

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: NALOXONE  
ADMINISTRATION IN  
SCHOOLS

ADOPTED: June 20, 2016

REVISED:

# EPHRATA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

823. NALOXONE ADMINISTRATION IN SCHOOLS	
1. Purpose	The Ephrata Area School District wishes to prevent opiate-related overdose deaths by making naloxone available in its secondary schools. Naloxone is a medication found to reverse the effects of an opiate-related drug overdose. Consistent with Pennsylvania law, the district wishes to obtain authorization for school personnel to administer naloxone in order to respond to a suspected drug overdose occurring in secondary schools.
2. Definitions	For purpose of this policy, these terms shall be defined as follows:
35 P.S. § 780-113.7(e)	<p><i>Drug overdose</i> – an acute medical condition, including, but not limited to, severe physical illness, coma, mania, hysteria or death, which is the result of a consumption or use of one or more opiate-related controlled substances causing an adverse reaction. An individual’s condition shall be deemed a suspected drug overdose if a prudent person, possessing an average knowledge of medicine and health, would reasonably believe that the condition is a drug overdose and requires immediate medical attention.</p> <p><i>Emergency medical services personnel</i> – individuals whose official or assigned responsibilities include performing or directly supporting the performance of emergency medical and rescue services or firefighting.</p> <p><i>Naloxone</i> – a medication that can reverse a drug overdose caused by an opiate-related controlled substance.</p> <p><i>Secondary student</i> – a student enrolled in either the district’s middle school or high school.</p> <p><u>School Physician’s Standing Order</u></p>
35 P.S. § 780-113.8(c)	The Superintendent or designee shall obtain a standing medical order from the district’s physician, pursuant to Act 139 of 2014, that prescribes naloxone for use by authorized school personnel to assist any individuals suspected of experiencing a drug overdose in the district’s secondary schools.

35 P.S. § 780-113.8(a)(3)

The standing order shall authorize the district to obtain, store and administer naloxone in compliance with this policy, and impose any other conditions that the district's physician believes are appropriate to ensure the safety and well-being of an individual experiencing a drug overdose. The original standing order shall be maintained in the Superintendent's office, and copies of the standing order shall be kept in the nurses' offices of each secondary school.

Training

Before any district employee may administer naloxone under this policy, the employee must successfully complete an on-line Pennsylvania Department of Health training program about recognizing opioid-related overdoses, administering naloxone and promptly seeking medical attention for drug overdoses. Evidence that such training has been completed shall be placed in the employee's personnel file.

The district shall provide its middle and high school nurses, and other relevant school personnel, with the opportunity to complete such on-line training during their regular work schedule.

A list of district employees who successfully completed such training shall be maintained, updated and kept in the nurses' offices and with district administration.

Storage of Naloxone

Naloxone shall be safely stored in the nurses' offices at the middle school and high school in compliance with drug manufacturer's instructions.

Naloxone shall be made readily accessible to those employees who have completed the required training to administer it in the event of a suspected drug overdose. All properly training employees shall be made aware exactly where naloxone is being stored within the nurses' offices.

Administration of Naloxone

These protocols shall be followed when administering naloxone in response to a suspected drug overdose:

1. The employee shall immediately ensure that someone calls 9-1-1 for emergency medical service personnel to be dispatched to respond to a suspected drug overdose.
2. The employee shall access the individual to determine, if: (i) the person is without a pulse or suffering a cardiac arrest; (ii) the person is not breathing or suffering respiratory arrest; and/or (iii) the person is exhibiting signs or symptoms of a drug overdose.

<p>35 P.S. § 780-113.8(f)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. Consistent with the employee's observations and training, administer naloxone to the individual suffering the suspected drug overdose and administer CPR, as needed.</li><li>4. Continue to observe the individual suffering the suspected drug overdose until emergency medical service personnel arrives on scene.</li><li>5. Fully cooperate with emergency medical service personnel responding to the scene, and do not interfere with or impede the administration of emergency medical services to the individual suffering the suspected drug overdose.</li><li>6. Afterwards, notify the building administrator or designee of the facts and circumstances surrounding the drug overdose incident.</li></ol> <p><u>Indemnification</u></p> <p>The district shall indemnify and hold harmless any employee who administers naloxone in good faith to another individual experiencing a suspected drug overdose, if all of these conditions apply: (i) the employee did not act with the intent to harm or with reckless indifference to a substantial risk or harm in administering naloxone to that individual; (ii) the employee successfully completed the training contemplated by this policy; (iii) the employee promptly sought additional medical assistance before or immediately after administering naloxone; and (iv) the employee is administering naloxone in the performance of his or her duties as either an employee or approved volunteer for the district.</p> <p><u>Parental Notification</u></p> <p>District administration shall take reasonable steps to notify secondary students and their parents/guardians of this policy once each school year. Such notification shall encourage students to immediately report suspected drug overdoses to school officials to ensure medical assistance can be immediately provided. Reasonable means to notify students, parents and guardians of this policy shall include, but not be limited to, electronic communications, publication through student handbooks, school newsletters and calendars, the district's official website and other similar paper or electronic means of communication.</p> <p><u>Non-employee Administration of Naloxone</u></p> <p>Nothing in this policy is intended to regulate, restrict or otherwise deter a law enforcement officer, emergency medical technician, volunteer fire company member, licensed medical professional or other authorized individual from administering his or her own supply of naloxone when responding in good faith to a suspected drug overdose occurring on district property.</p>
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