

# WEST JEFFERSON HILLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: POSSESSION/USE OF ASTHMA  
INHALERS/EPINEPHRINE  
AUTO-INJECTORS

ADOPTED: September 23, 2014

REVISED:

<p>1. Authority</p> <p>SC 1414.1</p> <p>2. Definitions</p> <p>SC 1401</p> <p>3. Guidelines</p> <p>SC 1414.1 Title 22 Sec. 12.41</p> <p>Pol. 210</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">210.1. POSSESSION/USE OF ASTHMA INHALERS/EPINEPHRINE AUTO-INJECTORS</p> <p>The Board shall permit students in district schools to possess asthma inhalers and epinephrine auto-injectors and to self-administer the prescribed medication used to treat asthma/severe allergy when such is parent-authorized.</p> <p>Possession and use of asthma inhaler/epinephrine auto-injectors by students shall be in accordance with state law and Board policy.</p> <p><b>Asthma inhaler</b> shall mean a prescribed device containing short-acting, metered doses of prescribed medication used to prevent or treat an acute asthma attack.</p> <p><b>Epinephrine auto-injector</b> (Epi-Pen/Epi-Pen Jr.) shall mean a prescribed device containing a pre-measured dose of prescribed medication used to treat a severe allergic reaction.</p> <p><b>Self-administration</b> shall mean a student’s use of medication in accordance with a prescription or written instructions from a physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant.</p> <p>Before a student may possess or use an asthma inhaler or epinephrine auto-injector during school hours, the Board shall require the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Report directly to the school nurse with the inhaler or epinephrine auto injector in its original prescriptive container.</li> <li>2. They will receive a medication form and permission-to-carry-inhaler and/or epinephrine auto-injector contract, which must be filled out and signed by both student and parent/guardian. The school nurse will keep the inhaler and/or epinephrine auto-injector in the nurse’s office until the forms are signed and returned.</li> <li>3. A statement from the parent/guardian acknowledging that the school is not responsible for ensuring the medication is taken and relieving the district and its employees of responsibility for the benefits or consequences of the prescribed medication.</li> </ol>
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. A written statement from the physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant that states:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Name of the drug.</li> <li>b. Prescribed dosage.</li> <li>c. Times medication is to be taken.</li> <li>d. Length of time medication is prescribed.</li> <li>e. Diagnosis or reason medication is needed, unless confidential.</li> <li>f. Potential serious reaction or side effects of medication.</li> <li>g. Emergency response.</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. When both forms are signed and returned, the student must demonstrate to the school nurse proper use of inhaler and/or epinephrine auto-injector, and take a baseline peak flow meter test.</li> <li>6. At this point, the student may carry one (1) properly labeled and identified inhaler and/or epinephrine auto-injector.</li> <li>7. Teachers will then be notified that the student has permission to carry a labeled inhaler and/or auto-injector with him/her for physician-determined time frame. Teachers will receive emergency management information annually, and individual emergency management information on an as-needed basis, with parental permission.</li> </ol>
<p>SC 1414.1</p>	<p>The student shall be made aware that the asthma inhaler and/or epinephrine auto-injector is intended for his/her use only and may not be shared with other students.</p> <p>The student shall notify the school nurse immediately following each use of an asthma inhaler and/or epinephrine auto-injector.</p> <p>Violations of this policy by a student shall result in immediate confiscation of the asthma inhaler and/or epinephrine auto-injector and medication and loss of privileges.</p>
<p>SC 1414.1</p>	<p>The district reserves the right to require a statement from the physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant for the continued use of a medication beyond the specified time period. Permission for possession and use of an asthma inhaler and/or epinephrine auto-injector by a student shall be effective for the school year for which it is granted and shall be renewed each subsequent school year.</p>
<p>SC 1414.1</p>	<p>A student whose parent/guardian completes the written requirements for the student to possess an asthma inhaler and/or epinephrine auto-injector and self-administer the prescribed medication in the school setting shall demonstrate to the school nurse the capability for self-administration and responsible behavior in use of the medication.</p>

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<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p>To self-administer medication, the student must be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Respond to and visually recognize his/her name.</li><li>2. Identify his/her medication.</li><li>3. Demonstrate the proper technique for self-administering medication.</li><li>4. Sign his/her medication sheet to acknowledge having taken the medication.</li><li>5. Demonstrate a cooperative attitude in all aspects of self-administration.</li></ol> <p>The Superintendent or designee, in conjunction with the school nurse(s), shall develop procedures for student possession of asthma inhalers and/or epinephrine auto-injectors and self-administration of prescribed medication.</p> <p>The district shall annually inform staff, students and parents/guardians about the policy and procedures governing student possession and use of asthma inhalers and/or epinephrine auto-injectors.</p> <p>When an asthma inhalers and/or epinephrine auto-injector is initially brought to school by a student, the school nurse shall be responsible to complete the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Obtain the required written request and statements from the parent/guardian and physician, certified registered nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, which shall be kept on file in the office of the school nurse.</li><li>2. Review pertinent information with the student and/or parent/guardian, specifically the information contained on the statement submitted by the physician, certified registered nurse practitioner, or physician assistant.</li><li>3. Determine the student's ability to self-administer medication and the need for care and supervision.</li><li>4. Maintain an individual medication log for all students possessing asthma inhalers and epinephrine auto-injectors.</li></ol> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1401, 1414.1</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.41</p> <p>Board Policy – 000</p>
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