

Procedures to Policy 516 - STUDENT MEDICATION

- A. The administration of prescription medication or drugs at school requires a completed signed request from the student's licensed prescriber and the parent/guardian. An oral request must be reduced to writing within two school days for non-regulated and /or Over the Counter (OTC) medications, provided that the district relies on written or oral permission from parent/guardian to dispense medication until a written request is received from the provider. Regulated medications will be given only with a completed signed request.
- B. A "School Medication Physician Order and Parent Authorization" form must be completed annually (once per school year) and/or when a change in the prescription or requirements for administration occurs. Prescription medication as used in this policy does not include any form of medical cannabis as defined in Minnesota Statute section 152.22, Subd. 6.
- C. Prescription medication must come to school in the original container labeled for the student by a pharmacist in accordance with law and must be administered in a manner consistent with the instructions on the label.
- D. In the elementary schools, parents/guardians are to bring prescription and non-prescription medication to the health office and not send it with their child. In the middle school, high school and Area Learning Center, students or their parents/guardians shall bring the medication to the nurse's office. Non-prescription medication should be in a container with the name of the student on it. The school nurse may request to receive further information about the prescription, if needed, prior to administration of the substance.
- E. Prescription medications are not to be carried by the student, but will be left in the health office. Controlled substances cannot be carried by a student and must be brought in by an adult. Exceptions to this requirement are: prescription asthma medications self-administered with an inhaler, OTC medication at the secondary level according to Minnesota Statute 121A.222, and medications administered as noted in a written agreement between the district and the parent/guardian or as specified in an IEP (individualized education program), Section 504 plan, or IHP (individual health plan).
- F. The school must be notified immediately by the parent/guardian or student 18 years old or older in writing of any change in the student's prescription medication administration. A new medical authorization and container label with new pharmacy instructions shall be required immediately as well.
- G. For drugs or medicine used by children with a disability, administration may be as provided in the IEP, Section 504 plan or IHP.
 - H. The school nurse, or other designated person, shall be responsible

for the filing of the Administering Prescription Medications form in the health records section of the student file. The school nurse, or other designated person shall be responsible for providing a copy of such form to the principal and to other personnel designated to administer the medication. If needed, training will be provided to staff in safe administration of medication, conditions under which medication should be administered and appropriate response to medication reactions.

I. Medications will be stored in a locked secure facility. Health records will be stored and maintained in compliance with data privacy laws.

J. Field trips: Teacher or Educational Assistant assigned to student may dispense medication as instructed by school nurse.

K. Parents/guardians will pick up their student's unused medication. Disposal of discontinued/unused/expired medications will be witnessed and documented and the school police liaison officer will dispose of these medications.

L. Complementary and alternative medications require the same authorization as other prescription medications, i.e. completed signed request from the student's licensed prescriber and the parent/guardian.

M. Procedures for administration of drugs and medicine at school and school activities shall be developed in consultation with a school nurse, a licensed school nurse, or a public or private health organization or other appropriate party if appropriately contracted by the school district under Minnesota Statute 121A.21. District administration shall submit these procedures and any additional guidelines and procedures necessary to implement this policy to the school board for approval. Upon approval by the board, such guidelines and procedures shall be an addendum to this policy.

N. If the administration of a drug or medication described in this section requires the district to store the drug or medication, the parent/guardian must inform the school if the drug or medication is a controlled substance. For a drug or medication that is not a controlled substance, the request must include a provision designating the district as an authorized entity to transport the drug or medication for the purpose of destruction if any unused drug or medication remains in the possession of school personnel. For a drug or medication that is a controlled substance, the request must specify that the parent/guardian is required to retrieve the drug or controlled substance when requested by the school.

O. Specific Exceptions:

1. Special health treatments and health functions such as catheterization, tracheostomy suctioning, and gastrostomy feedings do not constitute

- administration of drugs and medicine.
2. Emergency health procedures, including emergency administration of drugs and medicine are not subject to this policy.
 3. Drugs or medicine provided or administered by a public health agency to prevent or control an illness or a disease outbreak are not governed by this policy.
 4. Drugs or medicines used at school in connection with services for which a minor may give effective consent are not governed by this policy.
 5. OTC medications or medicines that are prescription asthma or reactive airway disease medications can be self-administered by a student with an asthma inhaler if:
 - a. The district has received a written authorization from the pupil's parent/guardian permitting the student to self-administer the medication.
 - b. The medication is properly labeled for that student.
 - c. The parent/guardian has not requested school personnel to administer the medication to the student.

