



SPRING COVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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"Building a foundation of excellence.....one student at a time."

ALERT – POLICY CHANGE

Dear Spring Cove Parents and Families,

Attached to this letter is a copy of the recently revised district Policy #210 – Use of Medications. The revised policy was adopted after the printing of our 2008-09 student handbooks.

We are asking all families to read the policy and be aware that a significant change was made in regard to the administration of medications. In accordance with state nursing and health regulations, we are no longer permitted to have any district personnel – other than licensed nursing professionals – administer medications. Previously, we were able to designate another staff member to do so when a nurse was not present. That practice has been discontinued.

What impact will this change have on our students and families? Most notable will be a change in procedure for our field trips. Students who are on field trips will no longer be able to have their medications administered by a teacher or teacher assistant. If a student requires a medication while on the trip, the district will first ask if a direct family member can accompany the child on the trip. The family may not designate a grandparent, neighbor or friend to go on the trip due to our policies on required clearances for child abuse and criminal history. If the family is unable to make arrangements to accompany the child on the trip, then the district will attempt to provide coverage for the trip. If the district is unable to provide nursing coverage, then the student may not be able to attend the field trip activity without proper coverage.

The district will do all that it can to see that proper coverage can be arranged. If you are uncertain about the medication schedule that is required for your child or if you feel that a medication schedule could be modified to accommodate a scheduled field trip, the district will require a doctor's order for any changes or modified schedules. We will also make sure that all students are given ample notification for the scheduling of all field trips.

In closing, we ask that you continue to closely communicate with the nursing staff and administrative staff at your child's school. They will be able to answer your questions and problem solve with you to see that appropriate medical coverage is maintained during all school activities. We appreciate your cooperation and support.

Sincerely,

Rodney L. Green
Superintendent