

SEHS School Based Health Center Program Description

What is a School Based Health Center?

A school-based health center is a shared commitment between a community's schools and health care organizations to support students' health, well-being, and academic success by providing preventative, early intervention, and treatment services where students are - which is at school.

Students can be treated for acute illnesses, such as flu, and chronic conditions, including asthma and diabetes. They can also be screened for dental, vision and hearing problems. With an emphasis on prevention, early intervention and risk reduction, school-based health centers counsel students on healthy habits and how to prevent injury, violence and other threats.

The existing school clinic staff will continue to manage the day to day oversight of school health. The School Based Health Center will complement the school clinic by being available to all students, including those without health care, and those in need of services such as primary, mental, oral or vision care. Even if your child already has a primary care doctor, he/she can still benefit from our health services should a problem arise in school.

Why are we partnering with MCR Health?

For 40 years MCR Health has upheld the definition of community by embracing diversity and providing health care to our community and assisting those in need by collecting supplies for school children, hosting an annual holiday toy drive for underprivileged children, sponsoring sports teams, and civic clubs. MCR Health is a private, nonprofit medical group providing family practice, pediatrics, OB/GYN, behavioral health, vision, dental and many other services. They have more than 25 health centers, two mobile units, 11 pharmacies and six administrative sites. They are one of the largest, most diversified Federally Qualified Health Centers in the southeastern U.S.

How will this center work?

- You must complete the consent/application forms, which are available at the administration front desk, guidance desk, school clinic, portable #423, or on the SEHS website. Your student can bring the completed paperwork to the main office, ATTN: School Based Health Center, or to portable #423.
- You or your child may contact the SBHC at 941-741-3366 or 941-245-0056, and schedule appointments for physicals, immunizations, required sports and/or employment physicals, or other associated health and mental concerns once we have consents on file. The SBHC will also have a schedule of when the MCR Health vision and dental van will be here so you can schedule these appointments ahead of time.
- The School Based Health Center hours will be Monday through Friday 7:00am – 4:00pm when school is in session.
- If your child is feeling sick or injured at school, they will continue to go to the School Clinic, and the current Department of Health School Nurse or Medical Technician will determine if your child would benefit from further care and follow up at the School Based Health Center. If you have a consent on file, they will refer your child directly to the Health Center, and any necessary treatment and prescriptions will be provided. If your child does not have a consent on file for the School Based Health Center, the school clinic staff will follow their current procedure.
- The School Based Health Center does not take the place of your child's regular doctor and joining the program does not mean you are changing your child's doctor. You will be encouraged to have any needed follow up care with that physician and a summary of your child's visit at the School Based Health Center will be sent to your child's doctor. If your child does not have a regular doctor, then the staff and SBHC can serve in that role. If your child is already a patient of MCR Health, you will still have to sign consents to utilize the SEHS School Based Health Center.