

1.8 Start-up and Operations

14 *Del. C. §§ 512(1), (8)-(10), and (12)-(13)*

- 7. Student Health Services. Describe the plan to ensure the health of students. Describe how...** Children need to be healthy to learn and educated to be healthy. LTA will hire a registered nurse who will be responsible for operating in accordance with the *Nursing Technical Assistance Manual issued by the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE)*. The school leader will supervise the nurse, evaluating both in job performance and also his/her role with ensuring compliance with health regulations. LTA will implement a comprehensive set of health, safety, and management policies and practices. These policies and practices will be communicated to parents, students, staff and guests as part of enrollment procedures and various orientation programs. LTA will make every effort to employ best practices in managing the health and safety of its community. LTA will participate in the Coordinated School Health program sponsored by the Centers for Disease and Control Prevention. This is a school health program that effectively addresses students' health, and thus improves their ability to learn, consists of eight components. Each component contributes in unique ways yet overlaps with other components in other ways.

The guiding principle of the Coordinated School Health program is that working in partnership with health agencies, community institutions, and families, schools and communities can create a seamless web of education and services that lowers the barriers to the learning experience for many of today's young people. (*Phi Delta Kappan Special Report, 1999*).

Comprehensive school health education: Classroom instruction that addresses the physical, mental, emotional, and social dimensions of health, develops health knowledge, attitudes and skills, and is tailored to each age level. Designed to motivate and assist students to maintain and improve their health, prevent disease, and reduce health-related risk behaviors.

Physical education: Planned sequential instruction that promotes lifelong physical activity. Designed to develop basic movement skills, sports skills, and physical fitness as well as to enhance mental, social and emotional abilities.

School health services: Preventive services, education, emergency care, referral and management of acute and chronic health conditions. Designed to promote the health of students, identify and prevent health problems and injuries, and ensure care for students.

School nutrition services: Integration of nutritious, affordable and appealing meals, nutrition education, and an environment that promotes healthy eating behaviors for all children. Designed to maximize each child's education and health potential for a lifetime.

School counseling, psychological, and social services: Activities that focus on cognitive, emotional, behavioral, and social needs of individuals, groups and families. Designed to prevent and address problems, facilitate positive learning and healthy behavior, and enhance healthy development.

Healthy school environment: The physical, emotional, and social climate of the school. Designed to provide a safe physical plant, as well as a healthy and supportive environment that fosters learning. **School-site health promotion for staff:** Assessment, education, and fitness activities for school faculty and staff. Designed to maintain and improve the health and well-being of school staff, who serve as role models for students.

Family and community involvement in schools: Partnerships among schools, families, community groups, and individuals. Designed to share and maximize resources and expertise in addressing the healthy development of children, youth, and their families.

LTA realizes that the success of a coordinated school health program depends largely on the effective integration of these eight components (Marx, 1999). LTA will coordinate these components to have complementary and synergistic effects on the physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being of students, staff, and the community (Marx, 1999).

Student enrollment procedures involving health policies will be developed and approved by the Board prior to student recruitment beginning in the Fall of 2016, and at a minimum will address the following topics:

- *Ensuring that students have physical examinations and immunizations prior to enrollment;* Proof of a student's recent physical examination and immunizations will be collected at the time of enrollment. In accordance with state regulations, parents will be notified when immunization and other screening requirements are not met, and the student will be excluded from school until the regulation has been met. All health information will be reviewed, maintained, and monitored by the school nurse, and will be included as part of the student record.
- *Establishing procedures for administering medications and medical treatments, including first aid at school;*
The school nurse will administer medications and medical treatments in accordance with DDOE's *Nursing Technical Assistance Manual and Regulations*, and any other appropriate governmental regulations or professional guidelines when students are onsite at school.

➤ *Monitoring student health and maintaining health records;*

The school nurse will monitor and maintain student health records in a secure location and will forward the required documentation of services to DDOE.

➤ *Ensuring that immunizations and TB screenings are conducted;*

The school nurse is the on-site health expert for LTA. His or her duties include monitoring student health records. In accordance with state regulations, parents will be notified when immunization and other screening requirements are not met, and the student will be excluded from school until the regulation has been met. Properly documented immunization exemptions will be considered by the school leader in consultation with the school nurse.

➤ *Ensuring the school nurse will serve on IEP teams, as required, when medical treatment is necessary;*

The nurse will serve as a member of IEP teams when medical issues are discussed. The nurse will also provide medical information during evaluation processes.

➤ *Screening for health problems (vision, hearing, orthopedic, etc.); and,*

The school nurse will conduct an active screening program for vision, hearing, orthopedic issues, etc. as prescribed in DDOE's *Nursing Technical Assistance Manual and Regulations*. *The Affinity Health Program will play a major role in vision screening and provisions for glasses will be afforded through this program. Establishing procedures for containing and controlling the spread of infectious diseases;* Procedures will be developed to communicate appropriate precautionary steps for containing and preventing the spread of infectious diseases and other medical conditions.