

## School and School Health Services

### Healthy Students = Successful Students

Physical and mental health, as well as social and emotional well-being, play a critical role in a student's ability to learn. To be successful at school and achieve academically, students need to arrive at school ready to learn, remain engaged, and have access to strong support systems in their school, home and community.

The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department recognizes that schools, school districts, and the Health Department share both privilege and responsibility in prioritizing the healthy development and academic success of youth in Pierce County. More than 250 public schools across 15 school districts, and numerous private schools throughout Pierce County partner with the Health Department to help safeguard and enhance the health of our county's children.

### Our Commitment to School Health

To demonstrate our Department's commitment to students, schools and school districts, we have established a School Health Collaboration Team comprised of representatives from all divisions of our agency. Team members, and other Health Department staff, meet regularly with school districts throughout the county to learn about school health priorities. Input from school administrators and school staff influences how the Health Department can improve our services and enhance our responsiveness to schools.

### Services and Programs We Offer

To achieve our vision of Healthy People in Healthy Communities, the Health Department offers or facilitates a wide range of programs, services, and connections for schools. These programs and services are developed and enhanced through suggestions and feedback we receive from schools and school districts.

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## Programs and Services for Students

Program / Service	Point of Contact Information	Overview
<b>ABCD/Oral Health Education</b>	Dawn Jacobs <a href="mailto:djacobs@tpchd.org">djacobs@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-2945	Access to Baby and Child Dentistry (ABCD) referrals for dental care, including check-ups, fluoride treatments, restorative care and oral care education. For families receiving Medicaid with children ages 0 through 5.
<b>Alcohol— Youth Prevention</b>	Tutrecia Baker <a href="mailto:tbaker@tpchd.org">tbaker@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-6545	Technical assistance and support to educators and community coalitions to prevent and reduce teen alcohol use. Emphasis on policy, systems, and environmental strategies that prevent first-time use.
<b>Clean Air for Kids Asthma Education</b>	Judy Olsen <a href="mailto:jolsen@tpchd.org">jolsen@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-2954	Asthma community health workers provide individual or group education to help schools and guardians learn how to better manage asthma and allergies and how to reduce environmental triggers.
<b>Dirt Alert, Health Actions and Tacoma Smelter Plume Program</b>	Glenn Rollins <a href="mailto:grollins@tpchd.org">grollins@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-3503	Information and support to help students and school staff reduce their exposure to health hazards posed by arsenic and lead in the soil in the Tacoma Smelter Plume. Useful school lesson plans.  Homeowners in the Smelter Plume can get information on free soil sampling and soil replacement.
<b>Handwashing Resources</b>	Food & Community Safety <a href="mailto:food@tpchd.org">food@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-6460	“Operations Suds” program for grades K–6 that demonstrates good handwashing techniques and includes use of a black light to view germs. Available for checkout.  Also available for checkout: Use of a handwashing trailer and food safety videos.
<b>Immunization Clinics</b>	Kate Cranfield <a href="mailto:kcranfield@tpchd.org">kcranfield@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-2813 (office) (253) 341-2379 (cell)  Carolyn Cook <a href="mailto:ccook@tpchd.org">ccook@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-4428	Coordinates with underserved districts and schools to offer school-based immunizations and specialized clinics.  For more information, and to view the free immunization locations calendar, ages 0-18, visit <a href="http://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/immunizations">www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/immunizations</a> .
<b>Marijuana— Youth Prevention</b>	Linda Graves <a href="mailto:lgraves@tpchd.org">lgraves@tpchd.org</a> 253-320-8495	Provides resources and information to educators and community coalitions on the prevention of marijuana use among students. Provides assistance in navigation of marijuana legislation. Emphasis on policy, systems and environmental strategies that prevent first-time use.
<b>Maternal Child Health Outreach for Pregnant Students</b>	Susan Pfeifer <a href="mailto:spfeifer@tpchd.org">spfeifer@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-2949	Links teen mothers with Medicaid and pregnancy support resources.
<b>Oral Health School-Based Program</b>	Dawn Jacobs <a href="mailto:djacobs@tpchd.org">djacobs@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-2945	A school district/Health Department/community provider partnership which offers low-cost preventative oral health services in the school setting.

