

Obion County Board of Education

Monitoring:

Review: Annually,
in May

Descriptor Term:

Pediculosis (Head Lice)

Descriptor Code:

6.4031

Issued Date:

Rescinds:

Sec. 65H

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01/12/98

No student will be denied an education solely by reason of head lice infestation and his educational program shall be restricted only to the extent necessary to minimize the risk of transmitting the infestation.

It shall be the responsibility of the principal or school nurse to notify the parents in the event a child has pediculosis (head lice). A letter will be sent home by the child to explain the condition, requirements for readmission and deadlines for satisfactory completion of the treatment.

Upon exclusion, satisfactory evidence must be submitted to school personnel that the student has been treated for pediculosis (head lice). This evidence may include but not be limited to:

- (1) proof of treatment with a pediculicide product (head lice shampoo)
- (2) satisfactory examination by ~~a school health official~~ **administration or school nurse**

Treatment and prevention procedures will be developed by the ~~director of school/school nurse and distributed to all classroom teachers.~~ **Director of Schools/Coordinated School Health** **nurses and classroom teachers.**

Any subsequent incidents of head lice for that student during the school year will require submission of satisfactory evidence of treatment for head lice ~~and be found free of nits by a school health official.~~ **by administration and/or school nurse.**

A student will be expected to have met all requirements for treatment and return to school ~~no later than two (2) days following exclusion for head lice.~~ **the next day** All days in excess of the allowable period will be marked ~~as~~ **x** unexcused and referred to the attendance supervisor at the proper time.

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OBION COUNTY SCHOOLS
PROCEDURES FOR BOARD POLICY #6.4031 – PEDICULOSIS (HEAD LICE)

Assessing and Addressing the Issue

The acute and chronic problem of head lice infestation in the school setting shall be approached in the following manner in the Obion County School System:

ASSESSMENT: All homeroom teachers will receive in-service training by the school health nurse for signs and symptoms of active louse infestation to include hair shaft measurement of nit location and checking scalp and nape for redness, rash, or live lice.

ADDRESSING THE ISSUE: Teachers will check their students periodically for louse infestation. Suggested dates are first of the school year, after Christmas and spring breaks, and as needed.

If the observation for active lice is positive, the teacher will refer the student to the health nurse for follow-up/ recommendations, which include:

- A. The school health nurse confirms the positive finding.
- B. Attempts will be made to locate the parent/responsible party for discussion of the proposed plan of treatment, which will include immediate implementation of the treatment plan.
- C. If the parent/responsible party cannot be reached or is unable to pick up the student immediately for treatment, the active louse treatment proposal plan with follow up information will be sent home with the student on this same day. Depending on the severity of the infestation, the student may or may not be allowed to return to class.

The student may return to school the following day for readmission with proof of treatment. The proof of treatment may be the box or the actual bottle of medication used or the olive oil treatment that may have been used.

Upon readmission, the school health nurse or principal will recheck the student for active louse infestation before the readmission process is complete. The student must have an admission slip from the principal to return to class.

Retreatment of the student will be enforced after seven (7) days unless "Nix" or the prescription Lindane has been used for treatment. If a student is found to have a chronic reoccurrence of louse infestation (three times in a semester – 90 school days), the principal may require that he/she be free of all nits on the hair shaft as well as be free of live lice before readmission to school. The school health nurse shall make assessment with findings to the principal. If results are negative, the student may return to class.

If results are positive, the student must return home with the parent for further treatment. If louse infestation persists after the above protocol has been followed, the school health nurse may deem it necessary to make an environment evaluation during a home visit.