

The board recognizes that students may need to take medication during school hours. In accordance with NCGS 115C-307, 115-C-375.1, and 115C-375.2, the public school employees of this school district will administer medicines or medication prescribed by a doctor upon the written request of the parents.

This policy is intended for students in need of medication to sustain their attendance in school. These students may have a chronic health problem, special health care need, or a health problem which indicates that emergency measures may be required.

All school plans must conform to the following requirements:

1. The health and welfare of the student must be of paramount concern in all decisions regarding the administration of medicine. Medications can be given at home before and after school hours. It is the parent or guardian's responsibility to make arrangements with the school for medication that is to be given during school hours.
2. Students with special needs will be afforded all rights provided by federal and state law as enumerated in the Procedures Governing Programs and Services for Children with Special Needs. Students with disabilities also will be afforded all rights provided by anti-discrimination laws, including Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.
3. When students are subject to health problems such as asthma or allergy to bee stings during school hours, it is the parent's or guardian's responsibility to inform the school administration of the student's condition and the emergency measures that may need to be implemented. Emergency plans developed between the parent or guardian, student's healthcare provider, and the school should include administration of emergency medication and first aid measures. Students are allowed to possess and self-administer certain medications under the following conditions:
  - a. The parent/guardian and physician provide authorization on the Onslow County Schools medication form.
  - b. The parent/guardian and physician authorization will be in effect for the present school year only.
  - c. The student demonstrates to the school nurse his/her knowledge of how and when to take the medication.
  - d. The parent/guardian authorizes and releases Onslow County Schools from liability for any injuries occurring as a result of student self-medication.
  - e. The parent/guardian has provided back-up medications to the school.
  - f. The parent and student understand that misuse will result in a penalty under policy 4325, Narcotics, Alcoholic Beverages and Stimulant Medicines.

4. No student can possess, use or transmit any drug or counterfeit drug prohibited by board policy 4325, Narcotics, Alcoholic Beverages and Stimulant Medicines.

A written emergency plan should be developed for the student and approved by the parent or guardian. The parent or guardian is responsible for assuring that an emergency care plan is developed for the student and that written permission is given by them to institute emergency measures.

The school retains the right to reject requests for the administration of medication and may refuse to administer medication from any container that has the appearance of being altered from that dispensed by the original pharmacy.

Legal References: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 *et seq.*; Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. 12101; Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794; G.S. 115C-36, -307(c).

Cross References: Parental Involvement (policy 1310/4002), Narcotics, Alcoholic Beverages and Stimulant Medicines (policy 4325)

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