

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OF STUDENTS

The Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing/Governor Baxter School for the Deaf's (MECDHH/GBSD) School Board is aware of the relationship between student health and success in school. Recognizing that parents/guardians bear the major responsibility for attending to the health needs of their children and that the school system has an interest in the well-being of its students, the Board adopts the following policy.

A. Physical Examinations and Screenings

Parents/guardians shall be encouraged to have their children physically examined prior to entering school. Dental examinations shall also be encouraged.

Hearing is monitored by MECDHH/GBSD Educational Audiologists in conjunction with the student's primary care audiologist. For typically developing peers in all GBSD classrooms, a hearing screening is part of the admission process that also includes language and developmental screenings.

Vision screenings will be conducted as recommended by Maine law for students in grades K, 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9. Portland Public Schools is responsible for students in their setting(s). The vision screening does not address peripheral or night vision deficiency that may be associated with hearing loss syndromic; these should be monitored by the student's physician.

School staff are encouraged to be alert to the general well-being of students and should refer any concerns to the school nurse and principal or the Early Childhood Coordinator as appropriate.

Parents shall be notified of any suspected health problems identified through screening.

B. Participation in Athletics

Our middle and high school programs are located within Portland Public Schools and are expected to follow Portland Public Schools policies and procedures.

20 U.S.C. § 1232h(c)

Cross Reference: JLCB - Immunization of Students

Adopted: September 1, 2011