

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

The Board of Education recognizes that good student health is vital to successful learning and acknowledges its responsibility, along with that of parent(s) or guardian(s), to protect and foster a safe and healthful environment for the students.

The school will work closely with students' families to provide detection and preventive health services. In accordance with law, the school will provide vision, hearing, dental inspection and scoliosis screening. Problems will be referred to the parent(s) or guardian(s) who shall will-be encouraged to have their family physician/dentist provide appropriate care.

In order to enroll in school a student must have a health exam and submit a health certificate within 30 calendar days after first entering school at any grade, and upon entering prekindergarten or kindergarten, and first, third, fifth, seventh, ninth and eleventh grades. The examination, which must conform to state requirements, must have been conducted no more than 12 months before the first day of the school year in question. If a student is unable to furnish the health certificate, the school will provide a physical examination by a licensed provider. A request for exemption from the physical examination, or the requirement to provide a health certificate, must be made in writing to the school principal or designee, who may require documents supporting the request. The only basis for exemption is a claim that the physical examination is in conflict with the parent's or guardian's genuine and sincere religious belief.

In order to enroll in school, students must also furnish documentation of required immunizations against certain communicable diseases as set forth in state law and regulations, unless exempted from immunization for medical reasons as permitted by state law and regulation. Public school officials may not admit unvaccinated children to school in excess of 14 days unless: the student is transferring from out-of-state or from another country and can show good faith effort to get the necessary certification or other evidence of immunizations, in which case the 14-day period may be extended to not more than 30 days.

Homeless students will be admitted to school even if they do not have the required health or immunization records but may be temporarily excluded if they show actual symptoms of a communicable disease that poses a significant risk of transmission to others (see "Communicable Diseases" below). The Homeless liaison will assist homeless students covered by that law in accessing health services described in this policy and accompanying regulation, including removing barriers for unaccompanied youth caused by lack of parent/guardian permission.

The Board recognizes that the State of New York may authorize and require the collection of data from health certificates in furtherance of tracking and understanding health care issues that affect children. The Board supports these efforts and expects administrators to cooperate and to observe the appropriate laws and regulations in carrying out those responsibilities, including those that relate to student privacy.

In addition, students will be asked to provide a dental health certificate when they enroll in school and in accordance with the same schedule as the health certificate.

A permanent student health record will be part of a student's cumulative school record and should follow the student from grade to grade and school to school along with the academic record. This record folder will be maintained by the school nurse.

Emergency Care

Schools will also provide emergency care for students in accidental or unexpected medical situations. Each school in the district will include in its emergency plan a protocol for responding to health care emergencies, including anaphylaxis, opioid overdose and head injury.

Parents/guardians will be notified of any emergency medical situation as soon as is practicable. Every effort will be made to notify parents/guardians of non-emergent medical situations that have been reported to the nurse.

Communicable Diseases

It is the responsibility of the Board to provide all students with a safe and healthy school environment. To meet this responsibility, it is sometimes necessary to exclude students who have been diagnosed with or are showing symptoms of any communicable diseases, as defined in the Public Health Law, from attendance in school. Students will be excluded during periods of contagion for time periods determined on an individual basis.

It is the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, working through district health personnel, to enforce this policy and to contact the county or local health department when a reportable case of a communicable disease is identified in the student or staff population.

During an outbreak of these communicable diseases, if the Commissioner of Health or designee so orders, the district will exclude students from school who have an exemption from immunization or in the process of obtaining immunizations. The district will provide additional protections to students who are otherwise medically vulnerable.

Administering Medication to Students

Neither the Board nor district staff members are responsible for the diagnosis or treatment of student illness. The administration of prescribed medication to a student during school hours 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 made available to them during school hours, or where it is done pursuant to law requiring accommodation to a student's special medical needs (e.g., Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973). "Medication" will include all medicines (both prescription and over the counter) prescribed by an authorized medical provider.

Before any medication may be administered to or by any student during school hours, the Board requires:

1. the written request of the parent(s) or guardian(s), which gives permission for such administration and relieves the Board and its employees of liability for administration of medication; and
2. the written order of the prescribing authorized medical provider, which will include the purpose of the medication, the dosage, the time at which or the special circumstances under which medication will be administered, the period for which medication is prescribed, and the possible side effects of the medication.
3. that in order for a student to carry and use a rescue inhaler, an epinephrine auto-injector, insulin, or glucagon and associated testing supplies, written permission must be provided both by the parent and the prescribing authorized medical provider in accordance with state law and regulation.

Students are allowed to carry and apply parentally provided sunscreen without a prescription from a medical provider, assuming that the sunscreen is FDA approved and that the sunscreen is not treating a medical condition. Parents need to provide the district with written permission for students to use sunscreen.