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<b>School Meals and Nutrition</b>	Shelley Wallace <a href="mailto:swallace@tpchd.org">swallace@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-3548	Support provided to school and district Child Nutrition staff to meet and exceed the requirements of the Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act. Technical assistance and training are available to support school meal programs.
<b>Tobacco and Vapor Prevention/ Systems Support</b>	<b>Youth Tobacco Prevention</b> Jessica Alvestad <a href="mailto:jalvestad@tpchd.org">jalvestad@tpchd.org</a> (253) 377-4242  <b>Vapor Product Prevention</b> Angela Boyer <a href="mailto:aboyer@tpchd.org">aboyer@tpchd.org</a> (253) 442-0352	Supports schools and districts to develop and strengthen policies, systems, and curricula that promote tobacco and vapor prevention, cessation, and alternatives to suspension. Support may include program development, staff training and research of best practices.
<b>Water Program</b>	Brad Harp <a href="mailto:bharp@tpchd.org">bharp@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-2851	Guidance and technical assistance to ensure safe drinking water.  For information about lead in water, visit <a href="http://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/kids-and-lead/lead-educational-resources">www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/kids-and-lead/lead-educational-resources</a> .

## Administrative Resources for School Districts and Schools

Program / Service	Point of Contact Information	Overview
<b>Active Transportation and Injury Prevention</b>	Jennifer Halverson Kuehn <a href="mailto:jhalversonkuehn@tpchd.org">jhalversonkuehn@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-4607	Guidance and assistance for people, schools and community groups on matters related to active transportation with a focus on reducing collisions between pedestrians/cyclists and cars.
<b>Business Pollution Prevention Assistance Program</b>	Chris Matter <a href="mailto:cmatter@tpchd.org">cmatter@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-6492  Joyce Seger <a href="mailto:jseger@tpchd.org">jseger@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-6031	Non-regulatory technical assistance. Guidance on storm water, chemical storage, and waste management.
<b>Communicable Disease Resources</b>	Kate Cranfield <a href="mailto:kcranfield@tpchd.org">kcranfield@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-2813 (office) (253) 341-2379 (cell)	Resources to assist schools with communicable disease prevention and management.  Visit <a href="http://tpchd.org/schools">tpchd.org/schools</a> for school immunization requirements, MRSA and norovirus toolkits, parent letters, and school exclusion information. Search for relevant, up-to-date disease (e.g. pertussis, influenza, measles, mumps) information. Some resources available in different languages and grade levels.
<b>Communications/PIO</b>	Edie Jeffers <a href="mailto:ejeffers@tpchd.org">ejeffers@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-2853	Contact for District Public Information Officers and Communication Leads to coordinate health related messaging for partnership work with the Health Department.
<b>Community Safety Program</b>	<b>Schools, Pools and Camps</b> Community Safety <a href="mailto:CommunitySafety@tpchd.org">CommunitySafety@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-4430 (253) 798-6539 fax	The Community Safety Program inspects each public and private school every other year for environmental health and safety. This includes air quality, playground and chemical safety. They also inspect pools and camps, review school building plans, investigate illnesses and other concerns, and provide consultations.  In 2017 the Program reconvened their School Advisory Workgroup of school staff, parents and others to help improve their work. They also publish a newsletter at least once a year.
<b>Disease Investigation and Reporting</b>	Denise Stinson <a href="mailto:dstinson@tpchd.org">dstinson@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-7671	Coordination for reporting and investigation of communicable diseases reported in school children.
<b>Food Safety Inspections</b>	Food & Community Safety <a href="mailto:food@tpchd.org">food@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-6460	Minimum semi-annual inspection of every school kitchen. Recommendations to support healthy school meal preparation, food distribution and storage.
<b>Health Equity</b>	Jacques Colon <a href="mailto:jcolon@tpchd.org">jcolon@tpchd.org</a> (253) 370-5687	Supports schools to identify and address the root causes of health inequities such as income, education and neighborhood through policy, partnerships and programs.

