

NORTH PENN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Lansdale, PA 19446-3960
INFORMATIONAL SHEETS

ITEM NUMBER: _____

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SUBJECT: New Board Policy

MONTH/YEAR PRESENTED TO BOARD: September 2017

INITIATED BY: Dr. Diane Holben

COMMITTEE: Education/Community/Policy Committee

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend approval of new Board Policy #5146.1: Students – Administration of Naloxone.

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BACKGROUND:

A new policy is being presented for the Board’s review and approval process. This policy is as follows:

- Board Policy #5146.1: Students – Administration of Naloxone

The policy has been reviewed by the NPSD Solicitor.

Date Prepared: 9/7/2017

NORTH PENN SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Board Policy

5146.1

STUDENTS

Elementary and Secondary

Welfare

Administration of Naloxone

Purpose

Act 139 of 2014 legally permits a person who is in a position to assist a person at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose to administer naloxone. Naloxone is a medication found to counteract the potential fatal respiratory depression that may be caused by opioid drugs. The District seeks to take precautions in order to prevent the potential for serious injury or fatality associated with opioid overdose among its students, staff members and community members.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, terms are defined as follows:

Opioids - powerful substances that are sometimes used to manage acute and chronic pain. Medications and illegal drugs that fall within this category include, but are not limited to, hydrocodone, oxycodone, morphine, codeine, heroin, methadone, fentanyl, hydromorphone, buprenorphine, and other related drugs.

Naloxone - a medication that can reverse an overdose caused by opioids.

Guidelines

Naloxone may be administered in good faith and with reasonable care to a person believed to be suffering an opioid-related drug overdose by certified school nurses, staff nurses, substitute nurses and any other District employee who has completed training developed or approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Health on the topics of recognizing opioid-related overdoses, administering naloxone and promptly seeking medical attention. Administration of naloxone shall occur in accordance with drug manufacturer guidelines. District personnel must contact 9-1-1 promptly after administration of naloxone.

The Superintendent or designee shall obtain a standing medical order from the District's Medical Director/Physician for the administration of naloxone to any person believed to be suffering an opioid-related drug overdose by responsible personnel (certified school nurses, staff nurses, substitute nurses and any other District employee who has received training on the administration of naloxone through a program developed or approved by the Department of Health). The Superintendent or designee shall maintain an active list of all District employees who have successfully completed training regarding the administration of naloxone.

Naloxone shall be safely stored in compliance with the drug manufacturer's storage instructions in a secure location in the Health Suites of the school buildings where it is kept. The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for record-keeping and inventory, and to ensure supplies are refreshed as recommended. Additionally, procedures for reporting the use of naloxone shall also be established by the Superintendent or designee.

Administration of naloxone shall not be required in situations when naloxone is not available, when a qualified naloxone administrator is not available or when it is unclear as to whether an opioid overdose is occurring. Nothing in this policy shall create a duty on behalf of the District to administer naloxone.

Parental Notification/Referral to Student Assistance Program

The Superintendent or designee shall take reasonable steps to notify students and their parents/guardians of this policy once each school year. Such notification shall encourage students to immediately report suspected drug overdoses to school officials to ensure medical assistance can be immediately provided.

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of any student to whom naloxone is administered pursuant to this policy as soon as practicable and refer said student to the District's Student Assistance Program.

Non-Employee Administration of Naloxone

Nothing in this policy is intended to regulate, restrict or otherwise deter a law enforcement officer, emergency medical technician, volunteer fire company member, licensed medical professional or other authorized individual from administering his or her own supply of naloxone when responding in good faith to a suspected drug overdose occurring on District property or at a District-sponsored activity or event.

Policy:
Adopted: October 19, 2017