

Directive to Administrators (Specify which administrators) All Site Administrators	WAD (Wednesday) Publication Date April 29, 2009	WAD Notice (Number)	No. of Pages 1 of 3
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WAD Title (Limit to 4-6 Words) MAY – Armani Johnson Asthma Awareness Month	Date Due (if applicable) N/A	Not Applicable After this Date: May 31, 2009
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From: Meyla Ruwin (Cabinet member or approved by one below)	Title: Director, School Health Programs Dept.	Signature:	Telephone: (415) 242-2615
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Inform:
 Certificated Staff
 Classified Staff
 Parents
 Post on Bulletin Board
Other: Any Interested School Staff

Administrative Directive

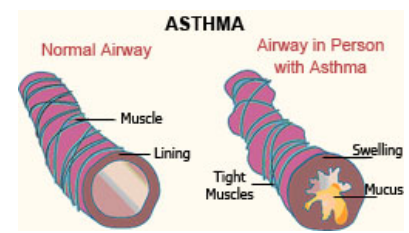
WHAT: **Armani Johnson Asthma Awareness Month and World Asthma Day**

WHO: All Staff at Elementary, Middle and High Schools

WHEN: **Tuesday, May 5,** 2009 - although everyday is a day for Asthma Awareness

WHY: On March 26, 2002, Armani Johnson died tragically as the result of an asthma attack while attending a Child Development Center. **Asthma is a serious respiratory disease that affects the quality of life for millions of Americans. Although there is no cure, asthma can be controlled through medical treatment and management of indoor and outdoor environmental triggers.**

- **Asthma accounts for more than 15 million missed school days per year which may lead to poor academic and physical activity performance**
- **10-15% of SFUSD children have asthma**



WHERE: At your school site or in your community

HOW:

1. **Plan an Armani Johnson Asthma Awareness event in your school** (see page 2). For assistance call the Nurse of the Day, or the Asthma Education Coordinator, Louanne Lee, RN @ 242-2615.
2. **Download an Asthma Awareness Events Planning Kit** and information about free asthma resources from:
 - www.epa.gov/asthma/awm/index.html
 - <http://www.ginasthma.com/WADIndex.asp>
3. **See “Four Steps to Improve Asthma Management in School” (page 3).**
4. If you have a school nurse, schedule a faculty/classroom presentation on asthma management using Armani Johnson Asthma Education Boxes.

<i>Approved</i>	Cabinet Member: Trish Bascom	Title: Associate Superintendent, Student Support Services	Signature:
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May is Armani Johnson Asthma Awareness Month

May is World Asthma Month

Plan an Asthma Awareness event in your school

- Host activities to educate people in your community about comprehensive asthma management; go to http://www.epa.gov/asthma/pdfs/aam_event_planning_kit.pdf.
- Offer **asthma education** on environmental asthma triggers and management during in-service days **for teachers, custodians, and other school staff**.
- Offer **asthma education for parents/guardians** at local PTA meetings or other similar events.
- **Read children's books** on asthma to students, such as *Taking Asthma to School*, *Zoo Allergy*, and *The ABC's of Asthma*, by Kim Gosselin; Check your local public library, or call the Asthma Education Coordinator, Louanne Lee, RN, at (415)242-2615.
- **Show the Sesame Street video**, "A is for Asthma"; see your school nurse or call the Asthma Education Coordinator, Louanne Lee, RN, at (415)242-2615.
- **Organize an asthma poster contest** for children.
- **Sponsor a staff breakfast or lunch and introduce the *Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Tools for Schools Program***; See your [IAQ Tools for Schools Site Liaison](#) for assistance, call the [District IAQ Tools for Schools Coordinator](#), Jackie Chan at (415)554-2875, or call the SHPD Asthma Education Coordinator, Louanne Lee, RN, at (415)242-2615.
- **Design asthma awareness bulletin boards** or other displays for students and staff.
- Encourage teachers to **incorporate asthma and the environment into appropriate curricula** (e.g., science and health).
- **Include asthma awareness information in school newsletters** and other packets sent home to parents/guardians.
- **Conduct a walk-through of your school** to determine if asthma triggers exist. If triggers are found, a remediation plan should be developed and implemented as soon as possible. See your [IAQ Tools for Schools Site Liaison](#) for assistance, or call the [District IAQ Tools for Schools Coordinator](#), **Jackie Chan at (415)554-2875**, or call the SHPD Asthma Education Coordinator, **Louanne Lee, RN, at (415)242-2615**.

Four Steps to Improve Asthma Management at School

1. Find out which children in your class/school have asthma

- a. Review your students' Emergency / Medical Information Cards
- b. **Make sure the medical information is entered into the Student Information System (SIS)**
- c. Print a Medical Conditions report (sorted by alpha, grade, or class) from the SIS report option under Health.

Resources:

- View or download (pdf) copies of Student Emergency-Medical Information Cards, Processing procedure, Medication form, etc. @ <http://www.healthiersf.org>
- For SIS technical assistance, call the Help Desk @ 241-6476.

2. Ensure that children have current Medication Administration Forms and Asthma Emergency Care Plans and know how to implement the plan. (forms must be renewed yearly)

- a. Asthma Emergency Care Plans, Parents Letters (in multiple languages) regarding these plans, are available on the above web page.
 - Call the Nurse of the Day @ 242-2615 if you have questions or need assistance.
- b. Educate yourself and your students about asthma management: (for assistance, call the SHPD Asthma Education Coordinator, Louanne Lee, RN, at (415)242-2615)
 - Schedule a Faculty Presentation on Asthma Awareness
 - Schedule "Open Airways For School" asthma education classes for 3rd-5th graders with asthma, or *Kickin' Asthma* or *Power Breathing* education classes for secondary students with asthma

Resources:

- Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America – <http://www.aafa.org/>
- Breathe California – http://www.ggbreathe.org/health_info/asthma.htm
- Environmental Protection Agency – <http://www.epa.gov/asthma/about.html>
- **Free Asthma Tool Kit For Schools** and "Quest for the Code", a daring adventure game that helps children and teens learn how to manage their asthma, find coping tips and get advice. Go to: www.starlight.org or call (800)315-2580 to order.

3. Keep communication open with parents/guardians about their child's asthma.

- a. Call or send letter home to parents/guardians to inform them when their child has had asthma symptoms, used their rescue medicine, or seemed unusually tired.
- b. When calling parent/guardian regarding an absence, ask if the child is having an asthma episode.
- c. **If the child is having asthma symptoms more than 2 times per week, or waking at night with asthma symptoms more than 2 times per month**, refer child to their health care provider.

Resources:

- Breathe California – http://www.ggbreathe.org/health_info/asthma.htm
- Allergy and Asthma Network, Mothers of Asthmatics – <http://www.aanma.org/>

4. Work towards controlling asthma triggers in the classroom/school.

- a. Improve **indoor air quality** by implementing the EPA's *Tools for Schools Program* at your school. Go to: <http://www.epa.gov/iaq/index.html>
For assistance: see your *IAQ Tools for Schools* Site Liaison; call the District IAQ Tools for Schools Coordinator, **Jackie Chan** at (415)554-2875; or call the SHPD Asthma Coordinator, **Louanne Lee, RN**, at (415)242-2615.