Some information for you on Virtual care at School:

EPISD is collaborating with Virtual Care Kids (A Pediatric Specific Urgent Care Service) to provide quality medical treatment to our students quickly and efficiently.

How does it work?

When a student of EPISD presents to the Health Office, the School Nurse does an assessment. If the child has significant signs and symptoms of an acute illness (Strep Throat, Flu A or B, Sinusitis, gastroenteritis, Fevers of unknown origin, Cellulitis, etc), a call is placed to the parent/ Guardian. With permission from the parent or guardian, the school nurse will access a medical professional with the ability to order tests, dispense initial medications and order any medications that will help the student to recover to pharmacy of choice.

This service assists with the expedition of medical care. It is not an instant event- and just like any medical office visit, it can take some time to process. The Virtual Care for Kids Practitioner will view your child over the internet, review the assessment vitals and information from the school nurse and your child, make a medical plan, and create medical release instructions as well as phone in any necessary the medications to the pharmacy of your choice. The school nurse is able to provide comfort medications on the spot while this process takes place.

As a Nurse for EPISD for more than 20 years, I can tell you this process has been nothing but positive in my opinion. Working with the providers at Virtual Care for Kids, we have been able to provide parents with on the spot plans of care for various illnesses including Flu and Strep. Just knowing that as I am sending the kiddos out the door they are on their way home to bed and not to wait in an Urgent Care Center for hours has been worth the extra time and effort it takes on my part. A bonus has been the ability to see and treat students with non-contagious medical issues without parents having to take off from work.

Please feel free to call or email myself and/or the Virtual Care for Kids El Paso Representative with questions about this program.

Terrie L Bolt, BSN, RN TBolt@episd.org 915-236-0625

Claudia Valenzuela CValenzuela@urgentcarekids.org