

The school district has found over the past several months a recurring incidence of bedbugs being transferred into our schools via individuals who have home or residence infestations. The district has taken on considerable oversight and expense to make sure the district buildings are inspected routinely and treated to prevent any spread of bedbugs on our campus. While the general health and physical maintenance of a child is the responsibility of the parent, district policy provides for us to determine when students may be sent home regarding a health condition. At a recent visit of our regional school district accreditation officer this past week, we shared this current situation with her and asked for guidance. She reminded us that sensitivity, care, and support for students who face hygiene and poverty issues must be our priority. Students who are experiencing these types of situations in their homes will continue to receive the support and assistance of school officials to make sure they are able to attend school. Our administrators are professionals who oversee their buildings and supervise students. We ask for patience from our school community as we work to support and encourage students to attend school if they are experiencing difficulties in their home environments with bedbugs.

The school administration and maintenance department is working hard and will continue their vigilance to keep our schools monitored, clean and safe, while remembering our school doors are open to all students regardless of the situations they may be experiencing in their home environments. A letter has been sent out multiple times sharing with our constituents the presence and status of bedbugs on campus. We will continue to ask you on the behalf of our patrons and school district for your patience and understanding dealing with the present situation. We will remain open armed to all students and their families and work to ensure the safe conditions of our schools are strictly upheld and students feel emotionally safe while in our care.

Regards, Dr. Neufeld

Policy FFA

HEALTH:

STUDENTS

The Pawhuska Board of Education believes that the goals of educators should include training that helps our children to grow into productive and responsible adults.

While the general health and physical maintenance of a child is the responsibility of the parent, the board believes that teachers and administrators should encourage students to become aware of the value of a healthy mind and body.

If a teacher or an administrator becomes aware of a health problem involving a student, the parents or legal guardian of the student shall be notified and a conference with the parents be scheduled. If efforts to resolve the problem through consultation with the parents are not successful, the administrator shall consider referring the matter to the Department of Human Services.

Health education shall, whenever possible, be incorporated into the subject matter of all courses of instruction. There shall also be established definite time allocations for the teaching of health education.

Any child who is determined to be afflicted with a contagious disease, as currently defined by the Oklahoma Department of Health shall be prohibited from attending school until a health officer has determined that the child is free of the contagious disease or that the disease is no longer contagious.

The school district will prohibit a child with head lice from attending school until such time as the child no longer has been identified as having head lice.

REFERENCE: [70 O.S.](#) §5-117, §10-105, §11-103, §1210.194

[63 O.S.](#) §1-507

Adopted: May 9, 2016

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Dr. Janet K. Neufeld

Superintendent

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