

Allergy Management

When a student has been identified as having life threatening allergies verified by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, individual written management plans may be used to determine accommodations prevent and prepare for an allergic reaction

Students with allergies will be treated in a way that encourages the student to report possible exposure to allergen and any symptoms of an allergic reaction, and to progress toward self-care with his/her food allergy management skills. Students, when deemed by the parent and physician to be mature enough to self-administer, will be allowed to carry an epinephrine auto-injector with them, with the understanding that they are only authorized to use it on themselves.

It is the duty of the parent to provide the student or school with epinephrine auto-injectors for the possible use on their student. Medications and their delivery to the building must comply with the district Dispensing Medication Policy 3510.

Any student who receives epinephrine at school must be immediately transported to a hospital for evaluation by a licensed healthcare provider or immediately released into the care and custody of their parent/guardian.

Any symptom reported to the school will be handled by the school immediately notifying EMS (Emergency Medical Services) to respond and diagnose the severity of the situation. The school will attempt to notify the parent as quickly as possible, but will proceed with first activating EMS. The school district does not have medically trained personnel on site and does not represent themselves as capable of independent judgment relative to determining the level of care necessary during an allergic reaction.

Expectations of Students with Severe or Life-Threatening Allergies and their Parents

The Board expects students with life-threatening allergies to do the following, as age appropriate:

1. Take as much responsibility as possible for avoiding allergens, including refraining from sharing or trading of foods or eating utensils with others, refraining from eating anything with unknown ingredients or a known allergen; avoid putting anything in mouth such as writing utensils, fingers, or other foreign objects;
2. Use proper hand washing before and after eating and throughout the school day;
3. Learn to recognize personal symptoms;
4. Notify an adult immediately if they eat something they believe may contain a food to which they are allergic or been exposed to their symptom-inducing allergen;

5. Notify an adult if they are being bullied, harassed, hazed, or threatened by other students as it relates to their food allergy;
6. Carry their epinephrine auto-injector with them at all times if they are permitted to do so, or know where the auto-injector is kept and who has access to it;
7. Notify the district transportation department annually to inform/educate bus drivers that they are transporting a student with a life-threatening allergy;
8. Develop an awareness of their school and plan accordingly; and
9. Know their overall Allergy Emergency Care Plan and understand the responsibilities of the plan.

The Board encourages parents of students with serious allergies to do the following, as age appropriate:

1. Teach their child to:
 - a. Not share snacks, lunches, drinks, or utensils (if it is a food-induced allergy);
 - b. Know which foods are and are not safe for them to eat, and to read labels and understand ingredient safety – know other allergens;
 - c. Understand the importance of hand washing before and after eating;
 - d. Recognize the first symptoms of an allergic or anaphylactic reaction;
 - e. Communicate with school staff as soon as he/she feels a reaction is starting;
 - f. Understand rules and expectations about bullying related to allergies, and report such teasing and/or bullying;
 - g. Carry his/her own epinephrine auto-injector when appropriate, or know where the epinephrine auto-injector is kept and who has access to it;
 - h. Administer his/her own epinephrine auto-injector and be able to train others in its use; and
 - i. Develop awareness of their school environment and plan accordingly.
2. Inform the school administrator of their child’s allergies prior to the opening of school, or as soon as possible after diagnosis. All allergies must be verified by documentation from physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant;
3. Work with the core team collaboratively to develop the Allergy Individual Management Plan and Emergency Care Plan completed by the student’s physician;
4. Complete and submit all requested and required forms. Provide the school with current cell phone and other emergency contact numbers;
5. Allow District health personnel to consult with the student’s physician or healthcare provider, and provide current contact information for the healthcare provider;
6. Provide the school administrator with up-to-date emergency medications so they can be placed in proper locations for the current school year. Parents may be requested to

- provide two (2) or more epinephrine auto-injectors. Medications must comply with the District medication policy of proper labeling and expiration;
7. Consider providing a medical alert bracelet for their child;
 8. Regarding food allergy: Parents should provide “safe snacks” for their student’s classroom in case of an unplanned special event. Parents may also be asked to provide a nonperishable safe lunch to be kept at school in case the student forgets to bring lunch;
 9. Review policies, procedures, and plans with the core team annually and following any allergic reaction at school; and
 10. Provide the school administrator with at least annual updates on their child’s allergy status. Inform the school of any changes in the child’s life-threatening allergy status and provide a physician’s statement if the student no longer has allergies.

Policy History

Adopted on: May 15, 2014

Revised on: