



August 15, 2022

Dear Washoe County School District Family,

WCSD participates in Nevada Medicaid's School Health Services (SHS) program and provides school health services to children with a Plan of Care (such as an Individualized Education Program) at no cost to parents/guardians.

Federal Medicaid funds are available to school districts to help reimbursement of these costs for providing these necessary services. To access these funds, WCSD needs to participate in the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP) Medicaid SHS program. School districts can request reimbursement for eligible school health services, such as speech, occupational and physical therapy, and nursing services. WCSD must disclose information to DHCFP from those students' education records for which reimbursement is sought. The information that must be disclosed includes the student's name, date of birth, and information regarding the service that was provided, such as the date, type, and duration of service.

To ensure that students have access to a free and appropriate public education, as required by federal law, WCSD:

- Must obtain written consent prior to disclosing students' health information to DHCFP
- May not require parents/guardians to sign up for or enroll in any public benefits or insurance programs
- May not require parents/guardians to pay any out-of-pocket expenses such as a deductible or co-payment for the costs of the health services WCSD provides
- May not use students' Medicaid or other public benefits if that use would:
  - Decrease available lifetime coverage or any other insured benefit,
  - Result in families paying for services that would otherwise be covered by Medicaid or other public insurance program and that are required for children outside of the time that they are in school, increase insurance premiums or lead to the discontinuation of any public benefits or insurance, or
  - Risk the loss of eligibility for home and community-based waivers, based on aggregate health-related costs. Whether or not consent is given or if consent is withdrawn, WCSD will continue to provide services to students at no cost to parents/guardians.

For more information regarding the Medicaid SHS program please contact [SPEDMedicaid@WashoeSchools.net](mailto:SPEDMedicaid@WashoeSchools.net)