



POLICY 210 -- USE OF MEDICATIONS

1. Purpose

The Board shall not be responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of student illness. The administration of prescribed medication, in accordance with the direction of a licensed physician and a parent/guardian to a student during school hours, will be permitted only when failure to take such medication would jeopardize the health of the student, or the student would not be able to attend school if the medicine were not made available during school hours.

2. Definitions

Medication shall include all lawful prescription medication provided to students under a proper order of a treating physician, and to be taken by the student for the purpose for which it is prescribed. It shall also include all non-prescription and over-the-counter medications or substances. No herbal remedies will be given during the school day.

Epi-Pen shall mean a single dosage of epinephrine for use by injection in response to a risk of anaphylactic shock or other identified health risk.

Inhaler shall include any device for the delivery of atomized medication for inhalation by the user to treat asthma or other breathing or medical conditions.

3. Delegation of Responsibility

Only the school nurse or other licensed health-care professional shall administer medication for ingestion by mouth. Only in a life-threatening emergency shall a school employee other than a school nurse administer medication to a student. In addition, emergency medications may be self-administered by students in accordance with this policy.

4. Guidelines

Medications Ingested by Mouth

1. No medication for ingestion by mouth shall be administered or taken by a student unless there is on file documentation containing the following information:
 - a. Name of student
 - b. Name of the medication

- c. Dosage instructions, including the number and quantity of the medication, frequency of usage, route, maximum period of dosage, and recommended date of discontinuance, along with any special directions or precautions concerning the administration of the medication, including anticipated adverse reactions thereto, etc.
 - d. District Authorization for Administration of Medication Form signed by the parent/guardian which will become part of the student's permanent health record.
 - e. The written prescribed order by the physician and written permission for administration of medication and treatment must be obtained every school year.
2. Over-the-counter products will not be administered unless prescribed in writing by the physician.
 3. A standing doctor's order may authorize the use of an Epi-Pen to be used for anaphylaxis. The order requires 911 to be called when an Epi-Pen has been used or administered.
 4. Any prescription medication given to a student will be recorded in the health record of the student. The date, time, medication administered, quantity administered, and signature of the school nurse or other licensed health-care professional administering/supervising will be recorded. It is not necessary to record over-the-counter medications given to students in the health record of the student.
 5. All medicines will be kept in locked storage. The school has no responsibility for medicine that is stored. The medicine remains the property of the parents/guardians of the student.
 6. It is the right of the parents/guardians to come to school to give medication to the student. Daily doses of medications for ingestion should not be given to the student to carry on his/her person. The district requires, except as specifically provided hereinafter, that all student medication must be kept in the possession of the school nurse, principal or other licensed health-care professional. Except as provided hereinafter, no students are permitted to carry medication on their persons during the school day. Students shall not distribute or share medication of any kind with others.

Self-Administration of Emergency Medications

1. This policy shall not prohibit self-administration of emergency medications such as inhalers, insulin injections, bee sting kits, and Epi-Pens. These types of medications may include multi-dose units, where required, or emergency medications otherwise required to be carried by an individual student for self-administration in emergency situations.
2. Students authorized to possess emergency medications shall be permitted to carry the medication throughout the school day, including on the school bus, while traversing from home to school and school to home, on school field trips, or other school-related activities.

3. Students requiring possession of inhalers, Epi-Pens, bee sting kits, or other emergency medications, for use in emergency situations or in order to benefit from the educational services of the district, shall be evaluated to determine Section 504/Chapter 15 eligibility. Students' Section 504/Chapter 15 service agreements shall include a plan to minimize the risk of theft or abuse of the medication if administration of emergency medication is required.
4. Students required to carry emergency medication shall be permitted to carry the same on their person provided the student:
 - (a) demonstrates the capability for self-administration and responsible behavior in the use thereof; and
 - (b) notifies the school nurse as soon as practicable following each use of any emergency medication, including an asthma inhaler and the prescribed medication contained therein. The district shall develop a system whereby the student may verify to the school nurse that s/he is capable of self-administration and has permission to carry and take the medication. The district requires that the following information is provided:
 - a. Name of the student
 - b. Statement from the physician, certified registered nurse practitioner, or physician assistant that provides:
 - 1) The name of the drug
 - 2) The dosage instructions which shall include number and/or quantity of the medications; the frequency of its usage; the maximum period of dosage; the recommended date of discontinuance of dosage; any special instructions or precautions concerned with the administration of said medication, including anticipated adverse reactions thereto, etc.
 - 3) The times when the medication is to be taken
 - 4) The diagnosis or reason that the medication is needed, unless the reason should remain confidential
 - 5) The potential of any serious reaction that may occur to the medication
 - 6) Whether the student is qualified and able to self-administer the medication
 - 7) That the student is required to carry the medication on his/her person for medical emergency purposes
 - 8) The signature of the administering physician, certified registered nurse practitioner, or physician assistant.

