

Policy Title	Student Health Support (the Provision of Medical and/or Physical Assistance within the School)		
Date of Issue	July 6, 1999	Related Procedure	AP 6802-D; AP 6804-D; AP 6807-D; AP 6808-D; AP 6809-D; AP 6813-D; AP 6814-D; AP 6914-D; AP 6915-D; AP 6916-D; AP 6917-D; AP 6918-D
Revision Dates	October 21, 2003; September 18, 2007; February 21, 2012 (rev. Rationale-Strategic Plan); November 19, 2013; October 20, 2015; October 17, 2018	Related Forms	AF 6802; AF 6803; AF 6804; AF 6805
Review Date	October 1, 2020	Originator	Board of Trustees
References			
AP 6804-D "Anaphylaxis (Life-Threatening Allergic Reaction)"; AP 7702-D "Educational Assistant Deployment"; Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act; Policy/Program Memorandum No. 81 'Provision of Health Support Services in School Settings'; Policy/Program Memorandum No. 161 'Supporting Children and Students with Prevalent Medical Conditions (Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, and/or Epilepsy) in Schools'; Good Samaritan Act, 2001; Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, 1996			

1.0 RATIONALE

- 1.1 Bluewater District School Board policies will support and provide direction necessary to achieve the board's Vision, Mission and Strategic Plan priorities.
- 1.2 Bluewater District School Board recognizes that there will be certain students enrolled in schools within the district that may have certified special medical or physical needs and that the daily application of medical or physical assistance may be necessary in order for the students to take advantage of their right to attend school.
- 1.3 Bluewater District School Board shall support students with prevalent medical conditions to fully access school in a safe, accepting, and healthy learning environment that supports well-being.
- 1.4 Bluewater District School Board will empower students, as confident and capable learners, to reach their full potential for self-management of their medical condition(s), in accordance with their AF 6805 "Medical Emergency - Written Plan."

2.0 DEFINITION

In loco parentis

Latin for 'in the place of a parent', and refers to the legal responsibility of a person or organization to take on the responsibilities of a parent.

3.0 POLICY

- 3.1 This policy will provide direction for instances when Bluewater District School Board employees may be required to provide health support for students in order to support their immediate safety/health and long-term well-being.

- 3.2 It is the policy of Bluewater District School Board to provide assistance to parents in meeting the special medical and/or physical needs of the student in the school. The service will be supervised by the principal/designate.
- 3.3 Bluewater District School Board believes that it is the primary responsibility of parents/guardians to provide relevant health information pertaining to the specific needs of their student.

4.0 SYSTEM EXPECTATIONS

- 4.1 It is understood that the administration of drugs and/or provision of physical assistance may in certain cases endanger the safety or well-being of the student and/or subject the staff member to risk of injury or liability or negligence. It is also understood that the responsibility for the provision of such assistance remains primarily with the medical profession and/or the parent/guardian and that any staff member involved in providing assistance is acting "in loco parentis" and not as a health professional (Good Samaritan Act, 2001; Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, 1996).
- 4.2 Staff providing assistance on behalf of the parent shall be selected by the principal/designate from a list of staff who have volunteered. It is understood that a staff person may without prejudice, refuse to volunteer to provide assistance, unless the requirement for assistance is identified in another board policy or the requirement is part of a specific role description and appropriate training has been provided.
- 4.3 The board recognizes that certain substances (allergens) may cause life threatening allergic reactions in people. The board acknowledges the impossibility of totally controlling all substances in a school environment. Authorization is therefore given to the principal to work with staff, parents, the community and the students at school to reasonably reduce the risk as much as possible within the context of a school environment. The strategies and processes outlined in policy and procedure BP/AP 6803-D "School Food and Beverages" will be considered in coordination with this policy to reduce the risk of exposure to anaphylactic causative agents.
- 4.4 Principals shall ensure annual training for school staff who have direct contact with students with medical conditions(s) to ensure the safety and well-being of the student. This training should be reviewed as appropriate.
- 4.5 Principals shall ensure that all permanent and temporary staff, bus operators, and other authorized personnel are made aware of high risk students in the school. In sharing such information, principals must comply with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. High risk students include, but are not limited to:
- a) those who experience severe allergies and anaphylactic shock;
 - b) those prone to severe asthma;
 - c) those prone to seizures;
 - d) those with diabetes;
 - e) those who are medically fragile.
- 4.6 It is expected that the principal/designate is responsible for ensuring that the assistance is provided in accordance with Bluewater District School Board policy and procedures, the Ministry of Education Policy/Program Memorandum No. 81, No. 161, Good Samaritan Act, 2001; Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, 1996, and all other applicable legislation.