### **Beliefs**

The Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC) follows cultural and traditional teachings of the Maskwacis Cree, in particular Wahkohtowin. Wahkohtowin is the belief that all things are related and connected, that all of existence has spirit and that living in a good way requires us to maintain good relationships with each other and other aspects of existence. We recognize that respect for mother earth, elders, youth, and the Treaties are paramount to planning ahead and making decisions for future generations.

MESC believes that the safety and welfare of its students is of paramount concern. MESC believes no child should be denied an education on medical grounds. MESC also believes it has a responsibility to provide a safe and healthy environment for students.

### **Procedures**

1. It is expected that staff members shall act in accordance with the doctrine of "in loco parentis" when dealing with student illness or injury.
2. School personnel shall be aware that the common law doctrine of "in loco parentis" does not allow them to give consent for any medical treatment on behalf of a parent.
3. School personnel shall cooperate with public health officials and other groups in provision of health services such as testing, inoculation and health education programming.
4. Staff members shall not provide students with any non-prescription medication (aspirins, etc.). See AP 327: Administration of Medication.

### **Communicable Conditions**

5. Students and employees diagnosed with a communicable disease/condition are entitled to a confidential relationship between themselves, the medical community, and/or other agencies.

6. Students and employees with a communicable disease/condition are encouraged to meet with the principal and/or Superintendent to discuss their disease/condition and immediate or future needs.

### **Sexual Health**

7. Maskwacis Health Services will provide the following services to students upon request at the school:
  - 7.1. Access to a Community Health Nurse.
  - 7.2. Access to a reproductive health physician.
  - 7.3. Students in grades 7 - 12 will have access to condoms upon request from their school counsellor or the Community Health Nurse.
  - 7.4. STI and Contraception presentations by the Community Health Nurse (refer to AP 202 - Controversial Issues and Materials)
  - 7.5. In accordance with the Health Information Act, Health Services staff are required to maintain confidentiality of any conversations held with individual students, unless otherwise requested by the student.

### **Specialized Medical Requirements**

8. Where a student is:
  - 8.1. Dependent upon sophisticated life-support medication; or
  - 8.2. Inordinately vulnerable to severe reaction or injury, the Principal shall ensure that appropriate arrangements with guardians are made for the welfare of the child. The Director of Student Services shall:
    - 8.2.1. Make reasonable provisions with parents which will enable the child to receive special medical treatment as required at school; or
    - 8.2.2. Recommend to the Superintendent a more suitable educational setting for the student.

### **Notification of Medical Requirements**

9. Each year parents shall complete a form listing the medical conditions of their children (allergies, physical conditions, or physical differences, etc.) so that school staff are aware of problems and can take appropriate action to protect the child. Parents are responsible for ensuring that this information remains current.

10. Doctor's certificates must accompany student or parental requests for students to be excused from specific programs.
11. Principals shall be responsible to ensure that all staff are advised of student medical conditions and are provided with necessary training.
12. Staff shall familiarize themselves with the medical conditions of students.
13. Parents shall inform bus drivers of special medical conditions of their child(ren) and appropriate actions required for the safety of their child(ren).

References:

Health Information Act

MESC Counselling Handbook