

Policy

ASSISTING STUDENTS WITH MEDICATIONS AND THEIR HEALTH CARE NEEDS

Code JGCD Issued 3/16/22

The District recognizes the occasional need for students to take medication during the school day, en route to and from school on a District- or State Department of Education-owned vehicle, and/or at a school-sponsored activity, before, during, or after school. Thus, in accord with Board policy and/or administrative rule, eligible students may self-monitor and self-administer medication as prescribed in their individual health care plans ("IHP") as set forth below or a registered nurse ("RN") or a licensed practical nurse ("LPN") may administer medication to students. In the event that an RN or LPN is not available, an unlicensed school employee, such as a health room aide or assistant, trained by an RN may assist students with their medications consistent with the following.

The District reserves the right to deny the request of a parent/guardian for a student's participation in this policy/administrative rule for legitimate reasons.

Individual Health Care Plan (IHP)

The District will provide certain students with special health care needs with an individual health care plan. This plan will meet the needs of the student for health monitoring and care during the school day or at school-sponsored events.

In accordance with his/her IHP, an eligible student may self-monitor and self-administer medication as prescribed by the student's health care provide, unless there is sufficient evidence that unsupervised self-monitoring or self-medication would seriously jeopardize the safety of the student or others.

The District will grant permission to self-monitor and self-administer medication based on appropriate written authorization, according to the Board's applicable administrative rule, from the parent/legal guardian and a written statement from the student's health care practitioner, who prescribed the medication verifying the student has a medical condition and has been instructed and demonstrates competency in self-monitoring and/or self-administration of medications.

Authorization for a student to possess on his or her person and administer medication extends to the following settings:

- the classroom and in any area of the school or school grounds,
- school-sponsored activities,
- in transit to or from school or school-sponsored activities, or
- during before-school or after-school activities on school-operated property.

The parent/legal guardian must sign a statement acknowledging that the District will incur no

PAGE 2 – JGCD – ASSISTING STUDENTS WITH MEDICATIONS AND THEIR HEALTH CARE NEEDS

liability as a result of any injury arising from self-monitoring or self-administering medications or from taking or using medications or self-monitoring devices by the student and that the parent/legal guardian will indemnify and hold harmless the District and its employees and agents against any claims arising out of the self-monitoring or self-administration of medication by the student.

Adopted 12/13/05; Revised 3/15/22

Legal references:

- A. South Carolina Code, 1976, as amended:
 - 1. Section 40-33-70 – Amends law as relating to on-site supervision of a nurse
 - 2. Section 59-63-80 & 90 – Policy for individual health care plan for certain students
 - 3. Section 15-78-60 – Immunity from liability for districts and employees