

Cliffside Park Board of Education

Pupils

5330. ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION (M)

[See **POLICY MEMO Nos. 38 and 114**]

[See **POLICY ALERT Nos. 125, 126, 133, 144, 145, 157, 173 and 179**]

The Board of Education disclaims any and all responsibility for the diagnosis and treatment of the illness of a pupil. However, in order for many pupils with chronic health conditions and disabilities to remain in school, medications have to be administered during school hours. Parents and legal guardians are encouraged to administer medications to their children at home whenever possible as medication should be administered in school only when necessary for the health and safety of pupils. The Board will permit the administration of medication in school in accordance with applicable law.

Medication will only be administered to pupils in school by the school physician, a certified or noncertified school nurse, a substitute school nurse employed by the district, the pupil's parent(s) or legal guardian(s), a pupil who is approved to self-administer in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.3 and 12.4, and school employees who have been trained and designated by the certified school nurse to administer epinephrine in an emergency pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.6.

Self-administration of medication by a pupil for asthma or other potentially life-threatening illness or a life-threatening allergic reaction is permitted in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.3.

Medication no longer required must be promptly removed by the parent(s) or legal guardian(s).

The school nurse shall have the primary responsibility for the administration of epinephrine. However, the school nurse may designate, in consultation with the Board or the Superintendent, additional employees of the district who volunteer to be trained in the administration of epinephrine via a pre-filled auto-injector mechanism using standardized training protocols established by the Department of Education in consultation with the Department of Health and Senior Services when the school nurse is not physically present at the scene.

The school nurse or designee shall be promptly available on site at the school and at school-sponsored functions in the event of an allergic reaction. In addition, the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) must be informed that the school district employees and agents shall have no liability as a result of any injury arising from the administration of epinephrine to a pupil.

The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the pupil must sign a statement acknowledging their understanding that the district has no liability as a result of any injury arising from the administration of the epinephrine via a pre-filled auto-injector mechanism to the pupil and the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) shall indemnify and hold harmless the district employees or agents against any claims arising out of the administration of the epinephrine via a pre-filled auto-injector mechanism to the pupil.

The permission for the emergency administration of epinephrine via a pre-filled auto-injector mechanism to pupils for anaphylaxis is effective for the school year it is granted and must be renewed at the beginning of each subsequent school year.

Each school in the district shall have and maintain for the use of pupils at least one nebulizer in the office of the nurse or a similar accessible location. Each certified school nurse or other persons authorized to administer medication will receive training in airway management and in the use of nebulizers and inhalers consistent with Department of Education regulations. Every pupil that is authorized to use self-administered asthma medication to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.3 or a nebulizer must have an asthma treatment plan prepared by the pupil's physician who identifies, at a minimum, asthma triggers, the treatment plan and other such elements as required by the State Education.

All pupil medications shall be appropriately maintained and secured by the school nurse, except those medications self-administered by pupils. In those instances the medication may be retained by the pupil with the prior knowledge of the school nurse. The school nurse may provide the Principal and other teaching staff members concerned with the pupil's educational progress with such information about the medication and its administration as may be in the pupil's best educational interests. The school nurse may report to the school physician any pupil who appears to be adversely affected by the administration of medication and may recommend to the Principal the pupil's exclusion pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-12.3.

The school nurse shall document each instance of the administration of medication to a pupil. Pupils self-administering medication shall report each incident to a teacher, coach or other individual designated by the school nurse who is supervising the pupil during the school activity when the pupil self-administers. These designated individuals shall report such incidents to the school nurse within twenty-four hours of the self-administration of medication. The school nurse shall preserve records and documentation regarding the self-administration of medication in the pupil's health record. N.J.S.A. 18A:6-1.1; 18A:40-3.1; 18A:40-6; 18A:40-7; 18A:40-12.3;

18A:40-12.4; 18A:40-12.5; 18A:40-12.6; 18A:40-12.7;

18A:40-12.8

N.J.S.A. 45:11-23

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.3(b)

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