

**Williamsburg Community
School District**

SECTION: PUPILS

**TITLE: POSSESSION/USE OF ASTHMA
INHALERS**

POLICY GUIDE

ADOPTED: 5/17/04

REVISED: 10/17/06

	210.1. POSSESSION/USE OF ASTHMA INHALERS
<p>1. Authority</p> <p>SC 1414.1</p>	<p>The Board shall permit students to possess asthma inhalers and/or emergency medication and to self-administer the prescribed medication used to treat asthma and/or life threatening emergencies when such is parent-authorized.</p> <p>Possession and use of asthma inhalers and/or emergency medications by students shall be in accordance with state law and Board policy.</p>
<p>2. Definitions</p> <p>SC 1401</p>	<p>Asthma inhaler or emergency medication shall mean a prescribed device used for self-administration of short-acting, metered doses of prescribed medication to treat an acute asthma attack or life threatening emergency.</p> <p>Self-administration shall mean a student's use of medication in accordance with a prescription or written instructions from a physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant.</p>
<p>3. Guidelines</p> <p>SC 1414.1</p> <p>Title 22</p> <p>Sec. 7.13</p>	<p>Before a student may possess or use an asthma inhaler and/or emergency medication during school hours, the Board shall require the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A written request from the parent/guardian that the school complies with the order of the physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant. 2. A statement from the parent/guardian acknowledging that the school is not responsible for ensuring the medication is taken and relieving the district and its employees of responsibility for the benefits or consequences of the prescribed medication. 3. A written statement from the physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant that states: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Name of the drug. b. Prescribed dosage.

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<p>SC 1401</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">c. Times medication is to be taken.d. Length of time medication is prescribed.e. Diagnosis or reason medication is needed, unless confidential.f. Potential serious reaction or side effects of medication.g. Emergency response.h. If child is qualified and able to self-administer the medication. <p>The student shall be made aware that the asthma inhaler and/or emergency medication is intended for his/her use only and may not be shared with other students.</p> <p>The student shall notify the school nurse immediately following each use of an asthma inhaler and/or emergency medication.</p> <p>Violations of this policy by a student shall result in immediate confiscation of the asthma inhaler and medication and loss of privileges.</p>
<p>SC 1414.1</p>	<p>The district reserves the right to require a statement from the physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant for the continued use of a medication beyond the specified time period. Permission for possession and use of an asthma inhaler and/or emergency medication by a student shall be effective for the school year for which it is granted and shall be renewed each subsequent school year.</p> <p>A student whose parent/guardian completes the written requirements for the student to possess an asthma inhaler and/or emergency medication and self-administer the prescribed medication in the school setting shall demonstrate to the school nurse the capability for self-administration and responsible behavior in use of the medication.</p> <p>To self-administer medication, the student must be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Respond to and visually recognize his/her name.2. Identify his/her medication.3. Demonstrate the proper technique for self-administering medication.4. Sign his/her medication sheet to acknowledge having taken the medication.

4. Delegation of Responsibility	<p>5. Demonstrate a cooperative attitude in all aspects of self-administration.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee, in conjunction with the school nurse(s), shall develop procedures for student possession of asthma inhalers and/or emergency medication and self-administration of prescribed medication.</p> <p>The district shall annually inform staff, students and parents/guardians about the policy and procedures governing student possession and use of asthma inhalers and/or emergency medication.</p> <p>When an asthma inhaler and/or emergency medication is initially brought to school by a student, the school nurse shall be responsible to complete the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Obtain the required written request and statements from the parent/ guardian and physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant, which shall be kept on file in the office of the school nurse.-Review pertinent information with the student and/or parent/guardian, specifically the information contained on the statement submitted by the physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant.- Determine the student's ability to self-administer medication and the need for care and supervision.- Maintain an individual medication log for all students possessing asthma inhalers and/or emergency medication. <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1401, 1414.1</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 7. 3</p>
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