

# Santa Barbara Unified School District

## Board Policy

BP 5141.33

### Students

#### HEAD LICE

The Governing Board believes that the district's head lice management program should emphasize the correct diagnosis and treatment of head lice in order to minimize disruption of the education process and to reduce the number of student absences resulting from infestation. In consultation with the school nurse, the Superintendent or designee may establish a routine screening program to help prevent the spread of head lice.

School employees shall report all suspected cases of head lice to the school nurse or designee as soon as possible. The nurse or designee shall examine the student and other students who are siblings of the affected student or members of the same household.

If a student is found with active, live head lice, he/she shall be excluded from attendance. The parent/guardian of an excluded student shall receive information about recommended treatment procedures and sources of further information. The student shall be allowed to return directly to the school office and shall be checked by the nurse or health assistant before returning to class. Once he/she has been treated and determined to be free of lice, the student shall be rechecked in 7-10 days.

*(cf. 5141.3 - Health Examinations)*

*(cf. 5141.6 - Student Health and Social Services)*

The Superintendent or designee shall send home the notification required by law for excluded students. (Education Code 48213)

*(cf. 5112.2 - Exclusions from Attendance)*

*(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)*

The principal and school nurse shall work with the parents/guardians of any student who has been deemed to be a chronic head lice case in order to help minimize the student's absences from school.

*(cf. 5113 - Absences and Excuses)*

*(cf. 5113.1 - Truancy)*

When two or more students in any class have been identified as having a head lice infestation, all students in the class shall be examined. In consultation with the school nurse, the principal may also send information about head lice home to all parents/guardians of the students in that class.

*(cf. 5125 - Student Records)*

Staff shall maintain the privacy of students identified as having head lice and excluded from attendance.

*(cf. 4119.23/4219.23/4319.23 - Unauthorized Release of Confidential/Privileged Information)*

*Legal Reference:*

EDUCATION CODE

48210-48216 *Persons excluded*

49451 *Physical examinations: parent's refusal to consent*

*Management Resources:*

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

*Lice, Nits, and School Policy, Official Journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, May 2001*

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

*Guidelines for Parents on Control of Head Lice, 2006*

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL NURSES ORGANIZATION

*Position Statement: Pediculosis Management, 2005*

WEB SITES

*California Department of Health Services, Infectious Diseases Branch:*

*<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/disb/disbindex.htm>*

*California School Nurses Organization: <http://www.scno.org>*

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Parasitic Disease Information, Head Lice:*

*<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice>*

Policy: SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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