- c. District Authorization for Administration of Medication Form signed by the parent/guardian which will become part of the student's permanent health record. The statement shall include a written request from the parent/guardian that the district comply with the order of the physician, certified registered nurse practitioner, or physician assistant and shall include a statement relieving the district or any school employee of any responsibility for the benefits or consequences of the prescribed medication and that the district has no responsibility for ensuring that the medication is taken.
 - d. The district reserves the right to require a signed statement from the physician, certified registered nurse practitioner, or physician assistant for the continued use of any medication beyond a maximum period of dosage set forth in accordance with Paragraph (b)(2) above.
5. A student's classroom teacher(s) and the building administrator shall be informed by the school nurse that the student will be carrying an inhaler, insulin injection, Epi-Pen, or bee sting kit, or other medication not ingestible by mouth on his/her person under proper order of a treating physician. This information will be kept confidential and supplied on a need-to-know basis for use in emergency situations.
6. Possession of emergency medications under proper orders of a treating physician and in accordance with this policy shall not constitute a violation of the Drug and Alcohol Policy. The district hereby restricts the availability of emergency medications including an asthma inhaler and the prescribed medication contained therein from other students and will immediately confiscate any such medication, asthma inhalers, and prescribed medication if not authorized in accordance with this policy. This provision shall specifically authorize a student to carry an asthma inhaler in compliance with Act 187 of 2004.
7. Due to the risks that possession of medication on a student's person present for theft and/or abuse, possession would be limited to a single dose, where appropriate, and will be closely monitored by building staff and administrators.
8. Whenever possible, students requiring the use of an insulin injection, bee sting kit, or Epi-Pen during the school day while in school shall have the same administered by or under the supervision of the school nurse.

Field Trips, Sports, and Other Activities Away from the School Building

Administration of the medication on field trips, sports activities or competitions, or other school-related activities away from the school building shall be in accordance with this Policy. If the school nurse is absent or unavailable, a substitute nurse or other licensed health-care professional shall be assigned when administration of medication is required.

Limitations on Liability

Health-care practitioners rendering emergency care shall not be liable for any civil damages as a result of any acts or omissions in rendering the emergency care, except any acts or omissions intentionally designed to harm, or any grossly-negligent acts or omissions which result in harm to the person receiving emergency care. Any person who renders emergency care, first aid or rescue at the scene of an emergency, or moves

the person receiving such care, first aid or rescue, shall not be liable to such person for any civil damages as a result of any acts or omissions except any acts or omissions intentionally designed to harm, or any grossly-negligent acts or omissions which result in harm. This immunity is only applicable if the lay rescuer holds a current certificate evidencing the successful completion of a course in first aid, advanced life saving or basic life support. Additionally, an officer or employee of a school who, in good faith, believes that a student needs emergency care, first aid or rescue and who provides such emergency care, first aid or rescue or who removes the student shall be immune from civil liability as a result of any acts or omissions by the officer or employee, except any acts or omissions intentionally designed to seriously harm, or any grossly-negligent acts or omissions which result in serious bodily harm.

Annual Notice of Policy

The administration shall annually notify students and parents/guardians about the district's Use of Medications policy by publishing the same in the student handbook, by written notice to the parents/guardians, and any other efficient means.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit a parent's right to delegate the administration of their child's medication to an individual other than the school nurse or other licensed health-care professional.

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