5.34—SCHOOL HEALTH POLICY

The Fayetteville Schools will take appropriate actions to protect the health and safety of all students. The Superintendent of Schools is authorized to establish such procedures as may be necessary to comply with applicable laws and regulations or to otherwise insure the health and safety of students. Such procedures shall be considered a part of this policy.

Students (or their representatives) who feel that this policy is administered in an arbitrary, capricious, discriminatory, or otherwise unfair manner may appeal through appropriate administrative channels, then to the Board of Education.

I. Admission to School

A. Kindergarten through Grade Twelve:

Except as otherwise provided in these regulations, no child shall be admitted to a public or private school of this state who has not been immunized against poliomyelitis, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, red (rubeola) measles, rubella, mumps, hepatitis B, and varicella (See Immunization Table), as evidenced by a certificate of a licensed physician or a public health department acknowledging the immunization. Parents may request waivers of these requirements for health, philosophical, or religious reasons. Such waivers must be properly documented and approved by the Arkansas Department of Health. If the child does not meet the immunization requirements for entering school, the school is requested to refer the child to a medical authority (private doctor or health department) for immunization or consultation for when the immunization is due.

B. A physical examination shall be provided by the parents of all enrolling kindergarten students. The physical examination shall occur within two years prior to or within 90 days after the student’s initial enrollment in kindergarten. Forms for reporting the results of this examination shall be available in each school. In lieu of a physical examination parents may state, in writing, that they do not want their child to have a physical examination.

II. Communicable Diseases and Parasites

Students with communicable diseases or with human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment shall demonstrate respect for other students by not attending school while they are capable of transmitting their condition to others. Students whom the school nurse determines are unwell or unfit for school attendance or who are believed to have a communicable disease or condition will be required to be picked up by their parent or guardian. Specific examples include, but are not limited to: chicken pox, measles, scabies, conjunctivitis (Pink Eye), impetigo/MRSA (Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus), streptococcal and staphylococcal infections, ringworm, mononucleosis, Hepatitis A, B or C, mumps, vomiting, diarrhea, and fever (100.4 F when taken orally). A student who has been sent home by the school nurse will be subsequently readmitted, at the discretion of the school nurse, when the student is no longer a transmission risk. In some instances, a letter from a health care provider may be required prior to the student being readmitted to the school.

To help control the possible spread of communicable diseases, school personnel shall follow the District’s exposure control plan when dealing with any bloodborne, foodborne, and airborne pathogens exposures. Standard precautions shall be followed relating to the handling, disposal, and cleanup of blood and other potentially infectious materials such as all body fluids, secretions and excretions (except sweat).

The District shall maintain a copy of each student's immunization record and a list of individuals with exemptions from immunization which shall be education records as defined in policy 5.13. That policy provides that an education record may be disclosed to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

A student enrolled in the District who has an immunization exemption may be removed from school at the discretion of the Arkansas Department of Health during an outbreak of the disease for which the student is not vaccinated. The student may not
return to the school until the outbreak has been resolved and the student's return to school is approved by the Arkansas Department of Health.

The parents or legal guardians of students found to have live human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment will be asked to pick up their child when the human host parasite is discovered. The parents or legal guardians will be given information concerning the eradication and control of human host parasites. A student may be readmitted after the school nurse or designee has determined the student no longer has live human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment.

Each school may conduct screenings of students for human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment as needed. The screenings shall be conducted in a manner that respects the privacy and confidentiality of each student.

**III. Chronic Infectious Diseases**

Chronic infectious diseases (such as AIDS, Hepatitis B) will be managed by an Infectious Disease Review Team (IDRT) established for each student who is identified as having such a disease.

The IDRT will consist of the following members:

1. A physician appointed by the superintendent
2. A school nurse appointed by the superintendent.
3. The building principal

The IDRT will work with the student, the student’s parents and physician, and appropriate public health officials to make a recommendation to the superintendent regarding the most appropriate educational program for the student.

The IDRT will use criteria outlined in the Guidelines for determining when the student should be excluded from school. Although such exclusion should not be considered routinely, it may be necessary for the safety of the infected student or for the safety of others at the school.

The IDRT recommendations will be forwarded to the superintendent. The Superintendents’ decision in such cases may be appealed to the Board of Education.

