

Twin Valley School District

No. 210.1

SECTION(S): Pupils

TITLE: Possession/Use of Asthma Inhalers
and Epinephrine Auto-injectors

ADOPTED: May 16, 2005

REVISED: October 08, 2018

1		210.1 Possession/Use of Asthma Inhalers and	1
2		Epinephrine Auto-injectors	2
3			3
4	1. Authority	The Board shall permit students to possess asthma inhalers and	4
5		Epinephrine auto-injectors and to self-administer the prescribed	5
6		medication used to treat asthma when such is parent/guardian	6
7		authorized.	7
8			8
9	SC 1414.1, 1414.2	The Board shall authorize the district to stock epinephrine auto-	9
10		injectors in the name of the school district for emergency	10
11		administration by trained employees to a student believed to be	11
12		experiencing an anaphylactic reaction.	12
13			13
14		Possession and use of asthma inhaler and Epinephrine auto-	14
15		injectors by students shall be in accordance with state law and	15
16		Board policy.	16
17			17
18	2. Definitions	<i>Anaphylaxis</i> - a sudden, severe allergic reaction that involves	18
19	SC 1401	various areas of the body simultaneously. In extreme cases,	19
20		anaphylaxis can cause death.	20
21			21
22		<i>Asthma Inhaler</i> shall mean a prescribed device used for self-	22
23		administration of short-acting, metered doses of prescribed	23
24		medication to treat an acute asthma attack.	24
25			25
26		<i>Epinephrine auto-injector</i> shall mean a prescribed disposable drug	26
27		delivery system designed for the administration of Epinephrine to	27
28		provide rapid first aid for students suffering the effects of	28
29		anaphylaxis.	29
30			30
31		<i>Self-administration</i> shall mean a student's use of medication in	31
32		accordance with a prescription or written instructions from a	32
33		licensed physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or	33
34		physician assistant.	34
35			35
36	3. Guidelines	Administration of asthma inhalers and epinephrine auto-injectors	36
37	SC 1414.1,	shall comply with Board policy, district procedures and	37
38	1414.2	individualized student plans such as an Individualized Education	38
39	Title 22, PA Code	Program (IEP), Section 504 Service Agreement (Service Agreement),	39
40	12.41	Individualized Healthcare Plan (IHP), or Emergency Care Plan (ECP).	40
41	Sec. 7.13		41
42		In order to maintain a student's health and safety, each student's	42
43		individualized plan shall address what information will be provided	43
44		to school staff and other adults who have responsibility for the	44
45		student in the school setting.	45
46			46
47		Student health records shall be confidential and maintained in	47
48		accordance with state and federal laws and regulations.	48
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1		<u>Student Self-Administration of Asthma Inhalers and Epinephrine</u>	1
2		<u>Auto-Injectors</u>	2
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4		Before a student may possess or use an asthma inhaler or	4
5		Epinephrine auto-injector in the school setting (including extra-	5
6		curricular activities), the Board shall require the following:	6
7			7
8		1. A written request submitted to the school nurse from the	8
9		parent/guardian requesting that the school comply with the	9
10		order of the licensed physician, certified registered nurse	10
11		practitioner or physician assistant.	11
12			12
13		2. A written statement submitted to the school nurse from the	13
14		parent/guardian acknowledging that the school is not	14
15		responsible for ensuring the medication is taken and relieving	15
16		the district and its employees of responsibility for the benefits	16
17		or consequences of the prescribed medication.	17
18			18
19		3. A written statement submitted to the school nurse from the	19
20		licensed physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or	20
21		physician assistant that states:	21
22			22
23		a. Name of the drug.	23
24		b. Prescribed dosage.	24
25		c. Times medication is to be taken.	25
26		d. Length of time medication is prescribed.	26
27		e. Diagnosis or reason medication is needed, unless confidential	27
28		f. Potential serious reaction or side effects of medication	28
29		g. Emergency response.	29
30		h. If child is qualified and able to self-administer the medication.	30
31			31
32		4. The student shall be made aware that the asthma inhaler or	32
33		Epinephrine auto-injector is intended for his/her use only and	33
34		may not be shared with other students.	34
35			35
36		5. The student shall notify the school nurse immediately	36
37		following each use of an asthma inhaler or Epinephrine auto-	37
38		injector.	38
39			39
40		The district reserves the right to require a statement from the	40
41		licensed physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or	41
42		physician assistant for the continued use of a medication beyond	42
43		the specified time period.	43
44			44
45		A written request for student use of an asthma inhaler and/or	45
46		Epinephrine auto-injector shall be submitted annually, along with	46
47		required written statements from the parent/guardian and an	47
48		updated prescription.	48
