

POLICY

Board of Education Bernards Township

File Code: M 5330 ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

The Bernards Township Board of Education disclaims any and all responsibility for the diagnosis and treatment of the illness of any pupil. At the same time, the Board recognizes that a pupil's attendance may be contingent upon the timely administration of medication duly prescribed by a physician. The Board will permit the dispensation of medication in school only when the pupil's health and continuing attendance in school so require and when the medication is administered in accordance with this policy.

For purposes of this policy, "**MEDICATION**" means any prescription drug or prescribed over-the-counter medicine and includes, but is not limited to, Tylenol/acetaminophen and cough drops.

For the purposes of this policy, "**LIFE-THREATENING ILLNESS**" means an illness or condition that requires an immediate response to specific symptoms or sequelae (an after effect of disease or injury) that if left untreated may lead to potential loss of life, i.e., adrenalin injection in anaphylaxis.

No medication will be administered to pupils in school except by the school nurse, another registered nurse, the pupil's parent/guardian acting on a written order from the pupil's private physician or the school physician or an epi-pen delegate. A written request for the administration of medication at school must be received by the school nurse. Medication must be delivered to the school nurse by the pupil's parent or guardian. The medication must be brought to the school nurse in the original container labeled by the pharmacy or physician. Written orders signed by the pupil's private physician must be provided stating the name of the medication, the purpose of its administration to the specific pupil for whom it is intended, its proper timing and dosage, its possible side effects, and the time when its use will be discontinued. The school physician may also issue standing orders to the school nurse regarding the administration of medication. Medication no longer required must be promptly removed by the parent/guardian. Medication no longer required must be promptly removed by the parent/guardian/school nurse, or it will be discarded. An exception is made for pupils with asthma or another potentially life threatening illness, who shall be allowed to self-administer medication when a nurse is not physically present at the scene, provided permissions for such administration are on file in the office of the school nurse and comply with the conditions for granting permission contained in Procedure 5330.

All pupil medications shall be appropriately maintained and secured by the school nurse, except those medications to be self-administered by pupils or epi-pens that are secured and maintained for specific students. In those instances, the medication may be retained by the pupil with the prior knowledge of the school nurse. The school nurse may provide the principal and other teaching staff members concerned with the pupil's educational progress with such information about the medication and its administration as may be in the pupil's best educational interests. The school nurse may report to the school physician any pupil who appears to be affected adversely by the administration of medication and may recommend to the principal the pupil's exclusion pursuant to law.

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ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

The school nurse shall document each instance of the administration of medication to a pupil. Pupils self-administering medication shall report each incident to a teacher, coach, or other individual designated by the school District to be in charge of the pupil during school activities. Such individuals shall report such incidents to the school nurse within 24 hours of the self-administration of medication. The school nurse shall preserve records and documentation regarding the self-administration of medication in the pupil's health file.

This policy shall be enforced in conjunction with Policy 5331. In the event of any question on applicable requirements for anaphylaxis to food or other substances, the provision of Policy 5331 shall govern.

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-1.1; 18A:40-12.3; 18A:35-8;
18A:40-6; 18A:40-3.1; 18A:40-7
N.J.S.A. 45:11-23
N.J.A.C. 6.29-1.3
P.L. 1993, Chapter 308

ADOPTED: November 16, 2009