



NOTES FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE:

Dear MSA Families,

Welcome to the Montessori School of Anderson! MSA is recognized as a SCISA Wellness School and has received recognition as "Most Innovated Wellness Program" in 2008, 2010, and 2012-2013. I am excited to continue expanding our health, wellness, and safety programs for our faculty, staff, and student body. The following items discussed below will assist in getting the 2019-2020 school year off to an efficient, safe, and healthy start.

Enclosed in your form checklist is a student data sheet. Please fill out both sides thoroughly; the backside of the form contains all of the medical information required in case of emergency. It is imperative that we receive your student's data sheet prior to their first day of school in order to meet student's needs. Should an emergency arise, we want to have all of your student's contact information in place for the staff. You will also notice that a more comprehensive Student Health Form is included in the forms completed section. Please complete this form in addition to your data sheet information. This form will be kept in your student's health file in the school nurse office and will help in meeting your student's individual needs and potential health concerns. This form will provide valuable information should an emergency arise or the student need medical care while in the school's custody. This information will remain confidential.

Immunization records are a required part of the student's record per DHEC regulations. If your child has had a recent immunization update, please be sure to have your healthcare provider fill out a DHEC 2740 form. Please check with your healthcare provider to ensure that your child's immunizations are up to date. The form may be mailed to the school or faxed to Montessori School of Anderson at 231-6562.

By law, we are not allowed to have a student attend MSA without proper documentation in place. DHEC continually audits immunization compliance throughout the school year. If you are requesting a religious or medical exemption, please fill out the appropriate DHEC form documentation and submit to the school nurse. Please remember to allow ample time getting this documentation requested and completed by the healthcare provider due to the large number of request to these offices. We certainly don't want any child excluded from school due to missing immunization documentation.

For students of adolescent years, you will find an adolescent immunization awareness sheet in your forms section. The CDC recently updated the recommendations for this age group. This document is only to serve as an educational tool and these vaccines are recommended by the CDC. Please use it as a reference when your child has a well checkup and discuss them with your physician. Please note that there is a new mandatory requirement in South Carolina for ALL rising seventh graders to receive a booster Tdap vaccine prior to the first day of school. You may be excluded from school if an updated immunization record is not on file. Should your child receive any of these immunizations, please have your healthcare provider complete a new DHEC 2740 form and submit to the MSA office to my attention. Keep in mind that medical offices are busy this time of year, so please make your request early.

Any student who has chronic medical conditions: please notify me via email so I can make sure all medications, in-services and additional documentation can be in place prior to the first day of school. All medical orders and documentation must be updated each school year. Food and Allergy Action plans, medication forms and self-

medicating forms for adolescents are found on the school nurse webpage at <http://www.msasc.org/administration/nurse>. Healthcare providers must complete and sign these documents and must be in place on the first day of school.

Safety while on our school campus remains of utmost concern. Should an emergency arise during school hours, you will be notified by MSA's Reverse Notification System.

Lastly, all families will be asked to read and sign the Parent Handbook regarding MSA policies and procedures. Please be sure to closely read the Health and Safety section. Please pay close attention to MSA policy on school exclusions following illness. All students must be fever, vomiting and diarrhea free for a 24 hour period prior to the return to school.

I am looking forward to a great school year and continuing to advance our health, safety and wellness program. Thank you for your prompt attention to these health matters.

With healthy regards,

Susanna Merriman, RN
MSA School Nurse
864-226-5344 ext. 201
Fax- 864-231-6562
smerriman@msasc.org