SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

Under certain circumstances, when it is necessary for a student to take medication (prescription and non-prescription) during school hours, the school's registered professional nurse may administer the medication if the parent or person in parental relation submits a written request accompanied by a written request from a physician indicating the frequency and dosage of prescribed medication. The parent or person in parental relation must assume responsibility to have the medication delivered directly to the Health Office in a properly labeled original container.

All medication orders (prescription and non-prescription) must be reviewed annually or when there is a change in dosage.

Procedures for receipt, storage and disposal of medications as well as procedures for taking medications off school grounds or after school hours while participating in a school-sponsored activity will be in accordance with State Education Department Guidelines.

Emergency Medication

The administration of emergency medication (injectable, including "epi-pens," and/or oral) to a student for extreme hypersensitivity may be performed by a school staff member responding to an emergency situation when such use has been prescribed. Any school staff member would fall under the Good Samaritan exemption for rendering emergency care during a life threatening situation.

Use of Inhalers in Schools

In accordance with law, the School District must permit students who have been diagnosed by a physician or other duly authorized health care provider as having a severe asthmatic condition to carry and use a prescribed inhaler during the school day. Prior to permitting such use, the School Health Office must receive the written permission of the prescribing physician or other duly authorized health care provider, and parental consent, based on such physician's or provider's determination that the student is subject to sudden asthmatic attacks severe enough to debilitate that student. In addition, upon the written request of a parent or person in parental relation, the Board shall allow such pupils to maintain an extra inhaler in the care and custody of the school's registered professional nurse employed by the District. However, the law does not require the District to retain a school nurse solely for the purpose of taking custody of a spare inhaler, or require that a school nurse be available at all times in a school building for such purpose.

A record of such physician or health care provider/parental permission shall be maintained in the School Health Office.

Health Office personnel will maintain regular parental contact in order to monitor the effectiveness of such self-medication procedures and to clarify parental responsibility as to the daily monitoring of their child to ensure that the medication is being utilized in accordance with the

(Continued)

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION (Cont'd.)

physician's or provider's instructions. Additionally, the student will be required to report to the Health Office on a periodic basis as determined by Health Office personnel so as to maintain an ongoing evaluation of the student's management of such self-medication techniques, and to work cooperatively with the parents and the student regarding such self-care management.

Students who self-administer medication without proper authorization, under any circumstances, will be referred for counseling by school nursing personnel. Additionally, school administration and parents will be notified of such unauthorized use of medication by the student, and school administration may also be involved in determining the proper resolution of such student behavior.

Blood Glucose Monitoring

Children with diabetes have the right to care for their diabetes at school in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which provide protection against discrimination for children with disabilities, including diabetes.

Accordingly, blood glucose monitoring must be allowed in the school setting at any time, within any place, and by anyone necessitating such testing. Children must receive assistance if needed with the procedure.

The school nurse shall oversee any arrangements that need to be made for testing and a system to report the results to the nurse as needed. Proper arrangements should be made for the disposal of sharps.

Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizers

Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are considered over-the-counter (OTC) drugs by the United States Food and Drug Administration. However, due to the fact that careful hand-washing and sanitation is the most effective way to control the recent spread of Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) in schools, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) has allowed a medical exemption to the requirements for OTC preparations in the school setting to permit the use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers.

The School Medical Director may approve and permit the use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers in the District's schools without a physician's order. Parents may provide written notification to the school in the event that they do not wish to have their child use this product.

It should be noted that hand sanitizers which contain alcohol are flammable and shall not be placed in hallways or near an open flame or source of sparks.

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SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION (Cont'd.)

Disposal of Unused Medication

Any unused medication (including, but not limited to expired prescription and nonprescription drugs) must be returned to the parent/person in parental relation by the end of each school year. If the parent/person in parental relation does not retrieve the unused medication by the end of the school year, then the School Nurse or designated School Health Office personnel must document that the medication was abandoned and dispose of the unused medication.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 [Public Law 108-446 Section 614(a)]
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 United States Code (USC) Sections 1400 et seq.
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 United States Code (USC) Section 794 et seq.
Education Law Sections 902(b), 916, 6527(4)(a) and 6908(1)(a)(iv)
Public Health Law Section 3000-a

Adopted: 6/15/11