Permission slips and medical orders will be kept on file in the office of the school nurse.

In addition, the district will make a nebulizer available on-site in school buildings where nursing services are provided. Students with a patient- specific order, who require inhaled medications, shall will have access to the nebulizer for use with the student's own prescribed medication. The district will ensure that it is maintained in working order.

Life-Threatening Allergies and Anaphylaxis Management

The Board recognizes its role and responsibility in supporting a healthy learning environment for all students, including those who have, or develop, life-threatening allergies. The district will work cooperatively with the student, their parent/guardian and healthcare provider to develop a plan which will allow the child to participate as fully and as safely as possible in school activities. When a student has a known life threatening allergy reported on their health form or if the district has been informed by the parent of the presence of a life-threatening allergy, the district will assemble a team, which may include the parent, the school nurse, the child's teacher, the building principal and other appropriate personnel, which will be charged with developing an individual health care plan and/or an emergency action plan. The plans will be maintained by the school nurse. The plans will guide prevention and response. If the student is eligible for accommodations based upon the IDEA, Section 504 or the Americans with Disabilities Act, the appropriate procedures will be followed regarding identification, evaluation and implementation of accommodations.

Epinephrine Administration

Epi-Pen Administration may be provided by the Registered Nurse and other unlicensed personnel who have received training in accordance with NYS laws and guidelines.

Opioid Antagonists

The district permits emergency administration of opioid antagonists to prevent opioid overdoses. The district will provide and maintain in each school where nursing services are provided, an opioid antagonist for use during emergencies to anyone suspected of having an opioid overdose whether or not there is a previous history of opioid abuse.

Opioid antagonists ~~shall~~ will be limited to naloxone and other medications approved by the Department of Health for such purposes and administered only by the school nurse to students and staff.

Administration of Opioid Antagonist Pursuant to Non-Patient Specific Order

The Board of Education approves the following program for use of opioid antagonists on students or staff suspected of having opioid overdoses whether or not there is a previous history of opioid abuse:

School Nurse Administration of Opioid Overdose Treatments Pursuant to a Non-patient Specific Order and Protocols

The school district's medical director will issue a non-patient specific order and protocol authorizing school nurses to administer naloxone and/or other opioid-related overdose treatment to students or staff suspected of having an opioid overdose. The school nurse may administer intranasal (in the nose) naloxone or, if allowable per their training, intramuscular (in the muscle) naloxone, on school premises or at any school-sponsored activities occurring off school grounds. The non-patient specific order and protocols must comply with regulations of the commissioner of education (8 NYCRR §64.7).

A registered nurse (RN) who is responsible for implementing the non-patient specific order and protocol may assign licensed practical nurses (LPNs) to help (i.e., administer the ordered naloxone or other opioid overdose treatment, call an ambulance). The registered nurse must provide training and on-site direction to the LPNs except in emergency situations.

Training

Training to support the fulfillment of staff responsibilities in regard to student health services will be provided as part of the district's ongoing professional development plan and in conformity with Commissioner's regulations.

Regulations

The Superintendent will develop comprehensive regulations governing student health services. Those regulations will include the provision of all health services required by law, procedures for the maintenance of health records, and procedures for the administering of medication to students. The Superintendent will also develop protocols, in consultation with

the school physician and other appropriate district staff, for the management of injury, with particular attention to concussion.

Cross-ref: 4321, Programs for Students with Disabilities
5020.3, Students with Disabilities and Section 504
5151 Homeless Students
5280, Interscholastic Athletics
5280.1 Concussion Management Policy
5550 Student Privacy
8130 School Safety Plans and Teams
9700, Staff Professional Development

Ref: Education Law §§310 (provisions for appeal of child denied school entrance for failure to comply with immunization requirements); 901 et seq. (medical, dental and health services, BMI reporting); 919 (provide and maintain nebulizers); 6909 (emergency treatment of anaphylaxis) Public Health Law §§613 (annual survey); 2164 (immunization requirements) 8 NYCRR § 64.7 (administration of agents to treat anaphylaxis); § 135.4 (Physical 4 Policy #5420 Page 4 of 4 Education); Part 136 (school health services program) Administration of Medication in the School Setting Guidelines, State Education Department, revised April 2002 Immunization Guidelines: Vaccine Preventable Communicable Disease Control, State Education Department, revised August 2000 Making the Difference: Caring for Students with Life-Threatening Allergies, New York State Department of Health, New York State Education Department, New York Statewide School Health Service Center, June 2008 Concussion Management Guidelines and Procedures, www.nysphsaa.org

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