

EASTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: USE AND POSSESSION OF
MEDICATIONS

ADOPTED: June 21, 2007

REVISED: August 2011
July 17, 2012

210. USE AND POSSESSION OF MEDICATIONS	
1. Purpose	The Board of Directors prefers that prescription and nonprescription medicines needed by students be administered at home under the supervision of their parents/guardians and licensed prescriber whenever possible. However, the school district recognizes that some students need medication during the school day and/or during school-sponsored activities.
2. Authority	<p>The district will permit the administration of prescription and nonprescription medications during school and/or school-sponsored activities when the procedures in this policy are followed.</p> <p>SC 1401, 1409, 1414.1 Title 28 Sec. 23.1, 23.51, 23.81</p> <p>This policy shall be interpreted consistent with 28 PA Code §§ 23.1, 23.51, 23.81, 24 P.S. §§ 1401, 1409, 1414.1 and all other applicable state and federal regulations.</p> <p>The district shall act in a manner consistent with the ADA, Section 504, the IDEA and all other laws protecting the rights of students with disabilities.</p> <p>Whenever a student has a Section 504 plan or IEP, that plan supersedes this policy to the extent it contains different and/or more detailed provisions than those set forth in this policy.</p>
3. Definitions	<p>Asthma inhaler shall mean a prescribed device used for self-administration of short-acting, metered doses of prescribed medication to treat an acute asthma attack.</p> <p>Epinephrine auto-injector shall mean a prescribed, disposable drug-delivery system designed for the self-administration of epinephrine to provide rapid first aid for persons suffering the effects of anaphylaxis.</p> <p>Insulin injection device shall mean insulin and any device used to inject the insulin into the skin.</p>

<p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p>Medication includes both prescription or non-prescription (over-the-counter) medications but does not include first-aid ointments or cough drops. The term may include herbal remedies and supplements. If a parent or student has a question as to whether a particular substance is a medication under this policy, the parent or student should consult with the principal or school nurse, who have the authority to determine whether a substance is a medication under this policy.</p> <p>Licensed Prescriber means a licensed medical doctor (M.D., D.O.), physician’s assistant, CRNP or dentist with prescriptive powers for the purpose of issuing a prescription.</p> <p>Self-administration shall mean a student’s use of medication in accordance with a prescription or written instructions from a licensed prescriber, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant.</p> <p><u>Possession And Administration Of Medication – General</u></p>
<p>SC 510</p>	<p>Except as provided in this policy or as specifically provided for in a student’s Section 504 plan or IEP, no student shall be allowed to keep medications on his/her person or in a locker or book bag. Students who possess and/or take medications in violation of this policy shall be subject to discipline.</p> <p>Unless otherwise specified in a Section 504 plan or IEP, any medication, prescription or nonprescription, that a student must take during school must be brought by a parent/guardian or designee, in its original packaging, to the nurses’ office immediately upon entering the building so that it may be transferred to a secure location under the supervision of the school nurses and maintained with the proper forms and instructions. Medications presented to an individual other than the school nurse, presented in a container other than the original container or provided without sufficient necessary licensed prescriber’s instructions, where required, shall not be accepted.</p> <p>No medications, prescription or nonprescription, shall be administered to a student during the school day without the written and dated consent of the student’s parent/guardian and specific medication orders by the student’s licensed prescriber. Such written consents and specifications must be on file in the nurse's office of the school building that the child attends. Copies of the Medication Authorization form may be obtained from the health room or on the district’s website. All permission forms must include written authorization and signatures from the parent/guardian and licensed prescriber, as well as the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Date.

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<p>Pol. 227</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Student's name.3. Name of medication.4. Correct dosage of medication with instructions on administration.5. Time schedule for administration of the medication.6. Dates the medication is to be taken, including a termination date where appropriate.7. Possible side effects of medication and procedures to be followed if a reaction occurs.8. Name and contact information of the licensed prescriber. <p>Requests for administration of medication that does not meet the requirements set forth above shall be denied, and such medication shall not be administered. A school nurse is responsible for approving the administration of and administering medication during the school day. If the nurse has questions about a request for medication, s/he should contact the child's licensed prescriber or the chief school physician to clarify the medication order. Based upon the outcome of this conference, the nurse may refuse to administer a given medication. If this occurs, the nurse will contact the student's parent/guardian in a timely fashion.</p> <p>The consent of the parent/guardian and licensed prescriber will be valid only for the period specified on the consent form and in no case longer than the current school year, which shall be defined as ending August 31. No medication will be administered if its expiration date has passed or if the licensed prescriber's orders have expired.</p> <p>Parents/Guardians are responsible for informing the school nurses' office of any change in the medication needs of a student. When any change occurs, the parent/guardian must provide documentation from the licensed prescriber to the school nurse.</p> <p>Emergency medications may be administered by school nurses as per the standing orders for administration of medication issued by the school physician.</p> <p>Nurses will keep records of all medications administered. These records will include the student's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, the date, and the time of the administration.</p>
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Self-Administration Of Medication And Specific Rules Regarding Possession/Use Of Asthma Inhalers, Insulin Injection Devices And Epinephrine Auto-Injectors

The Board shall permit students to possess asthma inhalers, insulin injection devices and epinephrine auto-injectors and to self-administer the prescribed medication in compliance with state law and Board policy. In appropriate and necessary situations, case-by-case arrangements for self-administration of other medications may be made contingent upon a licensed prescriber's recommendation and approval by the parent/guardian, building principal and school nurse. The school nurse may establish individualized requirements for self-administration of such medication and may revoke permission to self-administer at any time. Permission for a student to carry and/or otherwise possess self-administered medication must be obtained by the school nurse, as per this policy. Permission to carry and/or self-administer medications other than asthma inhalers, insulin injection devices and epinephrine auto-injectors shall be granted only in very select situations where possession and/or self-administration is deemed by the school nurse to be necessary and appropriate.

