

## ADMINISTERING MEDICATIONS TO STUDENTS

Many students are able to attend school regularly only through effective use of medication in the treatment of disabilities or illnesses that do not hinder the health or welfare of others. If possible, all medication should be given by the parent(s) at home. If this is not possible, it is done in compliance with the following:

1. 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 supervises the secure and proper storage and/or dispensation of medications. The drug must be received in the container in which it was dispensed by the prescribing physician or others licensed to prescribe medication.
2. Written permission must be received from the parent or guardian of the student, requesting that the school nurse or other authorized persons identified herein comply with the physician's order. Only the parent or guardian of the student or other person having care or charge of the student may initiate the procedure for administration of medication during the school day. The parent or guardian of the student must also advise any coaches, supervisor or director of school-sponsored activities before or after school if there is a need for administration of emergency medication outside the regular school day. All requirements of this policy apply to the administration of emergency medication outside the regular school day while the student is participating in before or after school school-sponsored activities.
3. The school nurse or other authorized persons identified herein must receive and retain a statement which complies with state law and is signed by the physician who prescribed the drug or other person licensed to prescribe medication.
4. The parent, guardian or other person having care and charge of the student must agree to submit a revised statement, signed by the physician or other licensed individual who prescribed the drug, to the nurse or other authorized persons identified herein if any of the information originally provided by the physician or licensed individual changes.
5. No employee who is authorized by the Board to administer a prescribed drug and who has a copy of the most recent statement will be liable in civil damages for administering or failing to administer the drug, unless he/she acts in a manner which would constitute "gross negligence or wanton or reckless misconduct."
6. No person employed by the Board is authorized or will be required to administer a drug to a student except pursuant to requirements established under this policy and not otherwise prohibited by law. The Board shall not require an employee to administer a drug to a student if the employee objects, on the basis of religious convictions, to administering the drug. Authorized persons identified herein may be required to administer drugs to students except as provided above.

Inhalers for Asthma

Students have the right to possess and use a metered-dose inhaler or a dry-powder inhaler to alleviate asthmatic symptoms or before exercise to prevent the onset of asthmatic symptoms. The right applies at school or at any activity, event or program sponsored by or in which the student's school is a participant.

In order for a student to possess the inhaler, he/she must have written approval from the student's physician and parent or other caretaker. The principal and/or the school nurse must have received copies of these required written approvals.

Epinephrine Autoinjectors

Students are permitted to carry and use an epinephrine autoinjector (epi-pen) to treat anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions). The right to carry and use an epi-pen extends to any activity, event or program sponsored by the student's school or activity, event or program in which the school participates.

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 principal and/or the school nurse. In addition, the principal or school nurse must receive a backup does of the medication from the parent or student.

(Adopted: August 16, 2007)