

# POLICY

Roselle Park Board of Education  
Roselle Park, New Jersey

File Code: 5330

## ADMINISTERING AN OPIOID ANTIDOTE

New Jersey's "Overdose Prevention Act" encourages the wider prescription and distribution of an opioid antidote to prevent opioid overdose. The New Jersey Department of Education informed school districts they may develop and adopt policies and procedures to maintain and administer an opioid antidote to any student, school personnel, or other person believed to be experiencing an opioid overdose during school hours or during on-site school-sponsored activities to block the opioid's life-threatening effects.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4.a.(1)(e), the school district's physician, as a health care practitioner as defined in N.J.S.A. 24:6J-3, may prescribe or dispense an opioid antidote directly or through a standing order to the school district for a school district certified school nurse or a trained employee designated by the Board of Education to administer an opioid antidote when the nurse is not physically present at the scene to administer to overdose victims, provided the school physician deems a school district certified nurse is capable of administering the opioid antidote to an overdose victim in an emergency. The physician's standing order must specify a school district certified school nurse or a trained employee designated by the Board of Education to administer an opioid antidote to a student, staff member, or other person who is experiencing an opioid overdose. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 24:6J-5.a.(1), the school physician issuing the standing order shall ensure that overdose prevention information is provided to the school district, the certified school nurse(s), designated by the Board of Education authorized to administer an opioid antidote. The overdose prevention information shall include, but not be limited to: information on opioid overdose prevention and recognition; instructions on how to perform rescue breathing and resuscitation; information on opioid antidote dosage and instructions on opioid administration; information describing the importance of calling 911 emergency telephone service for assistance with an opioid overdose; and instructions for appropriate care of an overdose victim after administration of the opioid antidote.

Upon receiving a report of a possible opioid overdose during school hours or during an on-site school-sponsored activity, the Principal, the Principal's designee, or supervising staff member will immediately call 911. The school nurse, during school hours and if available at an on-site school-sponsored activity, will also be immediately called. In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4.d.(1), the school nurse who has received overdose prevention information pursuant to N.J.S.A. 24:6J-5.a.(1) and has been deemed capable of administering the opioid antidote by the school physician may administer the opioid antidote to a student, staff member, or other person in an emergency if the school nurse or trained employee designated by the Board of Education to administer and opioid antidote believes, in good faith, that the person is experiencing an opioid overdose.

ADMINISTERING AN OPIOID ANTIDOTE (continued)

The school nurse and/or other school staff members shall keep the student, staff member, or other person comfortable until emergency medical responders arrive on the scene. Any individual who receives an opioid antidote must be transported to the nearest hospital by emergency services personnel. Any student transported by emergency services personnel must be accompanied by a school staff member designated by the Principal or Principal's designee, or by a supervising staff member if the administration of the opioid antidote occurs during on-site, school-sponsored activity.

The Principal or Principal's designee, or supervising staff member will notify the parent of any student or a family member or other contact person for a school staff member who may be experiencing a possible opioid overdose as soon as practicable. The Principal or Principal's designee or supervising staff member of the on-site school-sponsored activity shall notify the Superintendent of Schools whenever an opioid antidote is administered.

The school nurse shall be responsible for storing the opioid antidote prescribed by the school physician in a secure but unlocked and easily accessible location, documenting the administration of an opioid antidote on a students' health record, monitoring the on-site inventory and maintenance of the opioid antidote supply, and planning for the disposal of administered and expired opioid antidotes and applicators.

Any student or school staff member who is found to be under the influence of a controlled dangerous substance shall be subject to the provisions of applicable statutes and administrative codes and Board policies and regulations regarding substance use.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 24:6J-4.d.(2), the school district and the school nurse shall not, as a result of any acts or omissions, be subject to any criminal or civil liability for administering an opioid antidote in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 24:6J-1 et seq.

Noting in this Policy shall prohibit the administration of an opioid antidote to a student, staff member, or other person in an emergency during school hours or during on-site school-sponsored activities by an emergency medical responder or by a person authorized to administer an opioid antidote in accordance with N.J.S.A. 24:6J-1 et seq.

This Policy shall be reviewed and approved by the school physician and Board Attorney prior to Board adoption and whenever the Policy is revised. This Policy shall be made available to school staff members, parents, and students in staff and student handbooks, published on the district's website, or through any other appropriate means.

N.J.S.A. 24:6J-1 et seq.

May 24, 2016 New Jersey Department of Education Memorandum – Information for Schools Regarding Opioid Overdose Prevention

Adopted:

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