Appropriate in-service training in the control and treatment of infectious diseases will be provided annually to all school employees, under the direction of the school nurses. Such training shall be mandatory for all staff members and shall include those areas in the Guidelines under “Procedures for School Management of Infectious Diseases” (pp. 5-11). Staff members who have direct contact with a student who has a chronic infectious disease may be given additional training if such training is recommended by the IDRT and the superintendent. Such training would be provided by school nurses or appropriate public health officials or medical professionals.

Custodial procedures for maintaining a clean and healthful school environment will be established by the Supervisor of School Plant Services.

Procedures for handling and preparing food in school facilities will be established by the Director of Food Services.

**IV. Health Screenings**

The school district will conduct annual health screenings in the following areas as required by the Department of Education and the Department of Health:

A. Dental screening
B. Vision screening
C. Hearing screening
D. Scoliosis screening
E. Body Mass Index (BMI).
School nurses will make the necessary arrangements for these screenings.

V. Administration of Medication

Prior to the administration of any medication to any student under the age of eighteen (18), written parental consent is required. The consent form shall include authorization to administer the medication and relieve the Board and its employees of civil liability for damages or injuries resulting from the administration of medication to students in accordance with this policy.

Unless authorized to self-administer, students are not allowed to carry any medications, including over-the-counter medications or any perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, while at school. The parent or legal guardian shall bring the student’s medication to the school nurse. The student may bring the medication if accompanied by a written authorization from the parent or legal guardian. When prescription medications are brought to the school nurse, the nurse shall document, in the presence of the parent, the quantity and type of the medication(s). If the medications are brought by a student, the school nurse shall ask another school employee to verify, in the presence of the student the quantity of the medication(s). Each person present shall sign a form verifying the quantity and type of the medication(s).

Medications, including those for self-medication, must be in the original container and be properly labeled with the student’s name, the ordering health care provider’s name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

All students may be given over the counter medication with written parent permission and medication is labeled with the student’s name. Students with an individualized health plan (IHP) may be given over-the-counter medications to the extent giving such medications are included in the student's IHP.

The only Schedule II medications that shall be allowed to be brought to the school are methylphenidate (Ritalin), amphetamine sulfate (Adderall), dextroamphetamine (Dexedrine), or closely related medications as determined by the school nurse or other ADHD medications prescribed by a physician. To help ensure their safe keeping, any such medications brought to the school nurse shall be stored in a double locked cabinet.

For the student's safety, no student will be allowed to attend school if the student is currently taking any other Schedule II medication than permitted by this policy. Students who are taking Schedule II medications which are not allowed to be brought to school shall be eligible for homebound instruction if provided for in their IEP and 504 plans.

The district's supervising registered nurse shall be responsible for creating both on campus and off campus procedures for administering medications.

Students who have written permission from their parent or guardian and a licensed health care provider to self-administer either an asthma inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine, or both and who have a current consent form on file shall be allowed to carry and self-administer such medication while in school, at an on-site school sponsored activity, while traveling to or from school, or at an off-site school sponsored activity. Students are prohibited from sharing, transferring, or in any way diverting his/her medications to any other person. The fact that a student with a completed consent form on file is allowed to carry an asthma inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine, or both does not require him/her to have such on his/her person. The parent or guardian of a student who chooses to not carry an asthma inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine, or both on his/her person shall provide the school with the appropriate medication which shall be immediately available to the student in an emergency.

Students may be administered Glucagon in emergency situations by the school nurse or, in the absence of the school nurse, a trained volunteer school employee designated as a care provider, provided the student has:

1. an IHP developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which provides for the administration of Glucagon in emergency situations; and
2. a current, valid consent form on file from their parent or guardian.

The school shall not keep outdated medications or any medications past the end of the school year. Medications not picked up by the parents or legal guardians within the ten (10) day period shall be disposed of in accordance with current law and regulations.

Legal References: Ark. State Board of Nursing: School Nurse Roles and Responsibilities
Arkansas Department of Education and Arkansas State Board of Nursing Rules Governing the Administration of Glucagon to Arkansas Public School Students Suffering from Type I Diabetes
A.C.A. § 6-18-707
A.C.A. § 6-18-1005(a)(6)
A.C.A. § 17-87-103 (11)
A.C.A. § 6-18-702

Cross References:
4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS
4.13—PRIVACY OF STUDENTS’ RECORDS/DIRECTORY

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