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<b>On-site Septic System Operations and Maintenance</b>	George Waun <a href="mailto:gwaun@tpchd.org">gwaun@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-6485	Support and technical assistance to districts and schools on the required operation and maintenance inspections of their on-site septic systems.
<b>Public Health Emergency Agreements</b>	Cindy Miron <a href="mailto:cmiron@tpchd.org">cmiron@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-6556	Agreements between school districts and the Health Department to allow use of school buildings for public health emergency purposes.
<b>School Health Collaboration</b>	Michele Haymond <a href="mailto:mhaymond@tpchd.org">mhaymond@tpchd.org</a> (253) 463-6373  <a href="mailto:SchoolHealth@tpchd.org">SchoolHealth@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-4926	Seeks to enhance partnership and collaboration between the Health Department, school districts, and schools. Helps coordinate the Health Department's school-serving services and programs to improve efficiency, collaboration, and customer satisfaction.
<b>School Nurse Liaison</b>	Kate Cranfield <a href="mailto:kcranfield@tpchd.org">kcranfield@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-2813 (office) (253) 341-2379 (cell)	Public Health Nurse Consultant provides education, health alerts, and technical assistance for school nurses in all school districts in Pierce County. Facilitates school/public health meetings and other education opportunities for school nurses.
<b>Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Educators Course</b>	Evelyn Manley Rodriguez <a href="mailto:emanleyrodriguez@tpchd.org">emanleyrodriguez@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-4447	Annual STD training for school nurses and educators which covers the sexually transmitted infections that most affect students ages 14-19, trends and how to educate and refer students for testing and treatment.
<b>Swimming Pool Inspections</b>	Community Safety <a href="mailto:CommunitySafety@tpchd.org">CommunitySafety@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-4430 (253) 798-6539 fax	The Pool Program includes annual inspections of pools, spas, spray parks and wading pools, review of pool plans, complaint and illness investigation, consultation and pool operator classes.
<b>Temporary Event Food Permits and Support</b>	Amanda Peters (253) 798-7677 or <a href="mailto:food@tpchd.org">food@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-4709	Temporary event permits or technical assistance support for schools when food is being served to the public from a school site.
<b>Title XIX Medicaid Administrative Claiming</b>	Catherine Mortell <a href="mailto:cmortell@tpchd.org">cmortell@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-4738	Government agency and school district reimbursement program for expenses and activities that help promote outreach, linkages, development, and improve quality of Medicaid services, including services to Medicaid-qualified students.

## Community/Family/School Partnerships

Program / Service	Point of Contact Information	Program / Service
<b>Community Coalition Development</b>	Marcy Boulet <a href="mailto:mboulet@tpchd.org">mboulet@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-4734	Technical support to develop a school/community collaboration that benefits the health and human service needs of students, families and the community.
<b>Family Support Center Sites and Partnerships</b>	Victor Rodriguez <a href="mailto:vrodriguez@tpchd.org">vrodriguez@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-6543	The Family Support Partnership (FSP) is a collaborative, partner-driven, community-level effort to support healthy children and families. FSP oversees six Family Support Centers throughout Pierce County. Each Center provides resources, referrals, case management, home visiting, health education, and parenting programs proven to be effective.
<b>Nurse/Family Partnership Home Visiting</b>	Kelly McIntire <a href="mailto:kmcintire@tpchd.org">kmcintire@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-4745  Evelyn Patrick <a href="mailto:epatrick@tpchd.org">epatrick@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-3588	Nurses provide home-visiting and support for pregnant and new moms, and babies pre-birth through age two.
<b>Outdoor Air Quality</b>	Kathleen Ross <a href="mailto:kross@tpchd.org">kross@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-7369	Education and resources for outdoor air quality, including wood stove replacement and recycle programs for qualifying areas. Also includes <i>No Idle Zone</i> program to reduce impacts of vehicle exhaust, and information about health impacts of poor air quality.
<b>Pierce County Environmental Health Indicators Project</b>	Marianne Seifert <a href="mailto:mseifert@tpchd.org">mseifert@tpchd.org</a> (253) 798-3923	Report covering key environmental health issues and trends in Pierce County, their health and economic impacts, and personal and policy actions. <a href="http://www.tpchd.org/healthy-places/public-health-data/environmental-indicators">www.tpchd.org/healthy-places/public-health-data/environmental-indicators</a> .

### Contact Us

For more information about services the Health Department provides to school districts and schools, or to make connections with Health Department staff that support student health, email [SchoolHealth@tpchd.org](mailto:SchoolHealth@tpchd.org) or call (253) 798-4926.

### School Services Directory

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(253) 468-6373