

Medication Guidelines and Authorization

MEDICATION GIVEN TO STUDENTS AT SCHOOL

Giving medication to children at school is an important and serious situation. State law establishes precautions needed to make sure medicine given at school is done safely. Please review the procedure below and take all necessary steps should your child require medication during school hours. Working together to follow the law and provide safe distribution of medication is the goal of the St. Joseph School District Health Services.

Medications will be given during school hours when absolutely necessary. We encourage dosage schedules which allow medicine to be taken before and after school. When this is not possible, your school nurse will follow the guidelines stated below when administering medication to your child at school. On occasion, someone other than the school nurse may dispense medication to your child (i.e., during field trips lunch periods, etc.). These personnel will be trained and guided by a nurse.

MEDICATION GUIDELINES

1. The Over-The-Counter Medication form must be completed and signed by the parent/guardian for all short-term medications given at school. **No expired medications will be dispensed.**
2. All non-prescription "over the counter" medication should be sent in the original container.
 - a. The child's name should be on the medication container.
 - b. **Only the instructions listed on the medication container will be followed unless a physician requests (in writing) different instructions for administering the medication.**
 - c. Any over the counter medication requiring doses more than 10 days in a row will require a physician order.
3. All prescribed medication must have an Authorization for Prescription Medication Form signed by the physician, parent and witness.
4. All Prescription medication must have a label attached by the pharmacist/physician. This includes inhalers. The label must include:
 - a. The child's name
 - b. Name of medication
 - c. Dosage of medication
 - d. Name of physician
5. Any change in the time and/or dosage of prescription medications must be accompanied by a new signed form from the physician.
6. It is recommended that only a 30-day supply or less be brought to the school for daily medication administration. Staff will be responsible for tracking the count of controlled substances.
7. **Medications should NOT be sent with children on the bus unless there has been a physician's note that it is necessary turned into the nurse's office.** Parents/guardians or a responsible adult on the child's contact list should bring medications to the health office at school, and then pick up unused medication at the end of the school year, or if medication is no longer required.
8. The Saint Joseph School District does not provide any medications for students. This includes medications such as, Tylenol, ibuprofen, decongestants, sunscreen, and antacids.

Notification

Schools in this district are equipped with pre-filled epinephrine auto syringes, asthma related rescue medications, and Narcan that can be administered by the school nurse or other trained personnel in the event of life-threatening emergencies involving anaphylaxis or asthma.