

Procedures for the Identification of Head Lice

The Winnetka Public Schools

October 2016

Dear Parents:

This letter is intended to provide you with current procedures that are implemented in all Winnetka Public Schools regarding head lice. The Winnetka Public Schools implements consistent practices that are adopted and informed by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the National Association of School Nurses. Please refer to *Head Lice Practices and Rationale* for guidelines and rationale. Links to additional information from the AAP and NASN are listed below.

The follow practices are effective for the 2016-2017 school year.

All Schools:

- A trained school nurse will complete any screening for head lice when a case is suspected within a classroom.
- If a case of head lice is identified, the student's parents will be contacted immediately.
- School-wide screenings for head lice will be discontinued.
- The school nurse will screen siblings of any student who has been identified as having head lice.
- The District will no longer implement a no-nit policy. Students will be allowed to return to school once a case of head lice has been properly treated.

Elementary Schools:

- If a case of head lice is identified, information will be sent home to parents of all students in that classroom.
- Children within a classroom where a case of head lice has been identified will be screened the following day by the school nurse. Parents may opt out of this screening by calling the school nurse prior to 9:00 a.m.

Middle Schools:

- Students will only be screened for head lice at parent request. No letter will be sent home.

If you have questions regarding these practices, you may contact your school nurse, the district nurse, Jeanne McCullough, or Director of Student Services, Beth Martin.

Links for information regarding head lice:

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2015/04/21/peds.2015-0746.full.pdf+html>

<https://www.nasn.org/PolicyAdvocacy/PositionPapersandReports/NASNPositionStatementsFullView/tabid/462/smId/824/ArticleID/40/Default.aspx>