

Board Policy JGCD: Medication

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 08/08/2011 | **Last Revised Date:** 07/13/2020 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 02/10/2025

The Henry County Board of Education (Board) recognizes that the health of a child is an important factor in the learning process as is cooperation among the health department, the private medical sector, the home and the school. Although medication should be administered at home whenever possible, the need for medications during the school day or school-sponsored activities should not limit a students' access to educational opportunities to the extent possible. A parent or guardian may request that medication be administered to a student during school hours in accordance with rules and procedures established by the Henry County School District (District). The District shall establish rules and procedures for the possession, storage, use, dispensation and administration of medications in accordance with applicable state law and State Board of Education rules.

All medications other than the exceptions listed in this policy, whether prescription or over-the-counter, may be administered only in accordance with the guidelines set forth by this policy and associated regulation. All medications must be delivered by the student, parent or guardian to the school office immediately upon arrival at school and must be in original pharmaceutical containers, clearly labeled as the name of the student, the name of the medication, the appropriate dosage, and the times for dosage. Any student possessing prescription or over-the-counter medication not in accordance with these guidelines will be considered in violation of the School District's drug policy and shall be subject to the discipline set forth in the Student Code of Conduct and/or the Student/Parent Handbook.

A student for whom the school has on file supporting medical documentation may carry at all times with parental/guardian permission inhaler /nebulizer medication for asthma, injectable or nasal epinephrine for allergic reactions, medical needs for diabetes, and emergency medications for seizures. Students authorized to self-administer such medication shall be instructed not to permit any other student to handle, possess, or otherwise attempt to use his/her medication and shall be informed that violations of such instructions will be dealt with in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

In order for the student to carry and/or self-administer such medications, or in order for the school to store and administer the medication for students who are unable to self-administer because of age or any other reason, parents must provide a written statement from a licensed physician confirming that the student is able to carry and/or self-administer the medication, if applicable, and written permission from the parent for the nurse or designated employee to consult with the doctor regarding any questions that may arise concerning the medication. Such permission shall release the school district and its employees and agents from civil liability for administering such medication to students, or if the self-administering student suffers an adverse reaction as a result of self-administration of such medication. Parents are encouraged to provide to the school duplicate medication and supplies in the event a student is unable to self-administer or fails to bring the medication or equipment to school.

Henry County Schools do not maintain a supply of epi-pens or emergency allergy medication. However, certain school employees or agents are authorized to administer an emergency allergy medication, if available, to a student who is having an actual or perceived anaphylactic adverse (allergic) reaction, regardless of whether the student has a prescription for epinephrine. Any school employee who in good faith administers or chooses not to administer an epi-pen or comparable medication to a student in such circumstances shall be immune from civil liability.

Henry County Schools do not maintain a supply of albuterol sulfate or levalbuterol sulfate. However, certain school employees or agents are authorized to administer albuterol sulfate or levalbuterol sulfate, if available, to a student upon the occurrence of perceived respiratory distress. Any school employee or agent who has completed training or received information provided by the Board on how to recognize the symptoms of respiratory distress and the correct method of administering albuterol sulfate or levalbuterol sulfate, may:

1. Provide albuterol sulfate or levalbuterol sulfate to any student such employee or agent believes in good faith is experiencing perceived respiratory distress for immediate self-administration; or
 2. Administer albuterol sulfate or levalbuterol sulfate to any student such employee or agent believes in good faith is experiencing a perceived respiratory distress, regardless of whether the student has a prescription for albuterol sulfate or levalbuterol sulfate.
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