

## MEDICATIONS GIVEN AT SCHOOL (REGULATION)

Giving medications to students at school requires the utmost care and caution on the part of school staff. The danger of a student receiving an incorrect medication puts the student's health at risk and places the school and employees in legal jeopardy. The board of education has established policies and procedures for the safe administration of medications at school, including the following:

1. The principal designates in writing which school employees may administer medications to students.
2. The school nurse:
  - A. Is responsible for the design, implementation and monitoring of procedures for administering and storing of all medications;
  - B. Communicates between the physician, parent, student, and school personnel concerning medications;
  - C. Is responsible for acquainting school personnel with the purposes of medications, possible side effects, and observable reactions expected;
  - D. Provides an annual in-service for principals, teachers, and those designated to administer medications, describing proper techniques and discussing safety issues. The nurse then provides ongoing monitoring for safe practices during the school year.
3. Designated school employees:
  - A. Are responsible for knowing and following the policy and correct procedures outlined for administering medications at school;
  - B. Report to the principal and the school nurse any noted discrepancies in the medication orders for the student.

The director of health services will contact local physicians and pharmacists annually to remind them of the district's medication policy. Pharmacists will be asked to make a separate prescription container to be taken to school.

An appeal procedure review committee composed of two district administrators, a local physician, and a school nurse, will be established to address unusual circumstances which may arise but are not covered by the stated guidelines of the district's policy on administering medication at school. The committee will be chaired and convened by the director of health services as specific situations arise.

Information describing the rationale of the district's policy is available for parents to help them understand the need for the policy and these regulations.

## MEDICATION: ADMINISTERING TO STUDENTS

It is the policy of the Peavine Board of Education that if a student is required to take medication during school hours and the parent or guardian cannot be at school to administer the medication or if circumstances exist that indicate it is in the best interest of the student that a nonprescribed medication be dispensed to that student, the principal, or the principal's designee, may administer the medication only as follows:

1. Prescription medication must be in a container that indicates the following:
  - A. student's name,
  - B. name and strength of medication,
  - C. dosage and directions for administration,
  - D. name of physician or dentist,
  - E. date and name of pharmacy, and
  - F. whether the child has asthma or other disability which may require immediate dispensation of medication.

The medication must be delivered to the principal's office in person by the parent or guardian of the student unless the medication must be retained by the student for immediate self-administration. The medication will be accompanied by written authorization from the parent, guardian, or person having legal custody that indicates the following:

- A. purpose of the medication,
  - B. time to be administered,
  - C. whether the medication must be retained by student for self-administration,
  - D. termination date for administering the medication, and
  - E. other appropriate information requested by the principal or the principal's designee.
2. Self-administration of inhaled asthma medication by a student for treatment of asthma or an anaphylaxis medication used to treat anaphylaxis is permitted with written parental authorization. The parent or guardian of the student must also provide a written statement from the physician treating the student that the student has asthma or anaphylaxis and is capable of, and has been instructed in the proper method of, self-administration of medication. Additionally:
  - A. The parent or guardian must provide the school with an emergency supply of the student's medication to be administered as authorized by state law.
  - B. The school district will inform the parent or guardian of the student, in writing, and the parent or guardian shall sign a statement acknowledging, that the school district and its employees and agents shall incur no liability as a result of any injury arising from the self-administration of medication by the student.
  - C. Permission for the self-administration of asthma or anaphylaxis medication is effective for the school year for which it is granted and shall be renewed each subsequent school year upon fulfillment of the above requirements.
  - D. A student who is permitted to self-administer asthma medication or anaphylaxis medication shall be permitted to possess and use a prescribed inhaler or anaphylaxis medication at all times.

**MEDICATION: ADMINISTERING TO STUDENTS (Cont.)****E. Definitions:**

1. **Medication** means a metered dose inhaler or a dry powder inhaler to alleviate asthmatic symptoms, prescribed by a physician and having an individual label, or an anaphylaxis medication used to treat anaphylaxis, including but not limited to Epinephrine injectors, prescribed by a physician and having an individual label.
2. **Self-administration** means a student's use of medication pursuant to prescription or written direction from a physician.
3. **Nonprescription medication** may be administered only with the written request and permission of a parent, guardian, or person having legal custody when other alternatives, such as resting or changing activities, are inappropriate or ineffective. The medication will be administered in accordance with label directions or written instructions from the student's physician.

The administrator, or administrator's designee, will:

- A. Inform appropriate school personnel of the medication being administered
- B. Keep an accurate record of the administration of the medication
- C. Keep all medication in a locked cabinet except medication retained by a student per physician's order
- D. Return unused prescription to the parent or guardian only

The parent, guardian, or person having legal custody of the student is responsible for informing the designated official of any change in the student's health or change in medication.

This policy statement will be provided to a parent or guardian upon receipt of a request for long-term administration of medication.

**REFERENCE:** 10 O.S. §170.1  
59 O.S. §353.1  
70 O.S. §1-116, et seq.

**HEALTH:  
STUDENTS**

The Peavine Board of Education believes that the goals of educators should include training that helps our children to grow into productive and responsible adults.

While the general health and physical maintenance of a child is the responsibility of the parent, the board believes that teachers and administrators should encourage students to become aware of the value of a healthy mind and body.

If a teacher or an administrator becomes aware of a health problem involving a student, the parents or legal guardian of the student shall be notified and a conference with the parents be scheduled. If efforts to resolve the problem through consultation with the parents are not successful, the administrator shall consider referring the matter to the Department of Human Services. If an administrator or staff member has reason to suspect that a student is being neglected, abused or sexually abused, the staff member will report their suspicions immediately to the Dept. of Human Services and/or The Adair County Sheriff Dept.

Health education shall, whenever possible, be incorporated into the subject matter of all courses of instruction. There shall also be established definite time allocations for the teaching of health education.

Any child who is determined to be afflicted with a contagious disease, as currently defined by the Oklahoma Department of Health, or with head lice shall be prohibited from attending school until a health officer has determined that the child is free of head lice or the contagious disease or that the disease is no longer contagious.

63 O.S. §1-507

**REFERENCE:** 70 O.S. §5-117, §10-105, §11-103, §1210.194