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What is the Virtual Health Village?

The Virtual Health Village (VHV) is a voluntary, opt-in program that uses computers to share health care information among health care providers and your child's school.

What types of information might be shared in the Virtual Health Village?

The VHV shares health care information such as immunizations, medications, allergies, and other information important to your child's care. Information used to identify your child, such as name, birth date, and address, is also shared.

What is a health care provider?

A health care provider includes doctors, physician assistants and nurses who care for children in hospitals, doctor offices and school health rooms.

What does this mean to my child?

Participating in the VHV offers many benefits, including:

- ***Better Emergency Care*** – Health care providers have instant access to your child's immunizations, allergies, medications and prior visits, helping them care for your child without delay.
- ***Better Routine Care*** – The VHV gives your child's health care providers greater access to the information they need to help treat your child's health problems.
- ***Improved Overall Care*** - Access to information about care your child received somewhere else gives the health care provider a more accurate and complete picture of your child's health. That means your child's health care providers, in and out of school, can give the best care possible.
- ***Reduced Costs*** – The VHV could save you money by preventing costly repeat immunizations, tests and procedures.

Can anyone see my child's personal health information?

NO. Your child's health care information is kept safe using computer security standards.

Only authorized personnel can see your child's health care information. As with any computer database, even when up-to-date security standards are followed, there is a risk of someone accessing this information illegally or inappropriately.

How do I know my child's information is kept private and secure?

We use the latest standards to secure records and prevent unauthorized people from looking at your child's health care information. Our system complies with federal laws, including but not limited to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

Questions?

If you need more information or have questions about the Virtual Health Village, please contact your respective school district nurse.

Allentown School District (ASD): 484-765-4059

Bethlehem Area School District (BASD): 610-691-7200, extension 50940