

## PRIVATE DUTY NURSES

- 1.0 **Relationship Between District and Private Duty Nurse.** This policy shall apply to private duty nurses employed by a student's parent or legal guardian, an outside agency, or any other entity other than the District.
- 1.1 The private duty nurse is an independent contractor who is responsible for all of the student's medical care at school and/or on District vehicles as delineated in the student's individual health plan (IHP), including the administration of medication(s), completion of nursing procedures, and response to emergency situations, except for the administration of vision or hearing screenings and preparation of IEP provisions regarding a student's health history and needs.
  - 1.2 As independent contractors hired by a student's parent or guardian, private duty nurses are expected to abide by all District and school policies unless specifically stated otherwise in the student's individualized health plan (IHP).
  - 1.3 The District's function in relation to the private duty nurse is to permit the nurse to accompany her or his client on school premises and on District vehicles to provide her or his client with health services that are over and above usual health services provided by the school nurse.
  - 1.4 The District does not exercise any control over the private duty nurse's medical action and, except in a medical emergency, will not furnish any tools, equipment or material to the private duty nurse. The District and District staff will avoid any actions that could be construed as instructing or supervising the private duty nurse.
- 2.0 **Private Duty Nurse.**
- 2.1 The private duty nurse is only responsible for medical services for her or his client, and shall not be asked to provide medical services of any type to any other students, staff or visitors.
  - 2.2 The private duty nurse is an independent contractor employed to provide medical services to an individual student, and shall not be asked to act as a liaison between the school and her or his client's parent or legal guardian on education issues.
  - 2.3 The student's private duty nurse should be allowed visual access and permitted access to her or his client at all times.
  - 2.4 The private duty nurse shall make every attempt to ensure that the medical services she or he provides to her or his client shall be as non-disruptive and non-intrusive as possible for the client, for other students and for staff.
  - 2.5 The private duty nurse shall be responsible for handling any medical emergency which may occur for her or his client.
  - 2.6 The private duty nurse may be requested to attend IEP, IHP or Section 504 meetings about her or his client to provide relevant medical information.
- 3.0 **Role of Teachers and Other School Staff.**
- 3.1 Teachers and other school staff shall not expect or request the private duty nurse to assist with any tasks, medical or other, for any students other than the private duty nurse's own client.
  - 3.2 Teachers and other school staff shall not share educational information with the private duty nurse unless it is necessary for medical planning purposes for her or his client or except as authorized by the parent or legal guardian.

- 4.0 **School Nurse.** In relation to a student with a private duty nurse and to the private duty nurse, the school nurse's responsibilities are as follows:
- 4.1 Providing the student with the usual school health services that are available to all students, unless stated otherwise in the student's IHP;
  - 4.2 Providing back-up emergency nursing support services for the student, as indicated in the student's IHP;
  - 4.3 Helping to determine where and when the student's medical needs will be met within the school setting; and
  - 4.4 Participating in development of the student's IHP.
- 5.0 **Communications.** This policy and related District policies and procedures shall be reviewed with school nurses, private duty nurses and the parents or legal guardians of students who have private duty nurses.