Important Information from our Nurses

If my child has a known health condition such as a food allergy (or other lifethreatening allergy), asthma, seizures, diabetes, etc. do I need to submit documentation to school?

At the start of each school year, you should submit updated medical information for your child. If your child has been diagnosed with asthma, life-threatening allergies, seizures or diabetes, documentation should include an emergency action plan or medical plan, needed medications and any doctor's orders for those medications to be given at school. If your child has any other diagnosed health condition, we ask that you submit an updated note from the doctor at the start of the year.

Can my 5^{th} or 6^{th} grade student bring their own medications to school to drop off at the nurse?

We allow our students to bring their own emergency inhalers and epi pens to school with them. We ask that all other medications be dropped off by a parent. Aside from epi pens and inhalers, student should not be carrying or selfadministering medication at school.

Can my child carry their own epi pen or inhaler with them during the school day?

Our <u>Medication Form</u> has a space at the bottom where you and your child's doctor can give permission for your child to carry and self-administer their own inhaler or epi pen at school. If you choose this option, you must still submit a doctor's order for the medication and an appropriate action plan to have on file. If your child is not going to keep an emergency inhaler or epi pen with the nurse, they <u>MUST ALWAYS HAVE THEIR MEDICATION ON THEM</u>. Medication that is left in a classroom can be difficult to find during an emergency, especially if the student is not in the classroom or unable to assist with locating the medication.

If my child needs to take prescribed medication during the school day, do I need to provide a doctor's order for it to be given at school?

Yes, all prescribed medications and over the counter medications that are not covered by our district standing orders require a doctor's order to be given at school. Please use the Spring-Ford <u>Medication Form</u> found on the Spring-Ford Health Services page and submit it to the school nurse.

Our standing order medications currently include the following: acetaminophen, ibuprofen, Benadryl, antacid tablets, cough drops and ST-37 solution (a first-aid

oral rinse). A doctor's note from home is not needed for these medications to be given at school.

All other medications require a doctor's order and should be brought to school in their original packaging with the written doctor's order.

What permissions does my child need to take the district standing order medications at school?

In order for your child to take the district's over the counter standing order medications (acetaminophen, ibuprofen, Benadryl, antacid tablets, cough drops and ST-37 oral solution) you must give electronic written permission on the First Day Verification Health Form. This is completed in Skyward before the start of the school year. We are unable to give our standing order medications to any student who does not have parent permission.

Does my 5th or 6th grade student need to submit a physical, dental or immunization record?

The state does not require us to collect physicals, dental or immunization records for existing 5th grade students. However, a physical exam is required for all 6th grade students. The state allows us to accept physical exams that took place one year before the start of 6th grade. Therefore, if your 5th grader has a well child exam any time after July 1, 2022, this can be used as their valid 6th grade physical. The school does offer 6th grade physicals to students who do not have access to health care. If you do not have access to health care, you can indicate your preference to have a School Physical Exam (for 6th grade only) on the Skyward First Day Verification Health Form.

Does the nurse call home every time a student visits the nurse's office?

Due to the large number of students who visit the nurse, we cannot call home for each student visit. We will call home if a student requires emergency care or needs to be picked up from school due to an illness or injury that has occurred during the school day. We will also make a phone call home if a student bumps their head at school so that you are aware and can continue to monitor them at home. As the students become older, we do ask that upon arriving home, they share with you when they have visited the nurse at school.

FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING SPRING-FORD HEALTH SERVICES, PLEASE VISIT <u>https://www.spring-ford.net/about-spring-ford/departments/food</u>service