

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 (annually), hearing (grades K-7, 10, and as needed), and scoliosis screening (at least once each year for students age 8 through 16). All students in grades 1, 3, 7, and 10 shall have a medical examination at the beginning of the school year. 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.

The Building Principal will ensure that the school nurse maintains accurate medical records for each student. Such 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 his/her academic record. This record shall contain information pertaining to school-related matters or a medical condition of which the district should have notice in the best interests of the child. The school nurse shall review all student medical records annually.

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 on a chart developed by the school nurse.

It is the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools, working through district health personnel, to enforce this policy and to contact the New York State Department of Health and the County Board of Health immediately upon notification of an outbreak, even if one student, of a communicable disease.

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/her 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 medicines prescribed by a physician.

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

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

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.

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.

Cross-ref: 0150, HIV/AIDS Policy
4321, Programs for Students with Disabilities Under IDEA and Article 89

Ref: Education Law §§310 (provisions for appeal of child denied school entrance for failure to comply with immunization requirements); 901 et seq. (medical and health services); 6909 (emergency treatment of anaphylaxis)
Public Health Law §§613 (annual survey); 2164 (immunization requirements)
8 NYCRR §64.7 (administration of agents to treat anaphylaxis); Part 136 (school health services program)
10 NYCRR §§66-1.1 et seq.
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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