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MEDICATION PROTOCOLS CHANGE IN FSPS

Schools will no longer administer morning doses of student medication

At a Glance

- Parents will have to administer the morning dose of student medication.
- School nurses are the only school staff members allowed to receive student medication.
- Mid-day doses will be administered at specified times in each building.

Fort Smith, AR, August 1, 2018 — Parents of Fort Smith Public Schools students who require medication during the school day will have new guidelines to follow on the first day of school.

FSPS Nurse Cindy Mitchell said, “Changes have been made to the medication administration protocol for Fort Smith Public Schools as a result of new School Nurse Practice Guidelines from the Arkansas State Board of Nursing.”

One primary change is that school personnel will no longer give medications in the morning at school. For parents, this means that they must be administer morning medication before a student arrives at school. Because guidelines require that medications be received and administered by a nurse, medication given around the lunch break will be administered by the school nurses at a specific time at each building.

A second change to procedure will require parents to make an appointment to deliver any student medication to a school nurse. Mitchell said, “Students are no longer allowed to bring their medications to school and secretaries will no longer be accepting medications in the place of the nurse.” She asked parents to consider speaking to the child’s physician about the

possibility of a using a long-acting medication that can be given at home instead of during the school day, and noted that secretaries and administrators will be able to continue to assist with administration of inhalers and epi-pens as needed.

Fort Smith Public Schools nurses will be available at specific times on August 10 to receive medications. Please check the calendar on the school webpage or contact a child's school for this information. If unable to deliver a student's medication during these specified times, parents may arrange an appointment with the nurse.



Los padres de los estudiantes de las escuelas públicas de Fort Smith que necesitan medicamentos durante el día escolar tendrán reglas nuevas a seguir empezando el primer día de la escuela.

La enfermera escolar Cindy Mitchell dijo, “El protocolo de administración de medicinas de las escuelas públicas de Fort Smith ha cambiado ya que hay cambios en las normas que gobiernan la práctica de las enfermeras escolares por parte Consejo de Enfermería del Estado de Arkansas.”

Uno de los cambios principales es que el personal escolar no podrá administrar medicamentos durante la mañana. Esto significa que los padres deben de administrar la medicina en la casa antes de que llegue a la escuela. Las nuevas normas requieren que los medicamentos se entreguen y se administren por una enfermera y es por eso que todos los medicamentos que se toman durante la hora del almuerzo se repartirán durante un horario específico en cada edificio escolar.

El segundo cambio principal requiere que los padres hagan una cita para dejar los medicamentos con la enfermera escolar. Mitchell dijo, “Los estudiantes ya no pueden traer sus medicamentos a la escuela. Las secretarías tampoco pueden aceptar los medicamentos en lugar de la enfermera.” Mitchell le pregunta a los padres que consideren platicar con el doctor de los hijos para discutir si se le puede administrar un medicamento de actuación larga que se administre en casa antes de llegar a la escuela. También dijo que las secretarías y directores todavía pueden ayudarle a los estudiantes con los inhaladores y epinefrina si es necesario.

Las enfermeras de las escuelas públicas de Fort Smith estarán disponibles el 10 de agosto durante ciertos tiempos para recibir medicamentos. Por favor verifique el calendario escolar en la página web del distrito o póngase en contacto con la escuela de su hijo para más información. Si los padres no pueden llevar los medicamentos durante el 10 de agosto, pueden hacer una cita con la enfermera para otro día.

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About Fort Smith Public Schools

From unmanned aerial systems programming to unforgettable kindergarten trips to the farm, Fort Smith Public Schools provides incredible opportunities and strong instruction for each of the almost 15,000 students in its 19 neighborhood elementary schools, four junior high schools, two senior high schools, one alternative learning center and one adult education center. With nationally recognized schools, students, educators and organizations, Fort Smith Public Schools are always the best choice. For information, visit www.fortsmithschools.org

Nurses Schedule for August 10 to Receive Medications

| Nurse | 8:00-11:00 | 12:15-3:15 |
|-------------------|------------|------------|
| Karen Gardner | Sunnymede | Trusty |
| Brenda DeArmond | Pike | Spradling |
| Jo Cross | Fairview | Bonneville |
| Carla Baxter | Tilles | Morrison |
| Reagan Elmore | Beard | Cavanaugh |
| Sarah Sharum | Carnall | Orr |
| Tracie Mathis | Woods | Howard |
| Brandy McPhate | Cook | Barling |
| Angel Sanders | Chaffin | |
| Stephanie Beasley | Kimmons | |
| Charlie Ridenour | Darby | |
| Sara Nutt | Ramsey | |
| Julie Simpson | Southside | |
| Janet Gershner | Northside | |
| Ashley Stepp | Ballman | |
| Mindy Brodie | Sutton | |
| Georgia Alexander | Euper Lane | |
| | | |
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If anyone calls Belle Point requesting a time for the nurse, we will arrange for someone to run meet the parent at BP to receive meds.