

ACTION ITEM

Date: August 23, 2021

To: Kari Cremascoli, PhD

From: Heather Glowacki, EdD, Assistant Superintendent

Subject: Second and Final Reading of Board of Education Policy 7:270 *Administering Medicines to Students*

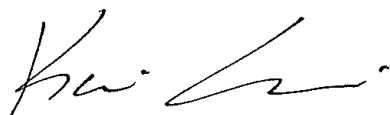
PROPOSED ACTION BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Motion to approve as second and final reading of Board of Education Policy 7:270 *Administering Medicines to Students*

BACKGROUND

This policy review provides updated guidance for administering medication to students. The proposed revisions reflect current legal requirements as well as best practices as well as suggestions from the Board during the June 14 Board of Education Meeting.

HG/hg
Recommended for approval by the Board of Education



Dr. Kari Cremascoli, Superintendent

Students

Administering Medicines to Students

Students should not take medication during school hours or during school-related activities unless it is necessary for a student's health and well-being. When a student's licensed health care provider and parent/guardian believe that it is necessary for the student to take a medication during school hours or school-related activities, the parent/guardian must request that the school dispense the medication to the child and otherwise follow the District's procedures on dispensing medication.

No School District employee shall administer to any student, or supervise a student's self-administration of, any prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed "School Medication Authorization Form" is submitted by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). No student shall possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in this policy and its implementing procedures.

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit any school employee from providing emergency assistance to students, including administering medication.

The Building Principal shall include this policy in the Student Handbook and shall provide a copy to the parents/guardians of students.

Self-Administration of Medication

A student may possess an epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen®) and/or medication prescribed for asthma for immediate use at the student's discretion, provided the student's parent/guardian has submitted to the school (1) a completed and signed a "School Medication Authorization Form" (2) ~~the prescription label for asthma medication or the health care professional's authorization for an epinephrine auto-injector, and (3) any other information required by the "School Medication Authorization Form.~~ The District shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student's self-administration of asthma medication or epinephrine auto-injector or medication required under a qualifying plan, or from storage of any medication by school personnel. ~~the storage of any medication by school personnel.~~ A student's parent/guardian must indemnify and hold harmless the School District and its employees and agents, against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of a student's self-administration of an epinephrine ~~auto-injector~~ and/or a medication required under a qualifying plan, or from the storage of any medication by school personnel.

School District Supply of Undesignated Epinephrine Auto-Injectors

The Superintendent or designee shall implement Section 22-30(f) of the School Code and maintain a supply of undesignated epinephrine ~~auto-injectors~~ in the name of the District and provide or administer them as necessary according to State law. *Undesignated epinephrine ~~auto-injector~~* means an epinephrine ~~auto-injector~~ prescribed in the name of the District or one of its schools. A school nurse or trained personnel, as defined in State law, may administer an undesignated epinephrine ~~auto-injector~~ to a person when they, in good faith, believe a person is having an anaphylactic reaction, ~~unless the student's parent has submitted a written~~

request to the building principal that his/her child *not* be administered epinephrine under any circumstance. See Board Policy 7:285, *Food Allergy Management Program*.

Each building administrator ~~and/or his or her~~ or corresponding school nurse shall maintain the names of trained personnel who have received a statement of certification pursuant to State law.

Administration of Medical Cannabis

The Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program Act allows a *medical cannabis infused product* to be administered to a student by one or more of the following individuals:

1. A parent/guardian of a student who is a minor who registers with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) as a *designated caregiver* to administer medical cannabis to their child. A designated caregiver may also be another individual other than the student's parent/guardian. Any designated caregiver must be at least 21 years old and is allowed to administer a *medical cannabis infused product* to a child who is a student on the premises of ~~his or her~~ the student's school or on ~~his or her~~ the student's school bus if:
 - a. Both the student and the designated caregiver possess valid registry identification cards issued by IDPH;
 - b. Copies of the registry identification cards are provided to the District;
 - c. That student's parent/guardian completed, signed, and submitted a *School Medication Authorization Form - Medical Cannabis*; and
 - d. After administering the product to the student, the designated caregiver immediately removes it from school premises or the school bus.
2. A school nurse or administrator, who wishes to do and who has completed the necessary training, and such school nurse or administrator shall be allowed to administer the *medical cannabis infused product* to the student on the premises of the child's school, at a school-sponsored activity, or before/after normal school activities, including while the student is in before-school or after-school care on school-operated property or while being transported on a school bus. However, this policy does not require a school nurse or administrator to administer such product and is not a guarantee that a school nurse or administrator will be available to administer such a product.
3. The student ~~him or herself~~ when the self-administration takes place under the direct supervision of a school nurse or administrator. This option is available only where there is a school nurse or administrator in the building who has completed the necessary training, is available, and has agreed to directly supervise such a student. This policy is not a guarantee that a school nurse or administrator will be available to supervise a student's self-administration of such a product.

Medical cannabis infused product (product) includes oils, ointments, foods, and other products that contain usable cannabis but are not smoked or vaped. Smoking and/or vaping medical cannabis is prohibited.

The product may not be administered in a manner that, in the opinion of the District or school, would create a disruption to the educational environment or cause exposure of the product to other students. A school employee shall not be required to administer the product.

Discipline of a student for being administered a product by a designated caregiver, or by a school nurse or administrator, or who self-administers a product under the direct supervision of a school nurse or administrator pursuant to this policy is prohibited. The District may not deny a student attendance at a school solely because ~~he or she~~ the student requires administration of the product during school hours.

Void Policy

The School District Supply of ~~Undesignated Epinephrine Auto-Injectors~~ section of the policy is void whenever the Superintendent or designee is, for whatever reason, unable to: (1) obtain for the District a prescription for ~~school~~ undesignated epinephrine ~~auto~~-injectors from a physician or advanced practice nurse licensed to practice medicine in all its branches, or (2) fill the District's prescription for undesignated school epinephrine ~~auto~~-injectors.

The Administration of Medical Cannabis section of the policy is void and the District reserves the right not to implement it if the District or school is in danger of losing federal funding.

Administration of Undesignated Medication

Upon any administration of an ~~undesignated epinephrine auto-injector medication permitted by state law~~, the Superintendent or designee(s) must ensure all notifications required by ~~State~~ state law and administrative procedures occur.

Undesignated Medication Disclaimers

Upon implementation of this policy, the protections from liability and hold harmless provisions applicable under state law ~~as explained in Section 22-30(e) of the School Code~~ apply.

No one, including without limitation parents/guardians of students, should rely on the District for the availability of undesignated medications ~~an epinephrine auto-injector~~. This policy does not guarantee the availability of undesignated medications. ~~an epinephrine auto-injector~~; Students and their parents/guardians should consult their own physician regarding these ~~this~~ medication(s).

Adopted: April 6, 1998

Revised: January 16, 2007; March 19, 2012; March 20, 2017;