

AVONWORTH SCHOOL DISTRICT MEDICATION PROCEDURES

Medications brought to school that do not meet the following requirements will not be given.

Prescription Medications

- The parent/guardian and physician must complete the medication order and permission form for EACH medication to be given at school. It is strongly recommended that medications be given at home whenever possible.
- All prescription medication **MUST** be in the **original pharmacy container**. All orders **MUST** include:
 - Name of student
 - Name of licensed prescriber
 - Name of medication
 - Route and Dosage
 - Date
 - Time of administration
- **The pharmacy label may be used instead of the signed prescription only if the dose and administration instructions are exactly as stated on the prescription.**

Non-Prescription (Over-the-Counter/OTC) Medications

- Licensed medical professionals in PA cannot administer **non-prescription** medications without a doctor's order.
- All medication orders for non-prescription medicines must include the same information as prescription medications. (see above)
- All medicines must be in original unopened packaging.
- The school physician has authorized the administration of Tylenol (acetaminophen) or Advil (ibuprofen) for **middle and high school students only** (standing orders). These will be given at the discretion of the School Nurse.
- The above medications will be given **ONLY** with written parental permission as requested on the Emergency Card. No exceptions or courtesy calls will be made.
- These standing orders apply only to the **middle and high school students**. As many medications vary in dose and type according to weight for younger children **all elementary students will require a doctor's order for any non-prescription medication.**

** At a Glance **

ALL medications require a medication form completed and signed by parent AND physician.

ALL medications MUST be in the original pharmacy container OR unopened original packaging.

Medication in plastic bags or other containers are NOT acceptable. Any medication sent in like this will be disposed of immediately.

Medications MUST be delivered directly to the School Nurse by a parent or guardian. Students are not permitted to carry medication in school or on the bus.

All medication orders must be renewed at the beginning of each academic year.

Medications must be picked up by a parent or guardian by the last day of school.

Medications will be disposed of after a week if a parent does not pick up after expiration or discontinuation OR at the end of the year for ongoing meds.

Parent/guardian is responsible to inform nurse of any changes in medication order and to provide verification from doctor.

Students are not permitted to carry prescription OR non-prescription medications OR over-the-counter vitamins or supplements while at school.

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Parents/guardians **MUST** deliver medications **directly** to the School Nurse and pick up any unused medications at the end of the school year. If medications are not picked up by a parent within a week of expiration/discontinuation OR by the end of the school year for daily/ongoing medications they will be disposed of. Strict adherence to this policy is necessary for the safety of all students, and to protect your child and yourself from responsibility should drugs fall into the hands of another student on the bus or school property.

Emergency or Chronic Disease Medications

- This includes all medications used to treat severe allergic reactions, anaphylaxis, asthma, diabetes, etc.
- These medications must be kept in the health office at all times. A medication administration form and information about the specific student must be provided to the nurse. Students with asthma and severe allergies should have an Action Plan on file. (See School Nurse or website)
- It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to deliver these medications to the School Nurse on the **first day** of school. They must be available in the Health Office for emergency use.
- In accordance with Pennsylvania State Law, students with severe or unstable illnesses may carry their own medication at school or on the school bus. Students must demonstrate responsible behavior in using the medication. Failure to do this will result in withdrawal of permission to carry and use medication during the school day or on the bus. If a student is unable to self-administer a medication, special arrangements will be made with the bus garage to ensure student safety.
- Students carrying and administering their own asthma inhaler must have a completed and signed asthma waiver on file in the health office.
- It is the responsibility of the parents of student athletes with asthma, severe allergies, or other chronic conditions, possibly requiring treatment at athletic events, to provide the coach with the medication on the **first day of practice**. The coach will keep all medications in the first aid kit, along with emergency information, so that it is available at all games and practices. Athletes will self administer medications unless medically impossible. Athletes **will not** be permitted to participate in events if the medication is not available for emergency use.
- Please note that to ensure the safety of your child, basic information regarding life-threatening and emergency conditions may be shared with staff interacting with your child. If you wish for this information to be withheld you must let the building nurse know.

Field Trips

- Administration of non-emergency/daily medications on a field trip will be addressed with parent/ guardian on an individual basis.