

Walworth County Department of Health and Human Services
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Public Health

WALWORTH COUNTY SCHOOLS' SEAL-A-SMILE PROGRAM

Dear Parent,

The Walworth County Public Health Department, in partnership with Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin, is offering the Seal-A-Smile preventative dental sealant program in your school for children in designated grades. A Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) will come to your school to provide this program at **no charge to you**. This will occur in the school year 2017/2018. **This program is not meant to be a substitution for regular dental visits.**

Commonly Asked Questions:

What exactly does this program offer for my child?

- FREE sealants
- FREE fluoride varnish
- FREE tooth brushing instructions and oral health education
- FREE toothbrush and toothpaste
- A letter sent home explaining what services were done and suggestions for further treatment
- For 2nd graders, we will see your child again in 3rd grade for a follow up visit.

What is a sealant?

A sealant is a thin, tooth colored, plastic coating that is painted on a tooth to help prevent cavities from forming.

Your child will be checked to determine which teeth can have sealants; sealants will be done that same day.

What if my child already has sealants?

Our Registered Dental Hygienist will check your child's sealants, and replace or repair those that may no longer be there.

What is a fluoride varnish?

A fluoride varnish is topical gel that is painted onto the teeth, making them stronger.

Your child will receive two applications during the school year.

Did you know???

In the US alone, children miss about 52 million hours of school each year because of oral health problems.

Poor oral health and untreated oral diseases and conditions can largely affect the ability to learn.

90% of decay in children's permanent teeth occurs on the chewing surfaces of the back teeth¹. Sealants serve as a physical barrier to the bacteria that cause decay.

**If you would like your child to be a part of the sealant program, please read and sign:
Consent Form Return both forms to your child's teacher.**

Return forms to school by: _____ January 12, 2018 _____

1 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2000). Oral Health in America: A Report of the Surgeon General. National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, National Institutes of Health: Rockville, MD.

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