

## STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

The Board of Education recognizes that good student health is vital to successful learning and realizes its responsibility, along with that of parent(s) or guardian(s), to protect and foster a safe and healthful environment for the students.

The school shall work closely with students' families to provide detection and preventive health services. In accordance with law, the school will provide vision, hearing, and scoliosis screening. Problems shall be referred to the parent(s) or guardian(s) who shall be encouraged to have their family physician provide appropriate care.

Schools shall also provide emergency care for students in accidental or unexpected medical situations.

A permanent student health record shall be part of a student's cumulative school record and should follow the student from grade to grade and school to school along with their academic record. This record folder shall be maintained by the school nurse.

### **Communicable Diseases**

It is the responsibility of the Board to provide all students with a safe and healthy school environment. To meet this responsibility, it is sometimes necessary to exclude students with contagious and infectious diseases, as defined in the Public Health Law, from attendance in school. Students will be excluded during periods of contagion for time periods indicated in the contagious diseases manual.

It is the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools, working through District health personnel, to enforce this policy and to contact the county or local Health Department when a reportable case of a communicable disease is identified in the student or staff population.

### **Administering Medication to Students**

Neither the Board nor District staff members shall be responsible for the diagnosis or treatment of student illness. The administration of prescribed medication to a student during school hours shall be permitted only when failure to take such medicine would jeopardize the health of the student, or the student would not be able to attend school if the medicine were not made available to him during school hours, or where it is done pursuant to law requiring accommodation to a student's special medical needs (e.g., Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973). "Medication" will include all prescription and non-prescription medications, but does not include non-FDA sanctioned medicines including but not limited to, herbal remedies, dietary supplements, naturopathic or holistic medicines, and natural products.

Before any medication may be administered to any student during school hours, the Board requires:

1. the written request of the parent(s) or legal guardian(s), which shall give permission for such administration and relieve the Board and its employees of liability for administration of medication; and

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2. the written order of the prescribing physician, which will include the purpose of the medication, the dosage, the time at which or the special circumstances under which medication shall be administered, the period for which medication is prescribed, and the possible side effects of the medication.

Both documents shall be kept on file in the office of the school nurse.

**Life-Threatening Allergies and Anaphylaxis Management**

The Board recognizes its role and responsibility in supporting a healthy learning environment for all students, including those who have, or develop, life-threatening allergies. The district will work cooperatively with the student, their parent/guardian and healthcare provider to allow the child to participate as fully and as safely as possible in school activities. When a student has a known life-threatening allergy reported on their health form or if the district has been informed by the parent of the presence of a life-threatening allergy, the district will assemble a team, which may include the parent, the school nurse, the child's teacher, the building principal and other appropriate personnel, which will be charged with developing an individual health care plan. The plan will be maintained by the school nurse. The plan will guide prevention and response. If the student is eligible for accommodations based upon the IDEA, Section 504 or the Americans with Disabilities Act, the appropriate procedures will be followed regarding identification, evaluation and implementation of accommodations.

**Regulations**

The Superintendent shall develop comprehensive regulations governing student health services. Those regulations shall include the provision of all health services required by law, procedures for the maintenance of health records, and procedures for the administering of medication to students.

**Ref:**           **Education Law** §901 et seq. (medical and health services); 6909 (emergency treatment of anaphylaxis)  
**Public Health Law** §613 (annual survey); §2164(immunization requirements), Chapter 401 (meningococcal vaccine); 8 NYCRR § 64.7 (administration of agents to treat anaphylaxis); Part 136 (school health services program)  
**Administration of Medication in the School Setting Guidelines**, State Education Department, revised April 2002  
**Immunization Guidelines: Vaccine Preventable Communicable Disease Control**, State Education Department, revised August 2000

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