The parent/guardian must submit written authorization for the student to self-administer the medication each school year. The school nurse must assess the student's knowledge and skills to safely possess and use the medication in a school setting and enter into the student's school health record a "contract" for the safe possession and use of medication.

6. Medications that are not governed by this policy include medications that are used:
 - a. Off school grounds.
 - b. In connection with athletics or extracurricular activities.
 - c. In connection with activities that occur before or after the regular school day.
7. At the start of each school year or at the time a student enrolls in school, whichever is first, a student's parent/guardian, school staff, including those responsible for student health care, and the prescribing medical professional must develop and implement an individualized written health plan (IHP) for a student who is prescribed epinephrine auto-injectors that enables the student to:
 - a. Possess epinephrine auto-injectors.
 - b. If the parent/guardian and prescribing medical professional determine the student is unable to possess the epinephrine and requires immediate access to epinephrine auto-injectors that the parent/guardian provides, properly labeled, to the school for the pupil as needed.

The plan must designate the school staff responsible for implementing the student's health plan, including recognizing anaphylaxis and administering epinephrine auto-injectors when required, consistent with state law. This health plan may be included in a student's 504 plan.

8. Nonprescription Medication. A secondary student may possess and use nonprescription pain relief in a manner consistent with the labeling, if the district has received written authorization from the student's parent/guardian permitting the student to self-administer the medication. The parent/guardian must submit written authorization for the student to self-administer the medication each school year. The district may revoke a student's privilege to possess and use nonprescription pain relievers if the district determines that the student is abusing the privilege. This provision does not apply to the possession or use of any drug or product containing ephedrine or pseudoephedrine as its sole active ingredient or as one of its active ingredients. Nonprescription OTC ibuprofen and acetaminophen pain relievers may be dispensed to a secondary student in a manner consistent with the labeling if the school nurse deems it necessary and the district has written authorization from the student's parent/guardian permitting the student to self-administer the medication. Except as stated in this paragraph, only prescription medications are governed by this policy.
9. A student may possess and apply a topical sunscreen product during the school day while on school property or at a school-sponsored event without a prescription, physician's note, or other documentation from a licensed health care professional. School personnel are not required to provide sunscreen or assist students in applying sunscreen.
- P. Schools may obtain and possess epinephrine auto-injectors to be maintained and administered by school personnel to a student or other individual if, in good faith, it is determined that person is experiencing anaphylaxis regardless of whether the student or other individual has a prescription for an epinephrine auto-injector. The administration of an epinephrine auto-injector in accordance with this section is not the practice of medicine.

A district may enter into arrangements with manufacturers of epinephrine auto-injectors to obtain epinephrine auto-injectors at fair-market, free, or reduced prices. A third party, other than a manufacturer or supplier, may pay for a school's supply of epinephrine auto-injectors.
- Q. "Parent/Guardian" for student 18 years old or older is the student.
- R. Procedure regarding unclaimed drugs or medications.

1. The district has adopted the following procedure for the collection and transport of any unclaimed or abandoned prescription drugs or medications remaining in the possession of school personnel in accordance with this policy. Before the transportation of any prescription drug or medication under this policy, the district shall make a reasonable attempt to return the unused prescription drug or medication to the student's parent/guardian. Transportation of unclaimed or unused prescription drugs or medications will occur at least annually, but may occur more frequently at the discretion of the district.
2. If the unclaimed or abandoned prescription drug is not a controlled substance as defined under Minnesota Statute section 152.01, subdivision 4, or is an OTC medication, the district will either designate an individual who shall be responsible for transporting the drug or medication to a designated drop-off box or collection site or request that a law enforcement agency transport the drug or medication to a drop-off box or collection site on behalf of the district.
3. If the unclaimed or abandoned prescription drug is a controlled substance as defined in Minnesota Statute section 152.01, subdivision 4, the district or school personnel is prohibited from transporting the prescription drug to a drop-off box or collection site for prescription drugs identified under this paragraph. The district must request that a law enforcement agency transport the prescription drug or medication to a collection bin that complies with Drug Enforcement Agency regulations, or if a site is not available, under the agency's procedure for transporting drugs.

Updated 06.2023