

Berkshire Schools Medication Policy

The Berkshire Board of Education and its employees are not responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of illness, or legally obligated to administer medication at school. The administration of medication at school as prescribed by a student's physician will be permitted when failure to do so would jeopardize the health of the student, prevent regular school attendance or if, due to disability, the medication is needed by the student to allow them to benefit from their education.

Acutely ill students should be kept at home until they have sufficiently recovered and no longer need medication to manage symptoms during the school day. Alternatives to requesting medication at school are timing doses for before and after school and parents may come to school to administer the medication in person.

Medications are kept secure in the school office or clinic. The building administrators, secretaries, and some teachers are authorized by the Board of Education to administer medications after they are processed by the school nurse. It is a violation of school rules for a student to possess and take medication or to provide it to another student on school property. This includes over the counter medication. Students in grades 7-12 that are prescribed insulin, epinephrine and rescue asthma inhalers may carry and self administer these medications once a Medication Administration Request Form is on file at the school.

Medication Administration Request Form:

- Must be provided for each medication.**
- Forms are available in the school offices and under District Forms on the Berkshire Schools website.**
- A new form is required each school year.**
- All Medication Administration Requests, for both prescription and over the counter medications, must be filled out and signed by the prescribing physician.**
- This policy extends to school sponsored trips and athletics.**

Medications provided to the school must be:

- Brought to school by a parent or adult family member**
- In the original container**
- Labeled with the student's name, the name of the medication, the dose, time to administer and any directions for use.**
- Over the counter medications must be in a small size, sealed, original container.**

Please direct questions to Kathy Pinkava, RN, LSN, Berkshire School Nurse
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