

## **Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response**

The Board of Directors recognize that national guidelines recommend avoiding the use of identified allergens in class projects, parties, holidays and celebrations, arts, crafts, science experiments, cooking, snacks, or rewards. While our district does not explicitly restrict the use of food in most of these situations, we do support and encourage the use of allergen-safe foods, and preferably non-food items in these circumstances. Decisions to use food in these situations will be deferred to the supervising staff member in their individual classroom and will be allowed only after careful review of each individual student's written food allergy action plan and notification to that student's parents or guardians for each individual activity.

Anaphylaxis is a life-threatening allergic reaction that may involve systems of the entire body. Anaphylaxis is a medical emergency that requires immediate medical treatment and may require follow-up care by an allergist/immunologist.

The Board of Directors expects school administrators, teachers, and support staff to be informed and aware of life-threatening allergic reactions (anaphylaxis) and how to deal with the resulting medical emergencies. For students, some common life-threatening allergens are peanuts, tree nuts, fish, dairy, bee or other insect stings, latex, and some medications. Affected students require planned care and support during the school day and during school sponsored activities.

Prior to enrolling a student, parents/guardians must inform the school, in writing, of their student's known and medically diagnosed allergy/allergies and his/her potential risk for anaphylaxis and for ensuring the provision of ongoing health information. The parent/guardian is responsible, and must, notify school administration if the student's condition changes and provide the medical treatment order and necessary medical supplies and medication. Additionally, any student could potentially have a life-threatening allergic reaction even without a history of such.

The district will take reasonable measures to avoid allergens for affected students. The district will also train all staff annually in the awareness of anaphylaxis and prepare them to respond to emergencies. Additionally, student specific training will be provided for appropriate personnel. Each student's Emergency Care Plan shall be distributed to appropriate staff based on the students' needs and the staffs' level of interaction with the student as determined in the health plan.

Even with the District's best efforts, staff and parents/guardians need to be aware that it is not possible to achieve a completely allergen-free environment. However, the District will take reasonable precautions in an effort to reduce the risk of a student with a history of anaphylaxis coming into contact with the offending allergen in school. The Superintendent shall develop procedures for the management of food allergies which shall include Food Allergy Management and Prevention Plans at each school.

Hand held radios shall be required for all supervising personnel at all school day outdoor activities, including but not limited to recess, PE, and field trips when school busses are not provided.

The district will maintain at designated school locations a supply of epinephrine auto-injectors or nasal spray based on the number of students enrolled at the school. Undesignated epinephrine auto-injectors or nasal spray must be obtained with a prescription in the name of the school by a licensed health professional within the scope of their prescribing authority and must be accompanied by a standing order protocol for their administration. Prescriptions and standing orders may be obtained from a community Licensed Health Care Provider or through a statewide standing order from the Secretary of Health or designee.

In the event a student with a current prescription for an epinephrine auto-injector or nasal spray on file at the school experiences an anaphylactic event, the school nurse or designated trained school personnel may use the school supply of epinephrine auto-injectors or nasal spray to respond if the student's supply is not immediately available. In the event a student without a current prescription for epinephrine on file with the school or a student with undiagnosed anaphylaxis experiences an anaphylactic event, the school nurse may utilize the school supply of epinephrine to respond under the standing order protocol according to RCW 28A.210.380 and RCW 28A.210.383.

The school's supply of epinephrine auto injectors or nasal spray does not negate parent/guardian responsibility to ensure that they provide the school with appropriate medication and treatment orders pursuant to RCW 28A.210.320 if their student is identified with a life-threatening allergy.

The superintendent will establish procedures to support this policy and to ensure:

- 1) Rescue protocol in cases of suspected anaphylaxis will follow OSPI's current Guidelines for the Care of Students with Anaphylaxis.
- 2) A simple and standardized format for emergency care plans is utilized;
- 3) A protocol is in place to ensure emergency care plans are current and distributed to appropriate staff;
- 4) Medication orders are clear and unambiguous;
- 5) Training and documentation is a priority; and
- 6) Each school's supply of epinephrine auto-injectors or nasal spray, if any, is maintained pursuant to manufacturer's instructions and district medication policy and procedures.

The Superintendent will establish additional procedures to support this policy.

Cross Reference:	Policy 3415	Students with Life-threatening Health Conditions
	Policy 3416	Medication at School
	Policy 3418	Emergency Treatment
	Policy 3419	Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medications

Legal References:	WAC 392-380	PUBLIC SCHOOL PUPILS - IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENT AND LIFE-THREATENING HEALTH CONDITION
	RCW 28A.210.380	Anaphylaxis-Policy Guidelines-Procedures - Reports.
	RCW 28A.210.383	Anaphylaxis-Policy Guidelines-Procedures - Reports.
<i>Policy and Legal News:</i>	2024 - October Issue	Policy & Legal News
	2018 - August Issue	Policy & Legal News
	2013 - December Issue	Policy & Legal News
	2012 - August Issue	Policy & Legal News
	2009 - February Issue	Policy & Legal News
	2009 - March OSPI	Guidelines for the Care of Students with Anaphylaxis

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