

## **COPING WITH THE NEW HIPAA LAW**

Starting in April 2003 a new "Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act (HIPAA)" became effective. Your child's doctor can no longer fax the authorization to me without parental consent that specifically states the doctor can release information on your child to South Campus.

In the past we have been able to fax the "medication authorization form" to your child's physician so that medications (prescription and over the counter) could be taken at school. After your doctor filled out the form he faxed the authorization back to us.

Therefore at the start of school August 26th, **YOU** will need to have your doctor and yourself fill out the medication authorization form and **YOU** will need to mail or bring this form back to me.

Please remember when the doctor is filling out the form, that **WE** need his/her authorization to medicate your child with "over the counter" meds (i.e.: Tylenol, Motrin, Aleve, cough drops, contact solutions) as well as prescription medications.

Also be aware that doctor's offices are not consistent in interpreting this new law. Your doctor may have additional releases for you to sign.

We hope that even if your child is not taking prescription meds at school that you will get an authorization form signed by your doctor for Tylenol or Motrin, so that we can medicate for headache or pain. We don't like having your child uncomfortable all day because we have no authorization.

**Any medications we have authorization to give, you will need to bring with your child to school including over the counter medications.**

If we have been giving your child any medications over the past school year, the authorizations we have **are no longer, good for the coming school year 2009-2010.**

Thank you for your cooperation, should you have any questions, feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

Laurie Henricks, R.N.  
School Nurse