

WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**SECTION 10000****10600 STUDENT WELFARE****10613 Administration of Medications and Use of Asthma Inhaler**

The administration of medication to a student during school hours in accordance with the direction of a parent/guardian and physician, certified and registered nurse practitioner, or physician assistant (hereinafter referred to as "qualified prescriber") will be permitted only when failure to take such medicine would jeopardize the health of the student or the student would not be able to attend school if the medicine were not administered during school hours.

For purposes of this policy, the term "medication" shall include all medicines prescribed by a qualified prescriber and any non-prescription/over-the-counter medicines. Before any medication may be administered to or by any student during school hours, the Superintendent, or his or her designee, shall (i) require the written request of the parent/guardian, giving permission for such administration and relieving the Board and its employees of liability for administration of the medication and (ii) also require the written order of the qualifying prescriber which shall include the purpose of the medication, the dosage, the time at which or special circumstances under which the medication shall be administered, the length of time for which medication is prescribed, and possible side effects of the medication. The medication must be in its original container, clearly labeled with prescription directions.

Students who desire to possess and self-administer an asthma inhaler shall follow the same procedures for using medications in school and supply the nurse with all proper documentation annually. Additionally, the following requirements shall apply:

1. The parent or guardian must provide a written request/authorization for the District to comply with the order of a qualified prescriber, with a copy of such order being submitted with the request/authorization. The qualified prescriber must indicate that the student is qualified and able to self-administer the medication.
2. A statement from the parent or guardian must be submitted acknowledging that the District is not responsible for ensuring that the medication is taken and relieving the District and its employees of responsibility for the benefits or consequences of the prescribed medication.
3. The student shall be instructed by the school nurse in the safety of carrying the medication. The student shall be required to demonstrate proficiency and responsible behavior in its use prior to being permitted to carry the medication on his or her person (e.g. the ability to identify the medication, the ability to measure and administer the prescribed dosage, the ability to sign a medication sheet to acknowledge having taken the medication, a demonstrated cooperative attitude in all aspects of self-administration, etc). The District reserves the right to deny the privilege of self-administration in the event

that the capability of self-administration or for responsible behavior in use of the medication is unable to be demonstrated by the student to the school nurse.

4. The student shall be made aware that the medication is intended for his/her use only and may not be shared with other students. The sharing of any self-administered medication with any other student will result in the immediate confiscation of the medication, loss of self-administration privileges, and disciplinary action in accordance with the District's Discipline Code
5. The student shall notify the school nurse immediately following each use of an asthma inhaler.

Students who need to use EpiPens, insulin, or other medication in school shall follow the same procedures for using medications in school and supply the nurse with all proper documentation annually. In cases where the qualified prescriber feels that a student MUST carry an EpiPen, insulin, or other medication on their person (as opposed to storing it in the health office) and be permitted to self-administer the medication, the following additional requirements apply:

1. The qualified prescriber must indicate "proficiency in self-administration" on the comment section of the medication authorization; the qualified prescriber must indicate that it is necessary for the medication to be carried on the student's person and self-administered by the student (as opposed to being stored in the health office and administered by the school nurse) in order to prevent serious bodily injury or death to said student.
2. A statement from the parent or guardian must be submitted acknowledging that the District is not responsible for ensuring that the medication is taken and relieving the District and its employees of responsibility for the benefits or consequences of the prescribed medication.
3. The student shall be instructed by the school nurse in the safety of carrying the medication. The student shall be required to demonstrate proficiency and responsible behavior in its use prior to being permitted to carry the medication on his or her person (e.g. the ability to identify the medication, the ability to measure and administer the prescribed dosage, the ability to sign a medication sheet to acknowledge having taken the medication, a demonstrated cooperative attitude in all aspects of self-administration, etc). The District reserves the right to deny the privilege of self-administration in the event that the capability of self-administration or for responsible behavior in use of the medication is unable to be demonstrated by the student to the school nurse.
4. The student shall be made aware that the medication is intended for his/her use only and may not be shared with other students. The sharing of any self-administered medication with any other student will result in the immediate confiscation of the medication, loss of self-administration privileges, and disciplinary action in accordance with the District's Discipline Code.

The Superintendent or designee, in conjunction with the Department Head Nurse, shall develop, review, and monitor procedures for the administration and self-administration of students' medications. All medications shall be administered by the school nurse or self

administered by the student upon written request, approval of said request, and proper evidence of proficiency in self-administration.

Carrying medication on a student's person or self-administering a medication shall be limited to the following medications: (1) an asthma inhaler prescribed by a qualified prescriber; (2) an EpiPen prescribed by a qualified prescriber and containing a statement from the qualified prescriber that possession and self-administration is necessary to prevent serious bodily injury or death to the student; (3) Insulin prescribed by a qualified prescriber and containing a statement from the qualified prescriber that possession and self-administration is necessary to prevent serious bodily injury or death; and (4) other medications that the District is either legally obligated to permit a student to carry on his or her person and self-administer or that is prescribed by a qualified prescriber and contains a statement from the qualified prescriber that possession and self-administration is necessary to prevent serious bodily injury or death to the student.

When any medication for a student is initially brought to school, it shall be the responsibility of a certified school nurse to complete the following:

1. Obtain all necessary documentation, including written permission from the qualified prescriber and parent/guardian for administration or self-administration of the medication, which shall be kept confidential and on file in the office of the school nurse.
2. Review pertinent information with the student and/or parent/guardian, specifically:
 - a. The reason for taking the medication.
 - b. How often and for what length of time the medication will be taken.
 - c. What will happen if the medication is not taken or is taken incorrectly.
 - d. Qualified prescriber comments about the medication.
3. If the medication will be self-administered by the student, determine the student's ability to self-administer the medication and the need for care and supervision.
4. Maintain an individual medication log for all students taking medication during school hours. The log shall be kept in a central place and shall include:
 - a. Name of the student.
 - b. Name of the medication.
 - c. Medication dosage.
 - d. Time of administration.
 - e. Route of administration.
 - f. Signature of adult administering the medicine.
 - g. Initiation and expiration date of the medication.

Adoption Date - To be entered

Revised -

Practice -

Legal Reference - School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 1402

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.41

Cross Reference -

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