



SECTION: 536

TITLE: ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

NESHAMINY SCHOOL DISTRICT

1	I. PURPOSE	The Board recognizes that the administration of medications to students	1
2		while in school may be necessary under certain circumstances:	2
3		• Failure to take such medication would jeopardize the health of the	3
4		student and/or	4
5		• The student would not be able to attend school if the medication were not	5
6		administered during the school hours.	6
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8	II. DEFINITIONS	For the purpose of this policy “medication” shall include all medicines,	8
9		controlled and over-the-counter, prescribed by a physician. “Asthma inhaler”	9
10		means a prescribed device used for the self-administration of short-acting,	10
11		metered doses of prescribed medication to treat an acute asthma attack.	11
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13	III. POLICY	Medication Prescribed by the Family Health Care Provider - Before any	13
14		prescribed medication may be administered to any student by district	14
15		personnel or self-administered by a student during school hours or school	15
16		sponsored activities, the Board requires a written order from a physician and	16
17		written authorization from a parent or legal guardian on the school district	17
18		form which outlines the district medication guidelines. The order from the	18
19		physician must include the following:	19
20		• the name of the student	20
21		• the name of the medication & any known medication allergies	21
22		• the dosage of the medication and the route of administration	22
23		• the time (or frequency) the medication is to be administered	23
24		• the name, address, and phone number of the prescribing physician is	24
25		clearly stated on the order	25
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27		The physician should also indicate any special circumstances under which the	27
28		medication may be administered, any possible side effects of the medication,	28
29		the diagnosis or condition for which the medication is being prescribed and	29
30		the expected duration of the medical regime. In the case of an Asthma inhaler,	30
31		the physician shall clearly indicate that the student is qualified and able to	31
32		self-administer the medication.	32
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POLICY 536 (con't)

Emergency Medications – Administration of epinephrine by non-nurse personnel in emergency circumstances shall be permitted when such personnel are appropriately trained by the responsible school nurse and when administration otherwise complies with guidelines of the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the State Board of Nursing.

Request for Long-Term Administration of Medications - Request for the long term administration of medications must be renewed at the beginning of each school year. Any change in the dosage or frequency of a long-term medication must be documented in writing by the prescribing physician and will constitute a new order. If the prescribing physician wishes to discontinue a long-term medication, he/she must state such in writing.

Approved Employees to Administer Medication – All medications must be administered in the building health suite by one of the following:

- the certified school nurse, RN, LPN, or
- the student, when the physician so directs by written order and when self-administration otherwise complies with the guidelines of the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the State Board of Nursing.

If the physician order states that a student may carry and self-administer an asthma inhaler or medication to treat anaphylaxis, the student must demonstrate the capability for self-administration and for responsible behavior in the use thereof and the student must notify the school nurse, the principal or the principal's designee immediately following each use of the emergency medication.

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