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1	4. Delegation of Responsibility	The Superintendent or designee shall annually distribute to	1
2		students, parents/guardians, and staff this policy along with the	2
3		Code of Student Conduct.	3
4			4
5		1. The school physician shall be the prescribing and	5
6		supervising medical professional for the district's stocking	6
7		and use of epinephrine auto-injectors. The Superintendent	7
8		or designee shall obtain a standing order from the school	8
9		physician for administration of stock epinephrine auto-	9
10		injectors.	10
11			11
12		2. The school nurse shall be responsible for building-level	12
13		storage of and administration of stock epinephrine auto-	13
14		injectors.	14
15			15
16		3. The building principal or designee shall annually notify	16
17		parents/guardians of their right to opt-out of the provisions	17
18		of this policy related to the administration of a stock	18
19		epinephrine auto-injector. To opt-out, a parent/guardian	19
20		shall sign and return the district's exemption form to the	20
21		school nurse. The signed opt-out forms shall be maintained	21
22		by the school nurse, and the school nurse shall provide	22
23		trained school employees with the names of students whose	23
24		parents/guardians have returned a signed opt-out form.	24
25			25
26		Student health records shall be confidential and maintained in	26
27		accordance with state and federal laws and regulations.	27
28			28
29		A student whose parent/guardian completes the written	29
30		requirements for the student to possess an asthma inhaler or	30
31		Epinephrine auto-injector and to self-administer the prescribed	31
32		medication in the school setting shall demonstrate to the school	32
33		nurse the competency for self-administration and responsible	33
34		behavior in use of the medication. Determination of competency for	34
35		self-administration shall be based on the student's age, cognitive	35
36		function, maturity and demonstration of responsible behavior.	36
37			37
38		To self-administer medication, the student must be able to:	38
39			39
40		1. Respond to and visually recognize his/her name.	40
41			41
42		2. Identify his/her medication.	42
43			43
44		3. Demonstrate the proper technique for self-administering	44
45		medication.	45
46			46
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1		4. Sign his/her medication sheet to acknowledge having taken the medication.	1
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3			3
4		5. Demonstrate a cooperative attitude in all aspects of self-administration.	4
5			5
6			6
7		The Superintendent or designee, in conjunction with the school nurse(s), may develop administrative regulations for student possession of asthma inhalers or Epinephrine auto-injectors and self-administration of prescribed medication.	7
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9			9
10			10
11			11
12			12
13		When an asthma inhaler or Epinephrine auto-injector is initially brought to school by a student, the school nurse shall be responsible to complete the following:	13
14			14
15			15
16			16
17		1. Obtain the required written request and statements from the parent/guardian and licensed physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant, which shall be kept on file in the office of the school nurse.	17
18			18
19			19
20			20
21			21
22		2. Review pertinent information with the student and/or parent/guardian, specifically the information contained on the statement submitted by the licensed physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant.	22
23			23
24			24
25			25
26			26
27		3. Determine the student's ability to self-administer medication and the need for care and supervision.	27
28			28
29			29
30		4. Maintain an individual medication log for all students possessing asthma inhalers and Epinephrine auto-injectors.	30
31			31
32			32
33		Students shall be prohibited from sharing, giving, selling, and using an asthma inhaler or Epinephrine auto-injector in any manner other than which it is prescribed during school hours, at any time while on school property, at any school-sponsored activity, and during the time spent traveling to and from school and school-sponsored activities. Violations of this policy may result in loss of privilege to self-carry the asthma inhaler or Epinephrine auto-injector and disciplinary action in accordance with Board policy.	33
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42		If the district denies a student's request to self-carry an asthma inhaler or Epinephrine auto-injector or the student has lost the privilege of self-carrying an asthma inhaler or Epinephrine auto-injector, the student's prescribed medication shall be appropriately stored at a location in close proximity to the student. The student's	42
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1		classroom teachers shall be informed where the medication is stored	1
2		and the means to access the medication.	2
3			3
4	24 S.C. 1414.2	<u>Standing Order From the School Physician</u>	4
5			5
6		The school physician shall provide and annually renew a standing	6
