

ADMINISTERING MEDICINES TO STUDENTS

(Use of Epinephrine Autoinjectors)

Student possession of an epi-pen is permitted only if the student has written approval from the prescriber of the medication and, if a minor, from his/her parent. Written approval must be on file with the school nurse or when the school nurse is unavailable the building principal or assistant principal or teacher or building office personnel or other appropriate person designated by the Board. In addition, the school nurse or other designated person must receive a backup dose of the medication from the parent or student.

The prescriber's written approval must specify at least the following information:

1. student's name and address;
2. names and dose of the medication contained in the autoinjector;
3. the date the administration of the medication is to begin and, if known, the date the administration of the medication is to cease;
4. acknowledgement that the prescriber has determined that the student is capable of possessing and using the epi-pen appropriately and has provided the student with training in the proper use of the epi-pen;
5. circumstances in which the epi-pen should be used;
6. written instructions that outline procedures school personnel should follow if the student is unable to administer the medication or the medication does not produce the expected relief from the student's anaphylaxis (allergic response);
7. any severe reaction that:
 - A. the student may experience that should be reported to the prescriber or
 - B. that may occur to another student for whom the medication is not prescribed, if that student receives a dose of the medication;
8. at least one emergency telephone number each for contacting the prescriber and the parent; and,
9. any other special instructions from the prescriber.

Whenever a student is administered epinephrine at school or at an activity, event or program sponsored by the school or in which the school is a participant, a school employee must immediately request assistance from an emergency medical service provider. Request for medical assistance applies whether the student self-administers the medication or a school employee administers it to the student.

The Board and District employees are not liable in damages in a civil action for injury, death or loss to person or property allegedly arising if:

1. a school employee prohibits a student from using an epi-pen because he/she has a good faith belief that the conditions for carrying and using the medication have not been satisfied;
2. a school employee permits a student to carry and use an epi-pen because of the good faith belief that the conditions have been satisfied, or
3. in instances in which a student is rightfully permitted to carry an epi-pen, the use of the medication by a student for whom it was not prescribed.

All immunities granted to schools under the sovereign immunity law or any other law applies.

Approval date: (August 16, 2007)