Prevention/Control of Head Lice and Nits in Schools

School personnel shall actively pursue the prevention and control of head lice in the District's schools by developing a consistent education, screening and follow-up program for all students.

Principals and school personnel trained to identify live lice shall adhere to the following guidelines:

1) When students are observed/reported to have live head lice any time during the school year:

a. Other students closely associated with the student and possibly siblings of the student that attend the same school may be checked for live lice, which are defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as crawling lice. In general, school-wide checks are not necessary.

b. Parents of each student identified as having live lice will be contacted by a school/District representative advising them of the finding.

2) Principals or school/District personnel shall offer parents of students identified as having live lice:

a. Visual evidence of live lice in the student's hair.

b. Verbal and/or written information/direction for hair treatment and household procedures.

3) Students should not be excluded from school. When personnel identify live lice, they shall confirm with the student and/or parent/guardian that the following have occurred:

a. The parent/guardian has combed the student's hair with an actual lice/nit comb or applied special lice killing shampoo on the same or next day.

b. When the student returned to school after treatment, designated school personnel rechecked the student before s/he returned to the classroom. If live lice remained, steps 2 and 3 above were re-established. When it has been confirmed that no treatment has been administered, the parent/guardian will ensure that treatment will be provided or in the event the parent does not have access to treatment they will be referred to the Family Resource and Youth Service Center (FRYSC) for a nit comb and/or the school nurse/nurse practitioner for treatment assistance.

c. Seven to ten (7-10) days after the student has received treatment, trained school personnel will recheck the student. If live lice remain, steps 2 and 3 above should be repeated.

4) School personnel shall follow up with students found with a second and subsequent cases of live head lice to assure that:

a. Prescribed medical treatment for live lice has been applied to the student's hair no later than the next day.

- b. Any second application required is applied within the recommended time frame.
- 5)

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## (Continued)

Prevention/Control of Head Lice in Schools

- 5) The Superintendent/designee shall:
  - a. Establish education/information programs on head lice control methods for school personnel, community members, students and parents.
  - b. Provide each school with written materials on head lice control and prevention.

Nits

Nits are not transferable from one student to another. If a student is observed to have nits, parents should be notified and nit combing/removal of nits be recommended.

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