



## **LINE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **Line Mountain Jr-Sr High School**

Jeffrey Roadcap, Principal   Carl Krause- Asst. Principal  
Ph. (570) 758-2011   Fax (570) 758-1514  
Mrs. Cindi Grimm R.N., B.S.N.

### **Line Mountain Elementary Schools**

Thea Tafner, Principal  
Dalmatia– Ph. (570) 758-6395   Fax (570) 758-4769  
Trevorton – Ph. (570) 797-3825   Fax (570) 797-4001  
Leck Kill – Ph. (570) 452-3671   Fax (570) 425-2888  
Mrs. Joanne Snyder, R.N., B.S.N.

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

If the event of a case of head lice in your child's school, please do not be alarmed. All known cases will be sent home for treatment. Having head lice is nothing to panic or be embarrassed about. Head lice do not carry any disease, nor does their presence mean that your child is dirty. This condition can be experienced by anyone. However, to prevent spread in the school, this condition must be treated immediately.

In order to prevent a widespread outbreak of this infestation, parents are asked to examine their child's scalp and hair daily. If a louse (lice) or nit(s) are found it is important to follow the guidelines below.

### **What should you look for?**

The adult louse has a grayish, tapering body with three pairs of legs. It is about one inch long and can take on a reddish color after feeding. The eggs are tiny, whitish oval specks adhering to the hair shafts about ¼ inch from the scalp.

If you find head lice or nits (eggs), check with your family physician or pharmacists for an appropriate product to use. Follow the manufacturer's directions and comb the hair with a fine tooth comb to remove any and all nits (eggs). **ALL** nits must be removed before the child is permitted to return to school. (See attachment for school guidelines.)

It is essential that all parents cooperate by contacting the school nurse to prevent further spreading. If you have any questions, please call your child's school nurse.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter,  
The Line Mountain District Nurses

## LINE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT HEAD LICE GUIDELINES

### Screening Procedure is as follows:

- a. All persons who are in close contact with the student should be inspected or screened.
- b. Check the hair and scalp for the presence of crawling lice and eggs (nits). Nits are most commonly found at the nape of the neck and behind the ears.
- c. Part the hair with wooden tongue blades or applicator sticks. Use a separate tongue blade or applicator for each child. Watch closely for movement on or near the scalp and for nits on strands of hair.
- d. Inspect the head by looking for tiny silvery oval eggs glued to the hair shafts near the scalp, at the back of the head and behind the ears. Eggs may appear as hair spray droplets or dandruff; which may be easily dislodged and brushed away, however, nits remain firmly cemented in place. Live adult lice are tiny, quick, protectively colored, seldom seen and relatively few in number (usually no more than a dozen or so on the scalp at any one time).
- e. Screeners need not wrap up heads or wear gloves when performing inspections. A child found to have head lice should not be made to cover his/her head while waiting to go home.
- f. The student will be excluded from school when head lice are detected. The child's parents or guardian will be asked to come to school and take the child home. When the parent arrives, the appearance and location of nits on the child's head should be demonstrated to the parent. This will clearly demonstrate that the child is infested, a fact which many parents are reluctant to accept if the child is merely sent home with a note. Also, seeing what a nit looks like will enable the parent to examine other family members for evidence of infestation.

There are two options for treatment: (a) contact the family physician for diagnosis and treatment, or (b) purchase over-the-counter pediculicide which may be used to treat the condition.

If a parent or guardian can not come to the school to take child home, the student will be sent home with a note of explanation to parents. This note will define the problem, offer methods of treatment and request that other family members (including parents) be examined for head lice and treated simultaneously if found infested.

### Re-admission

- a. Infested children should be treated twice. The interval between treatments should be 7- 10 days. Students may not return to school until he or she has been treated with one of the approved pediculicides.
- b. Students will **only** be re-admitted to school after he/she has been re-screened by the School Nurse/trained screener and found to be Nit-free. On re-admission, it is required that pupils present to the school nurse a box top from the pediculicide used and the complete bottom portion at the bottom of these guideline. (This documents use of an appropriate pediculicide).
- c. Do **NOT** send your child to school on the bus until he or she has been cleared by the school nurse or her designee. If the treatment has not been successful, your child may **NOT** remain in school.

## **Treatment Protocol**

1. Treatment: Several treatments to kill lice are on the market. **All** persons in the household who have head lice should be treated. Please consult with your pharmacist about the best product to buy.
2. Procedures to follow:
  - a. Remove all clothing
  - b. Use product as directed on the label.
  - c. Put on clean clothes after shampooing
3.
  - a. Strip **ALL** beds of **ALL** linens and put them into the washer in **HOT** cycle and dryer for 20 minutes or hang on line to dry.
  - b. Vacuum mattress and box springs.
  - c. Vacuum all upholstered furniture and rugs
  - d. Vacuum the car.
4.
  - a. All clothing, hats, stuffed toys, etc. that cannot be washed should be dry cleaned or double bagged in plastic garbage bags for 14 days or freeze for at least 24 hours.
  - b. Place **ALL** washable coats, hats, sweaters, sweatshirts, and other clothing into a pillow case and wash immediately into **HOT** water and place in hot dryer for 20 minutes if possible.
5. Your child will be readmitted to school immediately after treatment is judged to be effective by School Nurses or their designee. This includes treatment and fine tooth combing to remove all nits.
6. Initially, all infested persons should be retreated in 8-10 days. Your child will be rechecked at that time.
7. To prevent spread of head lice, children should not share articles that come in contact with the head, neck or shoulders. (combs, brushes, hair clips, hats, coats, towels, etc.)
8. Soak all combs, brushes, barrettes, headbands, ponytail holders, "banana clips", curlers, etc. for 1 hour in 2% Lysol solution, Clorox, or the lice treatment solution you are using.
9. Your child's treatment should not take more than 1-2 days, if treatment is begun when he/she is sent home from school. Any questions you may have may have may be answered by contacting your school nurse.
10. Notify friends, relatives, babysitters, and organizations (Sunday School, Day Cares, Scouts, etc.) which you have been in contact with in the 2 to 4 days prior to being notified that your child has head lice.
11. Do **NOT** attend any after-school activities until cleared by the School Nurse or her Designee.
12.
  - a. Although pets are not an active host, it is suggested that any indoor cats or dogs should be brushed.
  - b. Brushes should also be cleaned with the same solution that was used for family combs and brushes.

January 27, 2005

Rev. 4/17/07

Rev. 4/21/09

**Please return the below portion when you bring your child to school to be re-examined.**

Student's name & grade \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the head lice instruction/procedure sheet which I received and I am enclosing the top of the treatment box which was used.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date