March 1, 2010

Re: Student Health Index

Promoting healthy and safe behaviors among students is an important part of the fundamental mission of schools, which is to provide young people with the knowledge and skills they need to become healthy and productive adults. Improving student health and safety can

* increase students’ capacity to learn,
* reduce absenteeism, and
* improve physical fitness and mental alertness.

The School Health Index (SHI) is a self-assessment and planning guide that will enable us to

* identify the strengths and weaknesses of our school’s policies and programs for promoting health and safety,
* develop an action plan for improving student health and safety, and
* involving teachers, parents, students, and the community in improving school policies, programs, and services.

I would like for you to take a few moments to complete the attached questionnaire about our school and return to me ***by March 8th***. On Thursday, March 11th at 3:45 p.m., we will have a short meeting in the office conference room to discuss the questionnaire and your responses. The self-assessment process allows members of our school community to come together and discuss what our school is doing to promote good health. After we complete the self-assessment process, we will be able to identify actions that our school can take to improve its performance in areas that received low scores.

Thank you for your time and interest in improving our school’s health!

Sara Sprouse, RN, BSN

School Nurse