Hudsonville Public Schools

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January 2, 2019

Dear Parents:

As our district continues to grow, we have begun to identify the additional services that our students may need during the school day. Based on the volume of health care needs, we have partnered with Spectrum Health to begin a new venture that will provide assistance in all of our buildings throughout the year. With the support of Spectrum Health Healthier Communities, Spectrum Health Zeeland Community Hospital and MedNow$_{SM}$, Hudsonville Public Schools has hired nursing support that will be able to provide in person training for staff and online support to all of our buildings when needed. This collaboration uses a combination of technology and in-person nursing support to provide school health resources to help kids stay in school and improve their educational outcomes.

How does it work?
If your child reports to the school office with a medical concern, the office personnel will now have the option to connect with a registered nurse via phone/Skype call to assess the situation further. In many cases, school office staff will continue to follow the same procedures as they have historically. However, with this new partnership, office staff will have the opportunity to consult with a medical professional in the event that this level of support is necessary to provide clarity on next steps. Should this service be accessed, the nurse would be able to provide assistance and consultation to school staff over the phone/Skype. With the School Health Program, the office staff could use MedNow$_{SM}$ technology to further understand and consult on the presenting concern. A member of the school office staff will continually be present with the student and facilitate this interaction.

On-site School Nurse
In addition to the use of MedNow$_{SM}$, Zeeland Community Hospital has provided Hudsonville Public Schools with a school nurse liaison to supply education to the schools. This individual will partner with school staff and teams with developing, reviewing or revising individual school health plans, provide training to staff on the implementation of health plans or individual medications, and/or address any additional student needs.

While this does not take the place of taking your student to the doctor, it is a service that allows feedback from a registered nurse. Brochures will be available in the school's office detailing the use of MedNow$_{SM}$. For more information regarding the School Health Program, contact 616.391.3309 or visit spectrumhealth.org/schoolhealth.

Sincerely,

Doug VanderJagt, Ph.D.
Superintendent