

Emergency Medications

We are pleased to be able to offer this opportunity to our school community.

Pawnee Unti District #11 is following the guidelines from (105 ILCS 5/22-30) self-administration and self-carry of asthma medication and epinephrine injectors; **administration of undesignated epinephrine injectors; administration of an opioid antagonist; administration of undesignated asthma medication; asthma episode emergency response protocol.**

The school nurse or other trained staff can provide emergency asthma medication, undesignated epinephrine injectors, and opioid antagonists to students while at school, on school property, or at a school-related event.

Information on medications:

Asthma: Asthma is a chronic (long-term) condition that affects the airways in the lungs. The airways are tubes that carry air in and out of your lungs. If you have asthma, the airways can become inflamed and narrowed at times. This makes it harder for air to flow out of your airways when you breathe out. The medication (albuterol) is an inhaled medication which opens the tubes that move air into and out of the lungs and makes it easier to breathe. Albuterol is very safe and effective. It will be administered according to the guidelines established by the Illinois State Board of Education and any parent/guardian of a student receiving the medication will be notified immediately.

If your child has asthma, I urge you to notify the school and provide me with a inhaler and asthma action plan from your child's doctor. The emergency asthma medication is not intended to replace your child's personal inhaler but will be available in case of emergencies.

Anaphylaxis: This is a severe systemic allergic reaction from exposure to allergens that is rapid in onset and can cause death. Common allergens include animal dander, fish, latex, milk, shellfish, tree nuts, eggs, insect venom, medications, peanuts, soy, and wheat. A severe allergic reaction usually occurs quickly. An anaphylaxis reaction can occur up to one to two hours after exposure to the allergen. The medication (epinephrine) treats severe allergic reactions (anaphylaxis). It may also be used to treat sudden asthma attacks. It reduces the effects of an allergic reaction, such as trouble breathing or swelling of the face, lips, and throat. Call emergency services after injection. You may need additional treatment. Epinephrine is very safe and effective. It will be administered according to the guidelines established by the Illinois State Board of Education and any parent/guardian of a student receiving the medication will be notified immediately.

Parents/guardians of students with known life-threatening allergies and/or anaphylaxis should provide the school with written instructions from the student's healthcare provider for handling

anaphylaxis and all necessary medications for implementing the student-specific order on an annual basis. This may be provided as an Individual Health Care Plan, an Emergency Action Plan, or as part of a student's Individualized Education Program or Section 504 Plan.

Opioid Antagonist: The medication (Naloxone) is indicated for the reversal of opioid overdose, induced by natural or synthetic opioids, relative to respiratory depression or unresponsiveness. A school nurse or trained personnel, as defined in State law, may administer an undesignated opioid antagonist to a person when they, in good faith, believe a person is having an opioid overdose. It has NO effect unless someone has been taking opioids such as Heroin, Codeine, Fentanyl, Morphine, Methadone, and other prescription opioids. Under [Public Act 103-0348](#), which took effect January 1, 2024, public and private schools are now required to keep a supply of an opioid antagonist on hand to be used in the event of an overdose. Any parent/guardian of a student receiving the medication will be notified immediately.

Sincerely,

Angela Williams- School Nurse