

## Notes from the Nurse

**LICE...those creepy crawlies that make our heads itch!** The start of the school year may raise concerns about lice and how to handle them. No one likes to think that there are bugs living on their heads but, unfortunately, lice are a fact of life for many school-aged children and their families. The good news is that the majority (80%) of all head lice cases in school are self-contained and average head lice transmission in schools is **very low** ( only 0.3%).

If you discover that your child has lice, please consult your physician or pharmacist for recommended treatment options. ***Please also remember to call your school nurse!*** The only way we can monitor the situation and make informed policy decisions regarding our school is if we know about it!

Our district policies regarding head lice in the schools are based on recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Centers for Disease Control, Harvard School of Public Health and the National Association of School Nurses. These policies can be found below:

### **D303's Guidelines for Head Lice Control and Head Lice Management Protocol in the Schools:**

[http://district.d303.org/sites/district.d303.org/files/departments/pdf/Guidelines%20for%20Pediculosis Head%20Lice.pdf](http://district.d303.org/sites/district.d303.org/files/departments/pdf/Guidelines%20for%20Pediculosis%20Head%20Lice.pdf)

<http://district.d303.org/sites/district.d303.org/files/health/pdf/School%20Head%20Lice%20Management%20Protocol.pdf>

**For more fun facts about lice and to dispel many common misconceptions, please refer to the following documents from the National Association of School Nurses and the ND Department of Health:**

[https://www.nasn.org/portals/0/resources/headlice\\_myths\\_facts.pdf](https://www.nasn.org/portals/0/resources/headlice_myths_facts.pdf)

[https://www.ndhealth.gov/head-lice/publications/myths\\_and\\_facts.pdf](https://www.ndhealth.gov/head-lice/publications/myths_and_facts.pdf)