

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSBURGH

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: USE OF MEDICATIONS

ADOPTED: April 25, 2012

REVISED: REVISIONS PROPOSED
SEPTEMBER 2016

<p>1. Purpose</p> <p>Pol. 229.1, 922</p> <p>2. Definitions</p> <p>3. Authority SC 510 SC 1414.4 Title 22 Sec. 12.41</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">229. USE OF MEDICATIONS</p> <p>The administration of prescribed medication, in accordance with the direction of a licensed healthcare provider and a parent/guardian to a student during school hours, will be permitted only when failure to take such medication would jeopardize the health of the student, or the student would not be able to attend school if the medicine were not made available during school hours.</p> <p>The Board shall not be responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of student illness, and parents/guardians have the primary responsibility for the health of their children.</p> <p>District schools may also stock and administer emergency medications such as epinephrine auto-injectors, asthma inhalers, and naloxone, as permitted by Board policies, laws and regulations.</p> <p>Medication shall include all lawful prescription medication provided to students under a proper order of a treating licensed healthcare provider, and to be taken by the student for the purpose for which it is prescribed. It shall also include all non-prescription and over-the-counter medications or substances. Non-prescription, over-the-counter throat lozenges are not to be considered medication.</p> <p>Licensed healthcare provider shall include a health care provider who can legally prescribe medications in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Licensed prescribers include medical doctor (MD), osteopathic physician (DO), dentist, physician assistant, and certified nurse practitioner,</p> <p>Before any medication may be administered to or by any student during school hours, the Board shall require:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The written request of the parent/guardian, giving permission for such administration and relieving the Board and its employees of liability for administration of medication. 2. The written order of the prescribing licensed healthcare provider, which shall include the purpose of the medication, dosage, time at which or special circumstances under which the medication shall be administered, length of
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	<p>period for which medication is prescribed, and possible side effects of medication.</p> <p>3. In instances of self-administration, a statement from the licensed healthcare provider that the student is capable of self-administration.</p> <p>With the exception of certain emergency medications, only the school nurse or other licensed healthcare professional shall administer medication to students. Only in a life-threatening emergency shall a school employee other than a school nurse administer medication to a student. In addition, emergency medications such as epinephrine auto-injectors and asthma inhalers, may be self-administered by students in accordance with applicable Board policies and corresponding administrative regulations.</p> <p>Except as provided for in Board Policy 229.1 – Possession/Use of Medications, governing students who may carry medications on their person, the District requires that all student medication be kept in the possession of the school nurse or other licensed healthcare professional. No students are permitted to carry medication on their persons during the school day, except as provided for in Board policy and corresponding administrative regulations. Students shall not distribute or share medication of any kind with others.</p>
<p>Pol. 229.1</p>	<p>With the exception of certain emergency medications, only the school nurse or other licensed healthcare professional shall administer medication to students. Only in a life-threatening emergency shall a school employee other than a school nurse administer medication to a student. In addition, emergency medications such as epinephrine auto-injectors and asthma inhalers, may be self-administered by students in accordance with applicable Board policies and corresponding administrative regulations.</p> <p>Except as provided for in Board Policy 229.1 – Possession/Use of Medications, governing students who may carry medications on their person, the District requires that all student medication be kept in the possession of the school nurse or other licensed healthcare professional. No students are permitted to carry medication on their persons during the school day, except as provided for in Board policy and corresponding administrative regulations. Students shall not distribute or share medication of any kind with others.</p>
<p>SC 1414.1, 1414.5</p>	<p>This policy shall not prohibit the possession and self-administration of emergency medications such as asthma inhalers, insulin injections, glucose tablets, and epinephrine auto-injectors. These types of medications may include multi-dose units, where required, or emergency medications otherwise required to be carried by an individual student for self-administration in emergency situations.</p>
<p>SC 1414.2</p>	<p>Emergency Medication Stocked by School</p> <p>District schools may stock and administer emergency medications, such as epinephrine auto-injectors, asthma inhalers, and naloxone, so long as the medication meets either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A prescription on file for the individual student; or 2. A standing order of the school physician stocking the medication at the school in the event of an emergency. <p>Emergency medications shall be maintained in secure location at the school, in accordance with manufacturer storage recommendations. The school nurse in all such schools shall be primarily responsible for school-level stocking and administration of emergency medications authorized by this Policy.</p>

	<p>School nurses shall receive training through the Pennsylvania Department of Health prior to obtaining custody or administering emergency medications pursuant to this Policy provision.</p> <p>In the event of administration of an emergency medication of a student believed to be in anaphylactic shock or experiencing an opioid overdose, 911 shall be contacted as soon as possible.</p>
<p>29 U.S.C. Sec. 701 et seq.</p>	<p><u>Field Trips, Sports, and Other Activities Away from the School Building</u></p> <p>Administration of medication on field trips, sports activities or competitions, or other school-related activities away from the school building shall be in accordance with this Policy. If the school nurse is absent or unavailable, a substitute nurse or other licensed healthcare professional shall be assigned when administration of medications is required to comply with state or federal law or regulations.</p>
<p>42 Pa.C.S.A. Sec. 8331</p>	<p><u>Limitations on Liability</u></p> <p>Health care practitioners rendering emergency care shall not be liable for any civil damages as a result of any acts or omissions in rendering the emergency care, except any acts or omissions intentionally designed to harm or any grossly negligent acts or omissions which result in harm to the person receiving emergency care.</p>
<p>42 Pa.C.S.A. Sec. 8332</p>	<p>Any person who renders emergency care, first aid or rescue at the scene of an emergency, or moves the person receiving such care, first aid or rescue shall not be liable to such person for any civil damages as a result of any acts or omissions except any acts or omissions intentionally designed to harm or any grossly negligent acts or omissions which result in harm. This immunity is only applicable if the lay rescuer holds a current certificate evidencing the successful completion of a course in first aid, advance lifesaving or basic life support.</p>
<p>42 Pa.C.S.A. Sec. 8337.1</p>	<p>Additionally, an officer or employee of a school who in good faith believes that a student needs emergency care, first aid or rescue and who provides such emergency care, first aid or rescue or who removes the student shall be immune from civil liability as a result of any acts or omissions by the officer or employee, except any acts or omissions intentionally designed to seriously harm or any grossly negligent acts or omissions which result in serious bodily harm.</p>
	<p><u>Policy Construction</u></p> <p>Nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit the rights of parents/guardians to administer their child’s medication during school time.</p>
<p>29 U.S.C. Sec. 701 et seq.</p>	<p>Further, nothing in this policy shall prevent students from receiving services to which they are entitled under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or the</p>

<p>20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq.</p> <p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p>Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for developing and implementing the procedures for use and administration of medications. The Superintendent or designee shall inform all parents/guardians, students and staff about the policy and procedures governing the administration of medication.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 1414.1, 1414.2, 1414.5</p> <p>Civil Immunities, Generally – 42 Pa.C.S.A. Sec. 8331, 8332, 8337.1</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.41</p> <p>Individuals with Disabilities Education Act - 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq.</p> <p>Rehabilitation Act of 1973 - 29 U.S.C. Sec. 701 et seq.</p>
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