7		order for administration of stock epinephrine auto-injectors to	7
8		students believed to be experiencing an anaphylactic reaction.	8
9			9
10		The standing order shall include at least the following information:	10
11			11
12		1. Type of epinephrine auto-injector.	12
13			13
14		2. Date of issue.	14
15			15
16		3. Dosage.	16
17			17
18		4. Signature of the school physician.	18
19			19
20		The standing order shall be maintained in the Superintendent's	20
21		office, and copies of the standing order shall be kept in each	21
22		location where a stock epinephrine auto-injector is stored.	22
23			23
24		<u>Acquisition, Storage and Disposal of Stock Epinephrine Auto-</u>	24
25		<u>Injectors</u>	25
26			26
27		One or more school employees shall be designated within each	27
28		school to be responsible for the storage and use of the stock	28
29		epinephrine auto-injectors.	29
30			30
31		Stock epinephrine auto-injectors shall be safely stored in the school	31
32		nurse's office or other location designated by the school nurse in	32
33		accordance with the drug manufacturer's instructions.	33
34			34
35		Stock epinephrine auto-injectors shall be made readily accessible to	35
36		those employees who have completed the required training to	36
37		administer it in the event of a student experiencing an anaphylactic	37
38		reaction. All properly trained employees shall be informed of the	38
39		exact location where stock epinephrine auto-injectors are being	39
40		stored within the school nurse's office or other location.	40
41			41
42		The school nurse shall obtain sufficient supplies of stock	42
43		epinephrine auto-injectors pursuant to the standing order in the	43
44		same manner as other medical supplies acquired for the school	44
45		health program. The school nurse or designee shall regularly	45
46		inventory and refresh epinephrine auto-injector	46
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1		stocks, and maintain records thereof, in accordance with the	1
2		established internal procedures, manufacturer recommendations	2
3		and Pennsylvania Department of Health guidelines.	3
4			4
5		<u>Administration of Stock Epinephrine Auto-Injectors</u>	5
6			6
7		When responding to a student believed to be experiencing an	7
8		anaphylactic reaction, a trained school employee shall:	8
9			9
10		1. Administer an epinephrine auto-injector that meets the	10
11		prescription on file for either the student or the district. If	11
12		the student is authorized to self-administer an epinephrine	12
13		auto-injector, the trained school employee may provide the	13
14		student with an epinephrine auto-injector that meets the	14
15		prescription on file for either the student or the district for	15
16		self-administration.	16
17			17
18		2. Call for medical help immediately (dial 9-1-1).	18
19			19
20		3. Take additional precautions or steps outlined in emergency	20
21		response procedures and training, including the	21
22		administration of a second dose of epinephrine, if necessary.	22
23			23
24		4. Stay with the student until emergency medical help arrives.	24
25			25
26		5. Cooperate with Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel	26
27		responding to the incident.	27
28			28
29		6. Notify the school nurse or designee of the incident.	29
30			30
31		<u>Training</u>	31
32			32
33		Before any school district employee may be responsible for the	33
34		storage or administration of epinephrine auto-injectors under this	34
35		policy, the employee must successfully complete a training course	35
36		approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Health.	36
37			37
38		Refresher training shall be completed every two (2) years, and a	38
39		hands-on demonstration and review of this policy and any	39
40		accompanying procedures shall be completed annually.	40
41			41
42		Evidence that such training has been completed shall be placed in	42
43		the employee's personnel file.	43
44			44
45		A list of school district employees who successfully complete such	45
46		training shall be maintained, updated and kept in the	46
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1		school nurse's office and the school district administration office.	1
2			2
3		<u>Indemnification</u>	3
4			4
5		The school district shall indemnify and hold harmless any employee	5
6		who administers an epinephrine auto-injector in good faith to a	6
7		student experiencing anaphylaxis, if all of these conditions apply:	7
8			8
9		1. The employee did not act with the intent to harm or with	9
10		reckless indifference to a substantial risk or harm in	10
11		administering the epinephrine auto-injector to the student.	11
12			12
13		2. The employee successfully completed the training required	13
14		by this policy.	14
15			15
16		3. The employee promptly sought additional medical assistance	16
17		before or immediately after administering the epinephrine	17
18		auto-injector.	18
19			19
20		4. The employee administered the epinephrine auto-injector	20
21		pursuant to this policy, and the student's individualized	21
22		plan, if applicable.	22
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