

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

The Board of Education recognizes that good student health is vital to successful learning and acknowledges 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.

In order to enroll in school, a student's parent(s) or guardian(s) must submit a health certificate within thirty calendar days after entering school, and upon entering second, fourth, seventh, and tenth grades. The examination, which has to conform to state requirements, must have been conducted no more than twelve months before the first day of the school year in question. If a student is unable to furnish the health certificate, the school will provide a physical examination by a licensed provider. A request for exemption from the physical examination, or the requirement to provide a health certificate, must be made in writing to the school principal or designee, who may require documents supporting the request. The only basis for exemption is a claim that the physical examination is in conflict with the genuine and sincere religious belief of the parent(s) or guardian(s).

The Board of Education recognizes that the State of New York may authorize and require the collection of data from health certificates in furtherance of tracking and understanding health care issues that affect children. The Board of Education supports these efforts and expects administrators to cooperate and to observe the appropriate laws and regulations in carrying out those responsibilities, including those that relate to student privacy.

In addition, students will be asked to provide a dental health certificate when they enroll in school and in accordance with the same schedule as the health certificate.

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 his/her academic record. This record folder shall be maintained by the school nurse.

Schools shall also provide emergency care for students in accidental or unexpected medical situations. Each school in the District will include in its emergency plan a protocol for responding to health care emergencies, including anaphylaxis and head injury. Parents/guardians will be notified of any emergency medical situation as soon as is practicable.

A. 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 period as recommended by the school physician, county Health Department, and/or other medical provider.

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.

B. Administering Medication to Students

Neither the Board of Education 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, including over-the-counter medications.

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

1. The written request of the parent(s) or guardian(s), which shall give permission for administering the medication and relieve the Board of Education and its employees of liability for such administration.
2. The written order from the prescribing medical provider, including physician, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, or dentist, 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.
3. Both documents shall be kept on file in the office of the school nurse. In addition, in accordance with Education Law 919, the District shall make a nebulizer available on-site in school buildings where nursing services are provided. Students with a patient-specific order, who require inhaled medications, shall have access to the nebulizer. The District will ensure that it is maintained in working order.

C. Life-Threatening Allergies and Anaphylaxis Management

The Board of Education 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, his/her parent(s) or guardian(s), 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 his/her health form or if the District has been informed by the parent of the presence of a life-threatening allergy, the school nurse will develop an emergency healthcare plan with information received from the parent(s) or guardian(s) and the student's medical provider, as appropriate. 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.

D. Training

The District will provide training, as necessary, to support the implementation of student health services according to commissioner's regulations.

E. Regulations

The superintendent or his/her designee 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. The superintendent or his/her designee shall also develop protocols, in consultation with the school physician and other appropriate district staff, for the management of injury, with particular attention to concussion.

Cross-ref: 4321, Programs for Students with Disabilities
5020.3, Students with Disabilities and Section 504
5280, Interscholastic Athletics
5280.1, Concussion Management
5550, Student Privacy

8130, School Safety Plans and Teams
9700, Staff Professional Development

Ref: Education Law §§310 (provisions for appeal of child denied school entrance for failure to comply with immunization requirements); 901 et seq. (medical, dental, and health services, BMI reporting); 919 (provide and maintain nebulizers); 6909 (emergency treatment of anaphylaxis)
Public Health Law §§613 (annual survey); 2164 (immunization requirements)
8 NYCRR § 64.7 (administration of agents to treat anaphylaxis); § 135.4 (Physical Education); 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
Making the Difference: Caring for Students with Life-Threatening Allergies, New York State Department of Health, New York State Education Department, New York Statewide School Health Service Center, June 2008
Concussion Management Guidelines and Procedures, www.nysphsaa.org
Guidelines for Concussion Management in the School Setting, State Education Department, June 2012.
Concussion Management and Awareness Act, July 1, 2012

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