

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> graders, we will see your child again in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 5<sup>th</sup> graders in 6<sup>th</sup> 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 teeth.<sup>1</sup> 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**
- **Acknowledgement of Receipt of Privacy Practices Form**

**Return form to your child's teacher.**

**Return form to school by: November 30, 2017**

Public Health

10/20/2010; Revised 5/11/11, Rev 7/11/13, Rev 7/16/14, 4/21/16  
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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.