Students with Life-Threatening Health Conditions

Prior to attendance at school, each child with a life-threatening health condition shall present a medication or treatment order addressing the condition. A life-threatening health condition means a condition that will put the child in danger of death during the school day if a medication or treatment order providing authority to a registered nurse and nursing plan are not in place. Following submission of the medication or treatment order, a nursing plan shall be developed.

Students who have a life-threatening health condition and no medication or treatment order presented to the school shall be excluded from school, to the extent that the District can do so consistent with federal requirements for students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and pursuant to the following due process requirements:

A. Written notice to the parents, guardians or persons in loco parent is delivered to the parents in person or by certified mail.
B. Notice of the applicable laws, including a copy of the laws and rules.
C. The order that the students shall be excluded from school immediately and until a medication or treatment order is presented.
D. Explain the rights of the parents and student to a hearing, the hearing process and explain that the exclusion continues until the medication or treatment plan is presented or the hearing officer determines that the student should no longer be excluded from school.
E. If the parents request a hearing, the District shall schedule one within three school days of receiving the request, unless more time is requested by the parents.
F. The hearing process shall be consistent with the procedures established for disciplinary cases pursuant to WAC 392-400.

Accommodating Students with Diabetes

The District nurse is appointed to:

- Consult and coordinate with the parents and health care providers of students with diabetes; and
- Train and monitor the appropriate staff in the care of students with diabetes.

The District shall develop and follow an individual health plan for each student with diabetes. Each individual health care plan shall include an individual emergency plan element. The health plans shall be updated annually, and more frequently as needed.

Parents of students with diabetes may designate an adult to provide care for their student consistent with the student’s individual health care plan. At parent request, school District employees may volunteer to be a parent-designated adult under this policy, but they shall not be required to participate. Parent-designated adults who are school employees shall file a voluntary, written, current and unexpired letter of intent stating their willingness to be a parent-designated adult. Parent-designated adults who are school employees are required to receive training in caring for students with diabetes from the District nurse or from a nationally certified diabetes educator.
Parent-designated adults who are not school employees are required to show evidence of comparable training, and meet school District requirements for volunteers. Parent-designated adults shall receive additional training from a parent-selected health care professional or expert in diabetic care to provide the care requested by the parent. The District nurse is not responsible for the supervision of procedures authorized by the parents and carried out by the parent-designated adult.

In addition to adhering to the requirements of each individual health care plan, for the general care of students with diabetes, the District shall:

- Acquire necessary parent requests and instructions for treatment.
- Acquire monitoring and treatment orders from licensed health care providers prescribing within the scope of their licensed authority.
- Provide sufficient and secure storage for medical equipment and medication provided by the parent.
- Permit students with diabetes to perform blood glucose tests, administer insulin, treat hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia, with easy access to the necessary supplies, equipment and medication necessary under their individual health care plan. This includes the option for students to carry the necessary supplies, equipment and medication on their person and perform monitoring and treatment functions wherever they are on school grounds or at school sponsored events.
- Permit students with diabetes unrestricted access to necessary food and water on schedule and as needed, and unrestricted access to bathroom facilities. When food is served at school events, provision shall be made for appropriate food to be available to students with diabetes.
- School meals shall not be withheld from any student for disciplinary reasons. Students with diabetes shall not miss meals because they are not able to pay for them. The charge for the meal will be billed to the parent or adult student and collected consistent with District policies.
- Parents and health care providers of students with diabetes will be provided with a description of their student’s school schedule to facilitate the timing of monitoring, treatment and food consumption.
- Each student’s individual health care plan shall be distributed to appropriate staff based on the student’s needs and the staff member’s contact with the student.

The District, its employees, agents or parent-designated adults who act in good faith and in substantial compliance with a student’s individual health care plan and the instructions of the student’s health care provider shall not be criminally or civilly liable for services provided under chapter 350, Laws of 2002.

Accommodating Students with Asthma and Anaphylaxis

It is the policy of the Board of Directors that students with asthma or anaphylaxis are afforded the opportunity to self-administer prescribed medications. The student’s parent or guardian shall submit a written request and other documentation required by the school. The student’s prescribing health care provider must provide a written treatment plan.
The student shall demonstrate competence, to possess and self-administer prescribed medications during school and at school sponsored events, to the District nurse.

The Superintendent is directed to establish procedures that implement this policy and to develop emergency rescue procedures.

Cross References:   Board Policy 2162 Education of Students with Disabilities Under Section 504
                    3416 Medication at School
                    3419 Self-administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medications
                    3420 Anaphylaxis Medications
                    3520 Student Fees, Fines and Charges
                    5630 Volunteers

Legal References:   Ch. 350, Laws of 2002
                    Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
                    PL 101-336 Americans with Disabilities Act
                    42 U.S.C. 280, Section 399 Public Health Service Act
                    Chapter 462, Laws of 2005 Relating to the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of asthma

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