



MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION POLICY

The administration of medicines in schools is limited and controlled by law -- Title 20-A MRSA, 254(5), 4009(4) -- and is specifically addressed by school board policy. This regulation is based on the following:

A. The dispensing of medicines on school premises is discouraged. Whenever possible, the schedule of drug administration should be altered to allow a student to receive all prescribed doses at home.

B. Administering medicines in school will be allowed, subject to the conditions of the board policy and these regulations, when, in the opinion of the attending physician/dentist, a student would be unable to attend school without medication being received during the school day.

C. "Medicines" is defined in the board policy as "all medications prescribed by a physician/dentist for a particular pupil." This is interpreted to include prescription and non-prescription drugs, and over-the-counter remedies, as may be described in medical written orders.

D. Medication is to be administered by the school nurse when available, otherwise by an appropriately trained staff member. Careful records are to be kept.

E. Students are **not permitted** to carry and/or self-administer prescription medicines with the exception of Epi-pens, inhalers, and/or diabetes medication.

F. To minimize the possibility of miscommunication, misunderstanding, and error, a written request for medicine to be administered in school is to be submitted by the parent/guardian AND the private licensed practitioner, and reviewed and approved by the school physician or Headmaster.

G. The general content of the policy and this regulation, with any procedural information needed for compliance, shall be made available to parents and students via the student handbook.

H. Parents/guardians are invited to come to the school to directly medicate their children if they choose to do so.