

Health Services Policies and Procedures

Purpose: Raíces recognizes its responsibility to protect the health and safety of students and staff. Raíces develops this policy in alignment with 6.12.2 NMAC, 6.12.6 NMAC, 6.29.1 NMAC, This policy addresses 1) how the school will screen students 2) the requirement for student immunizations, 3) student rights to self-administer certain medications and 4) how the school will protect the rights of students and staff with HIV and provide appropriate curriculum about HIV as part of the health education and 5) how the school will recognize individual health plans and 6) maintain student records.

Policy: Raíces will provide opportunities for all students to develop healthy behaviors through a school health program that address the health needs of students and staff. Raíces shall provide the following programs: health education, physical education, health services, and school counseling. Additional programs may include nutrition, staff wellness, family-school-community partnerships, healthy environment, and psychological services.

Health Screening:

Raíces will screen students for immunizations, vision, and at the requests from Special Education or Student Assistant Teams. Raíces may contract with school nurses to do general screening for vision, hearing, and immunizations. Students in Kindergarten, the 1st-3rd grade will be screened for vision (7.30.11 NMAC: Vision Screening Test Standards

for Students). In compliance with 6.12.2.8A NMAC, all enrolled students will be screened for immunization requirements.

Immunizations:

Raíces requires that students be immunized against certain communicable diseases in accordance with the immunization schedule and rules and regulations of the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH), Public Health Division NMAC 7.5.2. A parent/guardian must provide the immunization record to the school prior to the first day of school to demonstrate the student's commencement or completion of all immunizations. Immunization records will be kept up to date and made available to the public health division for auditing purposes.

Required immunizations include:

- Diphtheria
- Pertussis
- Tetanus
- Poliomyelitis
- Measles

- Mumps
- Rubella
- Hepatitis B
- Varicella
- Pneumococcal Disease

Other vaccines for preventable diseases as determined by the secretary of the department of health.

Proof of immunizations will be made through a statement, certificate or record signed by a duly licensed physician, certified nurse practitioner, or other recognized public or private health facility stating that the student has received at least the first in the series of required immunizations and is proceeding with the immunizations according to the prescribed schedule. For the student whose immunizations are not up-to-date but who have received all immunizations

currently permissible by a medical practice, s/he is considered in the process. Students enrolled in Raices who have begun the process of immunization shall have one month following the date of enrollment to complete the required immunizations and submit satisfactory evidence of completing the required immunizations or having continued the process of the required series.

For the student who is attempting to reach compliance but is behind on a vaccination series, s/he is no longer considered in the process. A scheduled appointment to receive required immunizations can be considered in the process, allowing the student to register and attend school. If proof of immunization is not presented the first school day after this appointment, the disenrollment procedure may begin. When any student is kept out of school longer than five consecutive days for noncompliance, the local Regional Health Officer (RHO) for NMDOH should be notified.

Exemptions from Immunizations:

Raices recognizes that pursuant to 7.5.3 NMAC, some students will be exempt from immunizations due to medical or religious reasons. In such cases, the parent/guardian must provide to the school one of the following documents:

1. A statement or certificate signed by a licensed physician or certified nurse practitioner stating that the physical conditions of the student is such that immunizations would seriously endanger the life or health of the student, or
2. A Certificate of Exemption officially granted by the Public Health Division in accordance with 24-5-3 NMSA.

Raices also recognizes that students who are identified as homeless may not be prevented from entering schools, based on the inability to produce records normally required for enrollment, as per the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

Self-Administration of Medications:

Pursuant to 6.12.8-9 NMAC, Raices grants the rights to any student authorization to carry and self-administer prescribed asthma treatment medications, anaphylaxis emergency treatment medication, and diabetes medication when the following conditions are met:

A health care practitioner has prescribed the medication for use by the student during school hours and the student has received instruction from the practitioner on its proper use

5. The student demonstrates the ability to use the medication and/or device as prescribed, as verified by a health care practitioner
6. The student has a written treatment plan for medication use by a health care practitioner
7. The school provides a statement to student's parent or guardian that exempts the school, its employees and agents, from incurring liability as a result of any injury arising from self-administration of medication and the parent acknowledges receipt of the statement and agrees to hold harmless the school against any claims arising from self-
8. administration of medication. A student will be authorized to possess and use medication while in school, at school-
9. sponsored activities, during before and after school activities on school property, and while in transit to or from school or a school-sponsored activity. Such authorization will be effective for the school year in which it is granted only, authorization must be renewed 0

Hiv Policy:

Raices shall follow the procedures contained the New Mexico School Health Manual regarding communicable diseases. Pursuant to 6.12.2.10 NMAC, Raices shall ensure all students infected with HIV have appropriate access to public education and that their rights to privacy are protected and that the rights to privacy of all school employees infected with HIV are protected.

Raices shall provide instruction about HIV and related issues in the curriculum of the required health education content area to all students. The educational materials and grade levels of instruction shall be determined by administration and shall be appropriate to the age group being taught.

The instructional program shall include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- a. Definition of HIV and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS);
- b. The symptoms and prognosis of HIV and AIDS;
- c. How the virus is spread;
- d. How the virus is not spread;
- e. Ways to reduce the risks of getting HIV/AIDS, stressing abstinence;

- f. Societal implications for this disease;
- g. Local resources for appropriate medical care; and
- h. Ability to demonstrate refusal skills, overcome peer pressure, and use decision- making skills.

Raices shall ensure the involvement of parents, staff, and students in the development of policies and the review of instructional materials.

Individual Health Plans:

Raices recognizes students with healthcare needs that may affect their school attendance and/or performance may have Individualized Health Plans (IHP), which are separated from Individualized Education Program (IEP) plan but attached to the IEP or 504 plan based on a students' needs. Raices shall abide by all Individual Educational Plans.

Student Health Records:

All student health records will be kept on file for review by the public health authorities as required by law. Parents/Guardians and Students will be required to complete and sign a Student Health Form as part of the annual student registration materials. Raices will review the submitted Health Form prior to the start of each school year and will meet with parents/guardians/others as needed to develop student-specific policies and procedures related to back-up medication or other health-related issues.

Raices will keep student health information in a secure location which will ensure student confidentiality while also

providing access to the information by school personnel in the event of an emergency. Raices will refer students and their families to additional health-related services as needed, including counseling services as needed.

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) - Prior to the start of each school year, the Governance Board will review and approve the Health Services Plan. Information will be available on the school website and included in the annual Parent-Student and Employee Handbooks which are disseminated free of charge to students, parents, and school staff.