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PRESS RELEASE

Alamogordo Public Schools Introduces Innovative Telehealth Services Across Campuses

Thursday, August 17, 2023 - Alamogordo, NM – Alamogordo Public School District

Alamogordo Public Schools (APS) is thrilled to announce the launch of an exciting new health service, bringing modern telehealth capabilities to our campuses. With a commitment to providing exceptional care for our students, APS is introducing telehealth services in collaboration with Champion Urgent Care, aiming to enhance convenience and accessibility for families.

This academic year, APS students have the opportunity to benefit from telehealth consultations, provided a parent or guardian is present either by phone or in person. If a student presents with a qualifying condition, the school nurse will promptly contact the parent or guardian to offer the option of a telehealth appointment with a medical professional from Champion Urgent Care.

Equipped with state-of-the-art telehealth units featuring a stethoscope, otoscope, and dermascope, medical providers can perform thorough assessments remotely. This advanced technology allows healthcare professionals to visually examine the ear, nose, throat, and skin, as well as listen to heart and lung sounds. Depending on the symptoms, additional tests such as strep, flu, or RSV (under 7) tests may be conducted, providing comprehensive care without the need for parents to leave their workplaces or other responsibilities.

"We understand the challenges that parents face when their child falls ill during school hours. Our telehealth initiative aims to alleviate this burden by providing a seamless and effective way for students to receive prompt medical attention, ensuring they can return to their studies if deemed well enough," said Lisa Patch, Health Services Director for Alamogordo Public Schools.

It is important to note that a telehealth appointment cannot be scheduled without a parent or parent designee being present. APS emphasizes that no surveys will be administered to students for participation in this service and parents/guardians must complete the consent form to participate. Families will be charged by Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center (GCRMC) for a regular urgent care visit, ensuring transparency and adherence to established medical protocols.

APS invites parents and guardians to visit the official website at <https://tinyurl.com/APStelehealth> for further information about the telehealth program including FAQs and informational videos. Consent forms for participation can be obtained from the website or a school nurse and returned to the students' respective school nurses.



By implementing this innovative telehealth service, Alamogordo Public Schools aims to create a safer, healthier, and more conducive learning environment for its students, keeping them Happy, Healthy, and Educated.

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