

STUDENTS

Student Services

Policy 2870
(Regulation 2870)
(Form 2870)

Administering Medicines To Students

It shall be the policy of the Board of Education that the giving of medicine to students during school hours be discouraged and restricted to medication that cannot be given on an alternative schedule. The Board of Education recognizes that some students may require medication for chronic or short-term illness/injury during the school day to enable them to remain in school and participate in their education. Employees providing routine first aid according to District procedures will be immune from liability or disciplinary action. Similarly, trained employees will be immune from civil liability for administering cardiopulmonary resuscitation and other lifesaving methods in good faith and according to standard medical practices. The Board of Education also recognizes that the administration of medication may be required under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and/or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide a free appropriate public education for identified as disabled under those laws.

STUDENTS

Regulation 2870
(Form 2870)

Student Services

Administering Medicines to Students

Prescription Medication

The student's authorized prescriber shall provide a written request that the student be given medication during school hours. The request shall state the name of the student, name of drug, dosage, frequency of administration, route of administration, and the prescriber's name. The diagnosis/indication for use of the medicine shall be provided. When possible, the prescriber should state adverse effects and applicable emergency instructions.

The District shall require that a prescription label be properly affixed to the medication in question. Said label must contain the name of the student, name of the drug, dosage, frequency of administration, route of administration, diagnosis and the prescriber's name.

A parent/guardian must request in writing that the School District comply with the authorized prescriber's request to give medication. (The District will not administer the initial dose of any new prescription except in an emergency.)

Over-the-Counter Medication

The student's authorized prescriber shall provide a written request that the student be given medication during school hours. The request shall state the name of the student, name of drug, dosage, frequency of administration, route of administration, and the prescriber's name. The diagnosis/indication for use of the medicine shall be provided. When possible, the prescriber should state potential adverse effects and applicable emergency instructions.

A parent/guardian will provide a written request that the District comply with the authorized prescriber's request to give medication.

Emergency Medication

Written standing orders will be obtained annually for the administration of emergency medication.

Storage and Administration of Medication

A parent/guardian or other responsible party designated by the parent/guardian will deliver all medication to be administered at school to the school nurse or designee. All medication, prescription or over-the-counter, must be in a pharmacy or manufacturer-labeled container. The District shall provide secure, locked storage for medication to prevent diversion, misuse, or ingestion by another individual.

The administration of medication, including over-the-counter medications, is a nursing activity, governed by the State of Missouri Nursing Practice Act. It must be performed by the registered professional school nurse. The nurse may delegate and supervise the administration of medication by unlicensed personnel who are qualified by education, knowledge and skill to do so. The registered nurse must provide and document the requisite education, training, and competency verification. The nurse is also empowered to contact the prescriber or pharmacist filling the prescription to discuss the prescription if the nurse has questions regarding the administration of such medication. Qualified employees will be held harmless and immune from civil liability for administering medication or medical services in good faith and according to standard medical practices.

School employees who are not qualified according to standard medical practices will not be required to administer medications or medical services. Such unqualified employees who refuse to administer medications or medical services will not be subject to disciplinary action for such refusal.

Pre-filled Auto Syringes

A school nurse or other school employee trained and supervised by the nurse may be authorized by the Board of Education to maintain an adequate supply of pre-filled auto syringes of epinephrine with fifteen hundredths milligram (15/100 mg) or three tenths milligram (3/10mg) delivery at school. The school nurse shall recommend to the school board, through the superintendent, the number of pre-filled epinephrine auto syringes to be maintained at each school. Licensed school nurses have the discretion to use an epinephrine auto syringe on any student the school nurse believes is having a life threatening anaphylactic reaction based upon the nurses training in recognizing an acute episode of an anaphylactic reaction. Trained employees administering life-saving methods will be immune from civil liability for administering life-saving methods for administering a pre-filled auto syringe in good faith consistent with standard medical practices.

Self-Administration of Medication

Students with asthma, anaphylaxis, or any chronic health condition may carry with them for self-administration metered-dose inhalers containing "rescue" medication. Possession and self-administration of these prescription medications must comply with the Missouri Safe Schools Act, 1996. The directives of this Act will be given to each parent/guardian who requests that his/her student be permitted to carry and self-administer such medication. A permission form for self-administration (Form 2870) is required. Provided however, that:

1. A licensed physician has prescribed or ordered such medications for use of the student and has instructed the student in the correct and responsible use of such medications;
2. The student has demonstrated to the student's licensed physician or designee and the school nurse, the skill level necessary to use the medications and any device necessary to administer such medications;

3. The student's physician has appended and signed a written treatment plan for managing asthma and anaphylaxis episodes of the student and for medications for use of the student. Such plan will include a statement that the student is capable of self-administering the medication under the treatment plan;
4. The student's parent/guardian has completed and submitted to the school the student's treatment plan and liability statement.
5. The student's parent/guardian has signed a statement acknowledging that the district and its employees will incur no liability as a result of any injury arising from self-administration of medication by the student or administration of such medication by school staff. (see Form 2870.1)

The authorization for the possession and self administration of medication to treat a student's asthma or anaphylaxis permits authorized students to possess and self administer such student's medication while in school, at a school sponsored activity, and in transit from school or school sponsored activity. Such authorization will be effective for the school year when issued and for the school attended when the authorization is issued. Such authorization must be renewed each subsequent year in order to remain effective. Information concerning the student's condition treatment plan, authorization, and related documents will be kept on file in the school nurse's office and be easily accessible in the event of an asthma or anaphylaxis emergency. Duplicate prescribed medication, as described in this policy, will be kept in the school's nurses office and be reasonably accessible to the student and school staff in the event of an asthma or anaphylactic emergency.

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Training

Upon Board of Education authorization, the District will provide instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation to District students grades 9-12. The instruction will be part of a health educational course and will include hands-on practice and skill testing to support cognitive learning. However, the District may elect to develop an agreement with a first responder to provide the required practice and testing. Students with disabilities may participate to the extent appropriate as determined by the student's IEP or 504 Plan.

Administration of Asthma Rescue Medication

The Board of Education, by a majority vote, may authorize a licensed registered nurse to maintain a supply of asthma related rescue medication at each District school. The nurse will recommend the quantity of such medication to be maintained. The asthma rescue medication will be obtained by prescription written by a licensed physician, a physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner. Such prescription shall list the District as the patient, will contain the nurse's name, and will be filled at a licensed pharmacy. A school nurse or other school employees trained by and supervised by the nurse shall have the discretion to use asthma related rescue medications on

any student the school nurse or trained employee believes is having a life-threatening asthma episode based upon their training in recognizing an acute asthma episode. Immunity, under §167.624, from civil liability for trained employees administering life saving methods shall apply to trained employees administering an asthma related rescue medication under this policy.

Parent/Guardian Administration

In situations where the above requirements are not met, or any time the parent/guardian chooses, the parent/guardian may come to school to administer medicine to his/her student.

Exception for Potentially Harmful Administration

It shall be the policy of this District that the District will not knowingly administer any medication to a student if the District's registered professional school nurse believes, in his/her professional judgment, that such administration could cause harm to the student, other students, or the District itself. Such cases may include, but are not necessarily limited to, situations in which the District is being asked to administer medication in a dosage that exceeds the highest recommended dosage listed in the current annual volume of the Physician's Desk Reference or other recognized medical or pharmaceutical text.