

POLICY	5420 Adopted: August 22, 2006 Student Policies
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SUBJECT: STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

The Greater Southern Tier BOCES Board recognizes that good student health is vital to successful learning and realizes its responsibility, along with that of parent(s) or guardian(s), to protect and foster a safe and healthy environment for students.

The BOCES will provide first aid and emergency care for students in accidental or unexpected medical situations. Health problems will be referred to the parent(s) or guardian(s), who shall be encouraged to have their family health care provider provide appropriate care.

Communicable Diseases

It is the responsibility of the Board to provide all students with a safe and healthy school environment. To meet this responsibility, it is sometimes necessary to exclude students with contagious and infectious diseases, as defined in the Public Health Law, from attendance in school.

It is the responsibility of the District Superintendent, working through district health personnel, to enforce this policy and to contact the county or local health department when a reportable case of a communicable disease is identified in the student or staff population.

Administering Medication to Students

Neither the Board nor BOCES staff members shall be responsible for the diagnosis and/or treatment of student illness. In accordance with New York State’s Nurse Practice Act, only a registered nurse, or an LPN under the direction of a registered nurse or licensed physician, may supervise a student taking medication. The administration of prescribed medication to a student during school hours shall be permitted only when failure to take such medicine would jeopardize the health of the student, or the student would not be able to attend school if the medicine were not made available to him/her during school hours, or where it is done pursuant to law requiring accommodation to a student’s special medical needs. Self-directed students as defined in New York State Law may take medications as prescribed.

Before any medication may be administered to or by any student during school hours, the Board requires:

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1. the written request of the parent(s) or guardian(s), which shall give permission for such administration and relieve the Board and its employees of liability for administration of medication; and
2. the written order of the prescribing health care provider, which will include the name of the drug, the purpose of the medication, the dosage, the time at which or the special circumstances under which medication shall be administered, the period for which medication is prescribed and the possible side effects of the medication.

Both documents shall be kept in a confidential file in the school.

The District Superintendent shall develop comprehensive regulations governing student health services. Those regulations shall include the provision of all health services required by law, procedures for the maintenance of health records and procedures for the administration of medication to students.