



**Section:** *Pupils*

**Title:** *Possession and Use of Asthma Inhalers*

**Adopted:** *2.17.05*

**Revised:**

### ***203.2 Possession and Use of Asthma Inhalers***

- I. The Board of School Directors of Colonial School District is committed to the provision of a healthful environment for all students. This policy has been developed to address the needs of students with special medical needs who may need to use an asthma inhaler.***

***An “asthma inhaler” means a prescribed device used for self-administration of short-acting, metered doses of prescribed medication to treat an acute asthma attack.***

***”Children of school age” or “child of school age” means every child attending or who should attend an elementary grade or high school, either public or private, within the Commonwealth and children who are attending a kindergarten which is an integral part of a local school district.***

***This policy allows for the possession and self-administration by children of school age of an asthma inhaler and the prescribed medication to be administered in a school setting.***

- A. A child of school age that desires to possess and self-administer an asthma inhaler in a school setting must demonstrate the capability for self-administration and for responsible behavior in the use thereof and must notify the school nurse immediately following each use of an asthma inhaler. The child must verify to the school nurse that the child is capable of self-administration and has permission for carrying and taking the medication through the use of the asthma inhaler. The asthma inhaler and the prescribed medication contained therein are restricted from other children of school age, with immediate confiscation of both the asthma inhaler and the medication and loss of privileges if***

**203.2 Possession and Use of Asthma Inhalers, cont'd**

*the school policies are abused or ignored.*

**B. The following requirements are included:**

- 1. A written statement from the physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant that provides the name of the drug, the dose, the times when the medication is to be taken, and the diagnosis or reason the medicine is needed, unless the reason should remain confidential. The physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant shall indicate the potential of any serious reaction that may occur to the medication, as well as any necessary emergency response. The physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant shall state whether the child is qualified and able to self-administer the medication.**
- 2. A written request from the parent or guardian that the school district comply with the order of the physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant. The parent's note shall include a statement relieving the School District or any school employee of any responsibility for the benefits or consequences of the prescribed medication when it is parent-authorized and acknowledging that the School District bears no responsibility for ensuring that the medication is taken.**
- 3. The School District requires a statement from the physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant for the continued use of any medication beyond a specified time period.**
- 4. The Colonial School District's Medication Dispensing Form must be signed by the following:**
  - The student's physician, certified registered nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant certifying the student's ability to self-administer;**
  - The parent releasing the school district and any employee of responsibility for the benefits or consequences of the prescribed medication and the district for ensuring the medication is taken;**

*203.2 Possession and Use of Asthma Inhalers, cont'd*

- *The student, verifying he/she is capable of self-administration and has permission for carrying and taking the medication through the use of the asthma inhaler;*
- *The school nurse certifying the student's qualification and ability to self-administer the asthma inhaler.*

*Section: Pupils*  
*Title: Possession and Use*  
*of Asthma Inhalers*  
*Adopted: 2.17.05*  
*Revised:*

## **COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **MEDICATION PROCEDURES AND SYSTEM INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

*It is strongly recommended that medications be given at home. Parents/guardians are encouraged to confer with the student's physician to arrange medication time intervals to avoid school hours whenever possible. No medication will be administered without properly completed medication dispensing form. If medication must be given during school hours, please refer to the following procedures:*

*Prescription medications to be given daily or as needed during the school year:*

- 1. The physician must complete the Medication Dispensing Form.*
- 2. The parent/guardian must sign the Medication Dispensing Form.*
- 3. Any medication to be given during the school hours must be delivered directly to the school nurse, principal or designee.*
- 4. The medication must be brought to school in the original pharmacy container, properly labeled for the student.*
- 5. A prescription drug log will be kept for any student receiving prescription medication during school hours.*
- 6. The student is responsible to report to the nurse's office at the time the medication is to be given.*
- 7. In the absence of the school nurse, the principal or designee will administer the medication.*
- 8. To make it less cumbersome for you, your child and the school nurse, please send a month supply of medication at a time (usually 20-25 doses).*

*Prescription medications to be given for short periods of time (for a period of two weeks or less):*

- 1. Medication must be delivered directly to the school nurse, principal or designee in the original pharmacy container labeled with the student's name, dosage and time of administration. A signed request from the parent/guardian must accompany the medication.*
- 2. Only the amount of medication to be given during school hours must be delivered. If a child is on an antibiotic for 10 days and 8 of those days are school days, you should send in only 8 doses. Most pharmacists will supply a second labeled bottle upon request. Please do not send in medication that must be taken home at the end of the day.*
- 3. The student is responsible to report to the nurse's office at the time the medicine is to be given.*

4. *In the absence of the school nurse, the principal or designee will administer the medication.*

*Non-prescription medication:*

1. *Students are not allowed to carry non-prescription medications to school unless absolutely necessary.*
2. *If medication is required during school hours, the parent will write a note stating the name of the medication, the reason for giving it and the exact dosage and time it is to be given.*
3. *The medication must be brought to school in the original container and delivered directly to the school nurse, principal or designee.*
4. *If the dose or frequency exceeds recommendations the medication dispensing form must be completed and signed by a physician and parent.*
5. *The student is to report to the Nurse's Office at the appropriate time the medication is to be given. In the absence of the nurse, the principal or designee will administer.*
6. *Medication will be charged on the daily log.*

*Emergency Medications: (medications to be kept on hand to be administered in emergency situations such as bee stings, allergies, diabetic shock.)*

1. *The physician must complete the medication dispensing form.*
2. *Parents must also sign the medication dispensing form.*
3. *Medication should be delivered directly to the nurse, principal or designee.*
4. *Medication must be properly labeled with the student's name, medication name, dosage and purpose.*
5. *Medication will be stored in a locked cabinet in the Health Room (with the exception of asthma inhalers).*
6. *When such medication is given, it will be charged on the daily log, student's chart and parent will be notified. Charting will occur but parent will not be notified regarding use of asthma inhalers.*