

Palmyra Area School District

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: USE OF MEDICATIONS

ADOPTED: November 9, 1995

REVISED: June 11, 2009,
October 13, 2011

210. USE OF MEDICATIONS	
1. Purpose	<p>The Board shall not be responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of student illness. The administration of prescribed medication in accordance with the direction of a parent or licensed healthcare provider to a student during school hours will be permitted only when:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 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 during school hours.2. It is a necessary component of a student's accommodation plan or service agreement, as defined by state and federal law or a component of a student's individualized education program, as defined by state and federal law. Whenever a student has such a plan, that plan supersedes this policy to the extent it contains different or more detailed provisions.
2. Definitions	<p>The Palmyra Area School District recognizes that many children are able to attend school because of the effective use of medication in the treatment of illness and disability. Some medication regimens necessitate the administration of medication during school hours. Safe and effective administration of medication requires adherence to a school policy and state regulations.</p>
3. Authority SC 510 Title 22 Sec. 12.41 24 PS 1401, 1402 24 PS 1414.1	<p>Medication shall include all prescribed medication and any non-prescription (OTC) medications.</p> <p>Licensed Healthcare Provider shall include a licensed physician, dentist, nurse practitioner, or other health care provider who is legally authorized to prescribe either prescription or non-prescription (OTC) medications.</p> <p>Before any medication may be administered to any student during school hours by the school nurse, there must be a written order from a licensed healthcare provider. This written permission should include:</p>

<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p> <p>5. Guidelines</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name of the child. 2. Date and duration of the prescription. 3. Name of the medication. 4. Dosage and route of administration. 5. Specific time or special circumstances in which the medication shall be administered. 6. Specific length, period, or amount of medicine prescribed. 7. Any possible side-effects or reactions as well as the necessary emergency response. 8. Signature of a licensed healthcare provider. <p>The student’s parent/guardian must request in writing that the School District comply with the written medication order of the licensed healthcare provider.</p> <p>Acetaminophen (Tylenol), emergency medications, and specified over-the-counter medications may be administered according to the current standing orders of the school physician if the parent’s written permission for the current year is on file.</p> <p>Medication will not be administered unless the prescription is properly labeled and the required permissions are obtained. Written orders and parental permissions may be faxed to District locations. No e-mails will be accepted as permission.</p> <p>Parents may come to the school nurse’s office to administer medication to their child.</p> <p>All medication orders will expire at the end of each school year.</p> <p>All medications shall be administered by the school nurse, an appropriately delegated PASD employee, a student in accordance with the self-administration provisions of this policy governing asthma inhalers and epinephrine injections (epipen), or by the parent. The only exception would be an epipen, which may be administered by a non-licensed individual.</p> <p>Whenever an authorized PASD employee administers medication to a student or observes self-administration of medication by a student in accordance with this policy, the employee will be deemed to be acting within the scope of his or her employment.</p> <p><u>Delivery Of Medication To/From School</u></p> <p>PASD and the school health personnel cannot be responsible for the transportation of medication to/from school. A responsible adult shall deliver the medication to the appropriate health office. However, if this is not feasible, the parent must notify the school nurse prior to the child arriving at school. The school nurse must be notified of the type, dose, and quantity (e.g. the number of pills) that will be brought to school by the student. Immediately upon arrival to</p>
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school, all medication must be brought by the student to the school nurse. A verification of the medication and quantity will be completed and documented at that time. The parent will be notified if there is a discrepancy in the medication and/or quantity. Records will be kept to monitor the medication quantities received in the office.

Prescribed medication must be provided in a container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or health provider. The label must include the student name, medication name, dosage, time, and route of administration. Over-the-counter medication must be in the original, unopened bottle with a readable label.

Parents must ask the pharmacist for “school packaging” a separate container labeled just for the school time dose.

Parents are asked to pick up medication at the end of the medication administration order or the end of the school year. Medications, with notification of the quantity remaining, may be sent home with the child if the District receives a written request from the parent.

Medications not picked up within one (1) day of the end of the school year will be discarded and documented.

Special Medication Administration Situations

Self-Administration of Medication

1. Student self-administration of asthma inhalers and/or epinephrine auto-injectors is permitted only with a written order from a licensed healthcare provider stating that the student is qualified and responsible to self-administer such medication. A written request from the student’s parent/guardian is also required stating that the licensed healthcare provider’s order is to be followed and that the PASD is relieved of any responsibility with respect to the benefit or consequences of the prescribed medication and that the District bears no responsibility for ensuring that the medication is taken.

Students who engage in self-administration of an asthma inhaler or epinephrine injection are required to notify the school nurse immediately following any self-administration.

Missed morning dose:

1. If an order exists for a morning dose, the nurse may administer medication after verifying with the parent that the child did not take the prescribed medication before coming to school.
2. Parents may come to the school nurse’s office to administer a medication dose for which the school nurse does not have the order.

School Code
510, 1402

PA BD. Of Nursing
September 1992

School sponsored events/trips:

1. Parent/guardian may accompany their child on a trip in order to administer medication when the severity of the child's medical condition would prevent the child from participating in the activity without the medication being administered.
2. Parent/guardian may request that a PASD staff member attending a school sponsored trip administer medication to their child. The Parent/guardian must provide an order from a licensed healthcare provider in accordance with the requirements of this policy as well as written permission for designated PASD personnel to administer the medication.
3. Standing order medications may be provided to designated PASD personnel by a licensed healthcare provider.
4. In all other respects, this medication policy shall be applicable to school sponsored events/trips.

Storage Of Medication

Medications must be stored in the original container in a locked cabinet in the health room or refrigerated as indicated on the pharmaceutical label.

Medications shall not be in a child's possession. Violations will be addressed by the school's drug and alcohol policy.

The nurse will evaluate each request for exceptions to this policy based upon medical need, receipt of supporting written orders, documentation of student's correct procedure/technique by the student's licensed healthcare provider, and receipt of written parent request. Examples could include inhaler/discus, emergency anaphylactic kit, and diabetic insulin pump. Specific plans may be developed considering individual student health needs and school integration and implementation.

Failure to comply with the requirements of this Policy including, but not limited to, the unauthorized distribution of medication to third parties shall result in appropriate disciplinary action.