



Adopted: 2000-06-27	Reviewed:	Amended: 2003-04-22 2018-04-10 2019-05-07
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POLICY

SUBJECT: **HEAD LICE**

The Board of Education, School District No. 78 (Fraser-Cascade), recognizes that head lice are common and may spread in any situation where individuals gather and are in close contact. This contact could happen at school, on buses, during social activities outside of school such as visiting, sleepovers, sports, birthdays and family get-togethers. The Board recognizes that head lice are a nuisance but that they do not transmit disease. In keeping with [Fraser Health policy](#), the presence of head lice in a school shall not be considered a health hazard.

The identification, management and treatment of head lice shall be a cooperative endeavor between the family and the school community, with primary responsibility resting with the parent. Public Health may be involved as a resource. It is important to note that the presence of head lice is not a reflection on the level of cleanliness or parenting skills of a home. The dignity of the student and family shall be respected in the implementation of this policy and steps will be taken to protect the child's self-esteem and social status in the classroom.



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REGULATIONS

SUBJECT: **HEAD LICE**

Procedures for the Control of Head Lice and/or Nits

1. Information, including current research and developed in collaboration with Fraser Health, regarding the detection and treatment of head lice will be distributed to parents or guardians of all schools in September each year and then as needed. (Appendix A)
2. When cases of head lice are confirmed, schools will confidentially contact parents. Treatment information will be distributed to the class(es) attended by the student and any other groups or teams as determined by the school. (Appendix B & C)
3. Where parents or guardians require supplementary information and support in dealing with a head lice problem, it is recommended that a public health nurse be involved through Public Health. Support for school principals is also available through Student Services in the school district.
 - a. In chronic cases, where recommended management practices have been tried and failed, or where management practices may not have occurred, a meeting between family, the principal/vice principal and key community personnel may be needed to provide support and develop an action plan which facilitates successful treatment of the head lice and the student's continued attendance at school.