



November 2, 1998

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM NUMBER FORTY-FOUR
HEAD LICE PROCEDURES

References

These procedures are based upon the Guidelines for the Management of Head Lice, Salt Lake City-County Health Department, April 1998.

Forms and other information referred to in this memorandum are located in the Granite School District Health Handbook.

Statement of Intent Because many children come into close daily contact at school, the potential for the transmission of head lice is present. The Center for Disease Control, the Utah State Health Department and the Salt Lake City/County Health Department do not recognize the presence of head lice as a reportable medical condition. Granite School District is not an enforcing agency for policing head lice infestations in the community, but cooperates with Health Department guidelines.

While head lice do not originate in schools and schools cannot prevent the spread of head lice, schools can be helpful to their local communities in controlling the spread of head lice through education. It is the intent of the District to assist communities and address the issue of head lice in the following three areas:

1. Preventing the transmission of head lice.
2. Proper treatment of an infestation.
3. Notification of an infestation.

Prevention

1. Granite Health Services shall prepare a Head Lice Alert flyer for annual distribution through the schools.
2. Granite Health Services shall provide each school a checklist which includes information for teachers about preventive classroom procedures and information for students about the transmission, detection, and the need for treatment in the event of an infestation.
3. School administrators are encouraged to cooperate with community groups who wish to provide parent training in head lice detection in neighborhood or regional school sites. Granite Health Services personnel may be invited to provide training.
4. School administrators are encouraged to make their facilities available for community screening conducted by trained volunteers. Screening may not disrupt instructional time.
5. School administrators are encouraged to collaborate with other community organizations in the distribution of information about head lice prevention and treatment.

Treatment Components Information provided to the community shall include the four basic components of treatment:

1. Kill the Lice. Recognized pediculicide treatments kill lice and nits (lice eggs). Treatments may need to be repeated to be completely effective.
2. Remove the Nits. This recommended step may help prevent self-reinfestation.
3. Clean/Treat the Environment. Clothing, bedding, carpets, etc.
4. On-going Inspections. Family members should inspect one another after treatment.

Intervention and Notification School personnel shall follow the procedures listed below when the presence of live head lice is confirmed:

1. Treatment.
 - a. Remove the student from the classroom and ask the parents to come to school.
 - b. Provide the parents with information about the treatment of head lice.
 - c. Send the student home with the parents for treatment.
2. Return to School. Students sent home for treatment should return to school the following school day or as soon as treated.
 - a. Parents are requested to report the treatment procedures used.
 - b. Students not returning the next school day are contacted to determine the cause of their absence.
 - c. Excessive absences due to head lice, difficult cases, recurrent cases, and other special circumstances shall be referred to the school nurse.
3. Notice.
 - a. Students in the classes attended by a student found to be infested with head lice shall be given the Notice of Possible Infestation.
 - b. If three cases of head lice are confirmed on the same day by a school and the cases do not appear to be associated with each other, the Notice of Possible Infestation shall be sent to all parents of the school.

/s/

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Superintendent