

KidCare connection



Working to Improve the Success and Health of All Students



USD 250 and Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas (CHC/SEK) have partnered to ensure that all children in the Pittsburg Community School District have access to school-based medical, dental and mental health services. These are available regardless of a child's insurance status or income.

- Medical services are provided for appointments and walk-in basis in a fully-equipped health van that is scheduled at Pittsburg Community Schools throughout the week.
- Services available include vision and hearing screenings, routine physical exams including sports physicals, early detection and treatment of illness and injury, care management of chronic disease, management of recurring health concerns, immunizations, assistance with weight loss and smoking cessation, referrals to drug and alcohol counseling and health education.
- Dental services are provided periodically including in-school screenings, cleanings and application of fluoride varnish, sealants and restorative services including small fillings.
- Behavioral health services, provided by a CHC/SEK mental health professional, are available during or after school hours. Parents or older students may request services themselves or through a school counselor, teacher or school administration.

Questions & Answers About School-Based Health Services in USD250

Why Offer Health Services at School?

School-based health services have demonstrated they improve the overall health and well-being of those who participate and ensure children are “ready to learn.” In-school services also help reduce students' absenteeism. To learn more about health services in schools go to the School-Based Health Alliance at www.sbh4all.org.

What Does It Cost?

All children are seen regardless of ability to pay. To cover the cost of providing school-based health services CHC/SEK does bill private insurance and KanCare (Medicaid). Private foundations and other private donors also contribute to support of the program. Those families without insurance are asked to complete a financial assistance application. However, there is no out-of-pocket expense for students of USD250.

What If My Child Already Has a Physician?

School-based health services are not designed or intended to replace your private physician and we urge you to maintain that relationship. However, there may be times your physician is unavailable or that you need a service he/she doesn't offer such as immunizations. If your child has a chronic disease, staff will be happy to work with you and your doctor to help monitor symptoms while the child is in school.

Do I Need to be There When My Child is Seen?

Ideally, yes, but not always. CHC/SEK adheres to state law regarding the provision of medical services to minors and most often it is a parent or guardian who is bringing in a child for care or has contacted us and is on the way. However, we have been asked by parents to go ahead and assess their child who is complaining of a problem (e.g. sore throat) and help determine whether they can remain in school or need to be picked up. We have also been asked by parents of chronically ill children to routinely check in on their child while he/she is in school to see how they are doing and, with parent's consent, we are happy to do so.

Phone, internet and fax service is available on the mobile van. These numbers can be found in school handbook, USD250 website at www.usd250.org and on CHCSEK website at www.chcsek.org. We also urge you to make sure that we have current contact information for one or more adults responsible for your child's care.

Per Kansas Law, older students (defined as “mature minors”) may give their own consent for some treatment. In these situations, we do urge the student to involve a parent or guardian.

Detailed information on state laws regarding informed consent for all healthcare services and patient rights and responsibilities can found at www.Kslegislature.org, K.S.A. 38-123b.

Can Other Family Members Receive School-Based Health Services?

Yes, minor siblings and other family members in the home can receive services on the van in connection with the student's care. For example, a child diagnosed with “pink eye” may have likely infected other family members. In this situation, it makes sense to treat the family. Or, if a child is seeing our provider for a mental health concern, it might be advisable to include family members. Our goal is to increase access to care and if it can't be provided on the van, a referral will be made.