Before a student may possess or use an asthma inhaler, insulin device or epinephrine auto-injector during school hours, the Board shall require all of the following:

1. A written request from the parent/guardian that the school complies with the order of the licensed prescriber, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant.
2. A written statement from the parent/guardian acknowledging that the school is not responsible for ensuring the medication is taken and relieving the district and its employees of responsibility for the benefits or consequences of the prescribed medication.
3. A written statement from the licensed prescriber, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant that states:
 - a. Name of the drug.
 - b. Prescribed dosage.
 - c. Times medication is to be taken.
 - d. Length of time medication is prescribed.
 - e. Diagnosis or reason medication is needed, unless confidential.

- f. Potential serious reaction or side effects of medication.
- g. Emergency response.
- h. If child is qualified and able to self-administer the medication.

The student shall be made aware that the asthma inhaler, insulin injection device or epinephrine auto-injector is intended for his/her use only and may not be shared with other students.

The student shall notify the school nurse immediately following each use of an asthma inhaler, insulin injection device or epinephrine auto-injector.

Violations of this policy by a student shall result in immediate confiscation of the asthma inhaler and medication and loss of privileges. Additional disciplinary action may also result, as per district policy and Code Of Conduct.

Annual Renewal Required

A written request for student use of an asthma inhaler, insulin injection device and/or epinephrine auto-injector shall be submitted annually, along with required written statements from the parent/guardian and an updated prescription.

The district reserves the right to require a statement from a licensed prescriber, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant for the continued use of a medication at any time.

Self-Administration Requirements

A student who meets the requirements for the possession and/or administration of a medication in the school setting must demonstrate to the school nurse the capability and competency for self-administration and responsible behavior in use of the medication. It shall be the responsibility and right of the school nurse to determine competency for self-administration, and such determination shall be based on the student's age, cognitive function, maturity and demonstration of responsible behavior. Permission to carry and/or self-administer medication may be revoked at any time by the school nurse.

To self-administer any medication, the student must be able to:

1. Respond to and visually recognize his/her name.
2. Identify his/her medication.

3. Demonstrate the ability to properly handle the medication (if permitted to carry).
4. Demonstrate the proper technique for self-administering medication, including measuring and dosing.
5. Demonstrate the ability to accurately and reliably document the administration of medication.
6. Sign his/her medication sheet to acknowledge having taken the medication.
7. Demonstrate competency and understanding of the nature of the medication and potential risks of improper dosing, including overdosing, under-dosing and missed doses.
8. Demonstrate a cooperative attitude in all aspects of self-administration.

At any time during school hours, while on school property, at any school-sponsored activity and/or during the time spent traveling to and from school and school-sponsored activities, students are prohibited from sharing, giving or selling medications or from using them in a manner for which it is not prescribed and/or for which the school nurse has not granted permission, as per this policy. Such actions shall be considered illegal drug use and shall be subject to discipline according to district policy and the Code of Conduct.

If the district denies a student's request to self-carry an asthma inhaler, insulin injection device, epinephrine auto-injector or other medication, or if the student at any time loses the privilege to carry such medication, the student's prescribed medication shall be appropriately stored in the school nurse's office and/or may be stored at a location in close proximity to the student, as determined by a Section 504 team, IEP team or building administrator in conjunction with the school nurse. The student's classroom teachers shall be informed as to where the medication is stored and the means by which the medication can be accessed.

The district shall annually notify parents/guardians and students of this policy.

The district shall annually inform staff, students and parents/guardians about the district's policy and procedures governing student possession and use of asthma inhalers, insulin injection devices and epinephrine auto-injectors.

When an asthma inhaler, insulin injection device or epinephrine auto-injector is initially brought to school by a student, the school nurse shall be responsible for the following:

1. Obtain the required written request and statements from the parent/guardian and licensed prescriber, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant, which shall be kept on file in the office of the school nurse.
2. Review pertinent information with the student and/or parent/guardian, specifically the information contained on the statement submitted by the licensed prescriber, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant.
3. Determine the student's ability to self-administer medication and the need for care and supervision.
4. Maintain an individual medication log for all students possessing asthma inhalers, insulin injection devices, or epinephrine auto-injectors.

Administration Of Medication On Field Trips And/Or During School-Sponsored Activities

The Superintendent or designee shall develop guidelines for the administration of medication on field trips and/or during school-sponsored activities. Such guidelines shall be in conformity with Chapter 15, Section 504 and the ADA and shall ensure nondiscrimination against students with disabilities.

Students With Disabilities

Section 504 and/or IEP teams may set forth additional or different requirements and/or accommodations for with disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and/or the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA) than are included within this policy. Where an accommodation or requirement in a Section 504 Plan or IEP is in conflict with this policy, such Section 504 Plan or IEP must be approved in writing by the school nurse.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 1401, 1402, 1409, 1414.1

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.41

State Department of Health Regulations – 28 PA Code Sec. 23.1 et seq.

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