

Pediculosis (Head Lice)

The Board recognizes that district programs should be conducted in a manner that protects and enhances student and employee health and is consistent with recognized health practices. Consequently, in order to prevent the spread of pediculosis (head lice) in the school setting, district staff shall institute guidelines for classrooms that will assist in the prevention of and the spread of head lice. A student with a suspected case of lice shall be referred to the school nurse or administrator for an assessment. A student found with live lice or nits (lice eggs) ~~will~~ **may** be excluded from school attendance. The district recognizes that the Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division, no longer requires exclusion of a student for the presence of nits and allows the discretion of the district. A student excluded from school will be readmitted after an assessment by designated personnel to confirm no live lice or nits are present, and may be subject to periodic checks.

Successful treatment of head lice requires a coordinated approach and may involve the use of anti-lice products, combing and implementation of preventative measures recommended by health authorities. Treatment information will be provided by the district to parents of students found to have contracted head lice. It is the district's intent to encourage elimination of the current infestation and to prevent a repeat episode.

The superintendent will develop administrative regulations, as necessary, to implement this policy.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 433.255](#)
[ORS 433.260](#)

[OAR 333-019-0010](#)
[OAR 437-002-0360](#)

[OAR 581-022-0705](#)

National Association of School Nurses, Pediculosis Management in the School Setting: Position Statement Revised 2011.
American Academy of Pediatrics: Position Statement on Head Lice 8-1-2012.
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Head Lice Information for Schools 2011.