



**HOLYOKE**  
**PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
A PATHWAY FOR EVERY STUDENT

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## Health Guidelines for School Attendance

*Although we want our students to be in attendance at school as much as possible, there are times that students should not be present at school. A student should be kept at home/sent home if any of the following situations occur in the previous 24 hours:*

**Elevated Temperature:** Oral temperature 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. Student needs to stay home for 24 hours after his/her temperature has returned to normal without the help of fever reducing medications such as Ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil) or Acetaminophen (Tylenol).

**Persistent Coughing:** Students who are unable to participate in classroom activities due to persistent coughing.

**Vomiting:** during the last 24 hours and the student feels ill, the student should stay home for 24 hours after the last time she/he vomited. The student may stay at/return to school if feeling well.

**Repeated diarrhea:** Loose or watery stools in a 24-hour period and the student feels ill, the student should stay home for 24 hours after the last watery stool. The student may stay at/return to school if diarrhea is self-limiting and the student is feeling well.

**Eyes that are draining mucus or pus or that have unusual redness, crust, itchiness or pain not due to injury or allergy,** the student should remain at home. Pink Eye cases may return 24 hours after treatment was begun.

**Purulent (anything other than clear) Nose Drainage:** which may indicate a possible contagious condition.

**Unknown/Infected Rashes:** should be checked by pediatrician before returning to school. Students with impetigo (contagious skin infection) or scabies may return 24 hours after treatment has begun.

**Live Lice:** Students may return to school once treatment has begun and there are no live lice. Student's head must be checked by the school nurse prior to re-entry to school.

**Strep Throat:** Students must be on antibiotics at least 24 hours before returning to school.

If a student was diagnosed with an active infection and prescribed antibiotics, the student may not attend school until she/he is fever-free and on the antibiotic for 24 hours. Students with otitis (ear infection), and if feeling well, may return to school without delay. The school nurse should be notified if a student was diagnosed with any type of communicable illness or condition such as, but not limited to chickenpox, strep throat, meningitis, MRSA, scarlet fever, head lice, mononucleosis, norovirus, pneumonia, etc.

Reviewed by \_\_\_\_\_

*David Gottsegen*  
Dr. David Gottsegen, School District Physician/Advisor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*1/22/18*