

HOWARD GARDNER MULTIPLE INTELLIGENCE CHARTER SCHOOL

	Pupils	No. 209
	Health Examination/Screenings Policy	ADOPTED DATE: August 18, 2026 REVIEWED DATE: REVISED DATE:

Authority

In compliance with applicable law and regulations, and Board-approved health and safety plans, the Board shall require that HGMICS students submit to health and dental examinations, screenings and health monitoring in order to protect the school community from the spread of communicable disease and to ensure that the student's participation in health, safety and physical education courses meets the student's individual needs and that the learning potential of each student is not lessened by a remediable physical disability.[1][2][3][4]

The Charter School acknowledges responsibility to provide all the health services outlined in 28 Pa. Code § 23.1. Required health services:

School districts and joint school boards shall provide the following health services for children of school age who are attending or who should attend an elementary, grade or high school, either public or private, and children who are attending a kindergarten which is an integral part of a local school district:

- (1) *Medical examinations.*
- (2) *Dental examinations.*
- (3) *Vision screening tests.*
- (4) *Hearing screening tests.*
- (5) *Threshold screening tests.*
- (6) *Height and weight measurements.*
- (7) *Maintenance of medical and dental records.*
- (8) *Tuberculosis tests.*

(9) Special examinations.

Guidelines

Each student shall receive a comprehensive health examination upon original entry into school and in sixth and eleventh grades. These examinations shall be conducted by the school physician or school nurse practitioner. In lieu of the medical or dental examinations prescribed by this article, any child of school age may furnish the local school officials with a medical or dental report of examination made at his own expense by his family physician or family dentist on a form approved by the Secretary of Health for this purpose. The in-lieu of examinations shall be made and the report shall be furnished to the School prior to the date fixed for the regularly scheduled examination but no earlier than four months prior to the opening of the school term during which the regular examination is scheduled.

Annual vision tests shall also be given to each student. Other tests as determined by the Pennsylvania Advisory Health Board shall be as follows: hearing tests for children upon original entry into school and in kindergarten, and grades one, two, three, seven and eleven; tuberculosis tests (PPno reD) for children upon original entry into school and in grade nine; annual height and weight examinations for children in kindergarten through 12th grade including body mass index; dental exams upon original entry into school and in grades three and seven and scoliosis screening in grades six and seven.

Each student shall receive a comprehensive dental examination upon entry into school and in grades three and seven. These examinations will be conducted by the school dentist or dental hygienist. A private examination conducted at the parents' request and at their expense will be accepted in lieu of the school examination.

For each student transferring to the Charter School, the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") shall request an adequate health record from the transferring school. If the record is not transferred or missing necessary documentation, the Charter School shall conduct a medical exam for a comprehensive health appraisal upon student's entry to the Charter School.

The individual student records of health examinations shall be maintained as a confidential record subject to statute and the policies of the Board.

A student who presents a statement signed by his/her parent or guardian that a medical examination is contrary to his/her religious beliefs shall be examined only when the Secretary of Health determines that the student presents a substantial health menace to the health of other persons exposed to contact with the unexamined person(s).

Where it appears to school health officials or teachers that a child deviates from normal growth and development or where school examinations reveal conditions requiring health or dental care, the parent or guardian of the student shall be so informed and a recommendation shall be

made that the parent consult a private physician or dentist. The parent shall be required to report to the school the action taken subsequent to such notification.

When the parents or guardians inform the Charter School of financial inability to provide an examination, charter school shall advise them of the special school medical procedures available.

Parents and guardians of students who are to be examined shall be notified of such examinations. The notice shall include the date and location of the examination and encouragement that the parent or guardian attend. Such notice may also include notification that the parent may have the examination conducted privately at the parents' expense and encouragement that the parent do so in the interest of providing continuity in the student's health care; and, notification that the student may be exempted from such examination if it is contrary to the parents' religious beliefs.

Health Records

The district shall maintain for each student a comprehensive health record which includes a record of immunizations and the results of tests, measurements, regularly scheduled examinations and special examinations.[2]

All health records shall be confidential and shall be disclosed only when necessary for the health of the student or when requested by the parent/guardian, in accordance with law and Board policy.

HGMICS may disclose information from health records to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency when necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals, in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.[14][15][16][17]

Designated HGMICS staff shall request from the transferring school the health records of students transferring into HGMICS. Staff shall respond to such requests for the health records of students transferring from HGMICS to other schools.[14]

HGMICS shall destroy student health records only after the student has not been enrolled in district schools for at least two (2) years.[14]

Delegation of Responsibility

The CEO shall instruct all staff members to observe students continually for conditions that indicate physical defect or disability and to report such conditions promptly to the school nurse.

When a CEO receives a report of the existence of a communicable disease in a student's family, the school physician, school nurse practitioner or nurse must be notified and vice versa and also the Department of Health in either circumstance.

A pupil with a communicable disease may not be readmitted to school except upon written receipt of a physician's certificate of recovery or a statement that the illness is not communicable, or upon instruction from the school physician, school nurse practitioner, or nurse.

[Private Physical Form](#)

[Private Dental Exam Form](#)

[School Mandated Health Screenings Chart](#)

TO THE EXTENT THAT ANYTHING IN THIS POLICY COULD BE CONSTRUED TO CONFLICT WITH THE SCHOOL'S CHARTER OR APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS, THE APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS AND/OR CHARTER CONTROL.

Legal

1. 24 P.S. 1401
2. 24 P.S. 1402
3. 24 P.S. 1403
4. 22 PA Code 12.41
5. 24 P.S. 1407
6. 24 P.S. 1405
7. 28 PA Code 23.2
8. 20 U.S.C. 1232h
9. 28 PA Code 23.1 et seq
10. 24 P.S. 1419
11. 28 PA Code 23.45
12. 24 P.S. 1406
13. 23 Pa. C.S.A. 6311
14. 24 P.S. 1409
15. 20 U.S.C. 1232g
16. 34 CFR Part 99
17. Pa. C.S.A. 6301 et seq