



Monroe County Community School Corporation

Health Services 1965 S. Walnut Street, Bloomington, IN 47401 812-330-7833 FAX 812-330-2475

November 28, 2006

RE: Head Lice

Dear MCCSC Parent/Guardian

The current head lice practice within the Monroe County Community School Corporation is to exclude all students who have either nits (eggs) or live lice in their hair. This practice has resulted in hundreds of lost instructional days for students.

The American Academy of Pediatrics and the National School Nurses Association recommends that students only be sent home if they have live lice. Nits (eggs) are not communicable and therefore do not constitute an adequate reason to send a child home. Our school physician, Dr. J. Laughlin, fully supports the recommendation of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National School Nurses Association.

Effective January 8, 2007, the Monroe County Community School Corporation will establish a **no live lice** practice. If a student has live lice, they will be excluded from school and sent home until they have been treated. Children returning to school will be examined by the health aide and/or nurse to determine if they are clear of live lice. The student must be free of live lice in order return to class.

A child found to have *nits (eggs)* in their hair will **not** be sent home from school, but will go home with a note from the nurse encouraging the parent to remove the nits from the student's hair.

A public forum will be held on Monday, December 4, 2006 at 7 PM at Bloomington High School South in the Large Group Room to discuss this issue. Dr. J. Laughlin will be on hand to discuss this with interested parents/guardians.

Sincerely,

Debbie Quimby, R. N.
Director of Health Services