

## Student Self Administration of Asthma Inhalers and Epinephrine Auto Injectors

The Tunkhannock Area School District realizes that there are circumstances that require students to continue the use of prescription medication during the regular school day. Students and parents must adhere to the following procedures if the need arises to administer prescriptions or medications. Aspirin, aspirin products, and over-the-counter medications are involved in these procedures and regulations.

1. All medication must be brought to school by parent/guardian in a container or package appropriately labeled by the physician or pharmacy and delivered to the school nurse.
2. All written documentation by the physician and the parent/guardian shall be kept on file the health office.
3. Parent(s) must annually send written permission signed, for the school nurse to administer non-prescription medications.
4. Medication no longer needed to be administered at the school shall be picked up by the parent/guardian. Medications left at school will be discarded. Medications will not be kept over the summer.
5. Students with life-threatening disorders will be allowed to Carry their inhalers and/or epi-pen with written documentation from the family physician given to the school nurse annually. All documentation will be kept on file in the health office.
6. Since medicine will not be given back to the student, parents/guardians must use judgment when considering the length of the prescription. If the prescription is to continue when the student is at home, it may be necessary to divide the prescription appropriately keeping in mind that the school must have the prescription's original container. Any remaining medication must be secured by a parent/guardian, or it will be destroyed.

Any student who is in possession of prescription medication while on TASD property is in violation of TASD Policy #227, the violation is a Level III offense which carries a consequence of up to a ten-day suspension and possibly expulsion from the Tunkhannock Area School District. If a student is inadvertently in possession of any prescription or "over-the-counter" drug, the drug should be brought to the high school principal or assistant principal immediately. This course of action will not necessarily exonerate the student from disciplinary action but would demonstrate that the student is

not attempting to conceal the drug. Administration will determine the appropriate course of action in such circumstances.

