

ADMINISTERING MEDICINES TO STUDENTS

(Use of Asthma Inhalers)

In order for a student to possess and use an inhaler, he/she must have written approval from the student's physician and parent or other person having care or charge of the student. 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 must have received copies of these required written approvals.

The physician's written approval must specify the minimum following information:

1. student's name and address;
2. name and dose of the medication contained in the inhaler;
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. written instructions which outline the procedures school personnel should follow in the event that the asthma medication does not produce the expected relief from the student's asthma attack;
5. any severe reaction that may occur to the student using the inhaler that should be reported to the physician;
6. any severe reactions that may occur to another student for whom the inhaler is not prescribed should he/she receive a dose of the medication;
7. at least one emergency telephone number each for contacting the prescriber;
8. at least one emergency telephone number for contacting the parent, guardian or other person having care or charge of the student in an emergency; and,
9. any other special instructions from the physician.

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 inhaler 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 inhaler 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 inhaler, 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; revised May 21, 2015)