

SD 42 POLICY: 9601

ANAPHYLAXIS

Anaphylaxis is a sudden and severe allergic reaction, which can be fatal, requiring immediate medical emergency measures be taken.

The Board of Education of School District No. 42 (“the Board”) recognizes that it has a duty of care to students who are at risk from life-threatening allergic reactions while under school supervision. The Board also recognizes that this responsibility is shared among the students, parents, the school system and health care providers.

The purpose of this policy is to minimize the risk to students with severe allergies to potentially life-threatening allergens without depriving the severely allergic student of normal peer interactions or placing unreasonable restrictions on the activities of other students in the school.

This policy is designed to ensure that students at risk are identified, strategies are in place to minimize the potential for accidental exposure, and staff and key volunteers are trained to respond in an emergency situation.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to create and implement all procedures and forms required under this Policy.

While the Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows Board of Education can not guarantee an allergen-free environment, the Board will take reasonable steps to provide an allergy-safe and allergy-aware environment for students with life-threatening allergies.

All schools in the Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows School District must implement the steps outlined in school district procedures on anaphylaxis, which include:

- (a) a process for identifying anaphylactic students;
- (b) a process for keeping a record with information relating to the specific allergies for each identified anaphylactic student to form part of the student’s Permanent Student Record;
- (c) a process for establishing an emergency procedure plan, to be reviewed annually, for each identified anaphylactic student to form part of the student’s student record;
- (d) an education plan for anaphylactic students and their parents to encourage the use by anaphylactic students of Medic-Alert identification;

- (e) procedures for storage and administering medications, including procedures for obtaining preauthorization¹ for employees to administer medication to an anaphylactic student²; and
- (f) a process for principals to monitor and report information about anaphylactic incidents to the board in aggregate form.

APPROVED: October 29, 2014

¹ Must be obtained from both the student's physician and the student's parents

² For students who have not been identified as anaphylactic, the standard emergency procedure is to call emergency medical care (911 where available) – school staff should not administer medication to unidentified students.