

Darien Public Schools * Health Services

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Dear Parent:

Please review carefully the **Student Health Form Guidelines** on the next page to identify forms required for your child in the Darien Public Schools. We realize that completing these forms can be time consuming and we thank you, in advance, for making sure they are complete and accurate.

In an emergency situation, your care in identifying your child's health conditions, along with the phone numbers of appropriate individuals to contact, could have a substantial impact on our ability to respond effectively. The emergency contact cards that will be sent to you just before school starts are particularly important.

Please contact your school nurse if:

- You move, change jobs, or change phone numbers so we can make changes on the emergency cards
- There is a change in your child's health status – particularly a serious illness, injury, or allergy
- Your child has a communicable disease to which other children may have been exposed
- Your child becomes medically restricted from some or all physical activities
- Both parents go out of town – so we know who will be responsible for medical decisions

Please note in the event your child must receive medication during school hours it is imperative that you contact the school nurse to review the medication administration policy. Students may not carry any medications unless authorized for self administration by Prescriber, Parent and School Nurse on the **Authorization for Administration of Medicine by School Personnel** form.

Please be aware that school nurses are not available to provide health services during before school and after school programs. If your child has a significant health issue and will be attending a Board of Education-sponsored program before or after school, please contact the school nurse so appropriate accommodations can be made. For programs that are held in public schools but are not sponsored by the Board of Education, please contact the organizers of the program to arrange for appropriate health accommodations.

The phone numbers of all the School Nurse offices are listed on the **Helpful Contact Numbers** page. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we may assist you in meeting your child's health needs. All of the School Nurses will be in school no later than August 27, 2009. Over the summer, you may call me at 655-3981 ext 2304 or email me at eryan@darienps.org .

Sincerely yours,

Ellen M. Ryan, RN, BSN, MPH
Director of School Health Services