



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Pinellas County Schools is committed to safe medication practices whenever a student needs medication during the school day. Please see the important information below.

- Give all medications at home whenever possible. If it is not possible, a parent or guardian must bring the medication to school. **STUDENTS MAY NOT TRANSPORT MEDICATIONS TO OR FROM SCHOOL.**
- Complete a medication form and/or obtain a healthcare provider order every year for prescription and allowable over the counter (OTC) medication.
- Narcotics, barbiturates, non-FDA regulated products and essential oil/aromatherapy products will not be given at school.
- You will be asked to count the medication with school staff at drop-off.
- Cut any medication prior to bringing it to school (if needed) and provide any special equipment needed for giving the medication (i.e., pill crusher, calibrated spoon, special food, or drink). The healthcare provider order must specify these directions.
- Provide an updated healthcare provider order for any changes to medications, dosages, or administration times.
- Pick up and sign out any unused or unnecessary medication at the end of the school year by the time communicated in writing. All medications remaining after that time will be destroyed.
- Ensure the original pharmacy label is attached to all prescription medications. Do not alter or write on the prescription label. The label must include specific dosage instructions and time.
- Provide OTC medications in their original unopened manufactures container.

The following medications/supplies may be self-carried and/or self-administered with a completed authorization form. The school nurse reserves the right to revoke a student's ability to self-carry if the student is assessed to be unsafe.

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| ✓ Insulin and diabetes care supplies | ✓ Vagal Nerve Stimulator (VNS) |
| ✓ Albuterol inhaler | ✓ Over the counter medication to treat headaches (must be FDA regulated) |
| ✓ Epinephrine delivery device | |
| ✓ Prescribed pancreatic enzymes | |

Students may carry the following products in school without additional forms required:

- ✓ Sunscreen (must be FDA regulated)
- ✓ Non-medicated lip balm
- ✓ Throat lozenges
- ✓ Vagal Nerve Stimulator (VNS)

If you have any questions, please contact your child's school, and ask to speak with the school nurse. Thank you for your cooperation and adherence to Pinellas County School's medication policies and procedures.