**Letter to Families about Metered Dose Inhalers, Spacers, and Nebulizers**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our records show that your student has a previous or current order for a metered-dose inhaler (MDI) or nebulizer for asthma treatment.

Please check with your child’s healthcare provider to see if a nebulizer is required or if your child’s asthma can be managed with an inhaler and spacer.

Asthma spacers and valved-holding chambers make it easier to take asthma medication from an inhaler. They help the medicine get into the lungs, with less medicine ending up in the mouth and throat. **A spacer is not needed if your child uses a dry powder inhaler.**

We strongly recommend that students also have a written Asthma Action Plan that gives us direction on the medicines your child takes and how to best care for their symptoms. I have attached an Asthma Action Plan for your child’s healthcare provider to complete.

**Here is a list of what to ask your child’s healthcare provider for this school year to help us take care of your child’s asthma at school:**

* An up-to-date written Asthma Action Plan
* A rescue inhaler for school
* A spacer or valved holding chamber for school
* A current valid medication order
* Check with your healthcare provider and insurance company to see if they will order and pay for two devices: one for home and one for school

Please contact us if you need more information or help.

**Return to:**

School Nurse: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_