

Board Policy Document

STUDENT PERSONNEL

Series 500

Policy Title: Head Lice

Code Number: AR504.13

Screening for head Lice

Current evidence does not support efficacy and cost-effectiveness of classroom or school-wide screening as a method to decrease or stop the incidence of head lice transmission. Head lice should not be considered as a medical or public health hazard. Head lice can be a nuisance but they have not been shown to spread disease.

Individual students will be checked at school on a referral basis only. Thorough and frequent parental screenings are the key to effective head lice control.

Nits

The presence of nits is not cause to exclude a student from school. Parents are responsible for nit removal.

Live Head Lice

By policy, a student identified with live lice will be allowed to stay in school for the remainder of the school day though treatment should be started before returning to school the next day. The student will continue to participate in regular classroom and academic programming. Iowa Department of Public Health brochure, "Getting Rid of Head Lice, Simple 14-day Treatment Schedule and Information on Head Lice" will be provided to the parent(s)/guardian(s) whose child(ren) has/have been identified with live head lice.

First Adoption: May 30, 2000
Revision Adoption: September 18, 2006/April 27, 2009
Legal Reference:

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Head Lice Information

Head lice information for parents is available through: (1) the Iowa Department of Public Health website. The website addresses are: www.idph.state.ia.us/hcci/common/pdf/headlice_brochure.pdf and www.idph.state.ia.us/idph_universalhelp/main.aspx?system=IdphEpiManual&Content=Lice_Factsheet_Genpublic; (2) Healthy Families Line—1-800-369-2229. The line is open 24 hours each day and all days of the year and (3) Center for disease Control (CDC) website. The website address is www.cdc.gov/lice/head/.