

NORTH PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES & REQUIREMENTS POLICY	Approved: 1/24/2024

PURPOSE

The goal of this policy is to support regulations that seek to ensure the safety and well-being of the students and employees of North Providence School District.

1. Each student, upon entering any school in the State of Rhode Island, must show proof to the Superintendent or his/her designee that the student has been immunized in accordance with current rules and regulations set forth by the Statute.
2. An annual immunization assessment of students shall be conducted as determined by the Department of Health to assure compliance with *Rules and Regulations to Immunization and Testing for Communicable Diseases*.
3. Students who have not received the minimum number of required immunizations, who are not in a prescribed waiting period between doses, shall be excluded from school by the Superintendent or his/her designee.
4. Every student who has not been previously enrolled in a public or non-public school in this state shall have a medical history and physical examination completed. This examination shall be completed within six (6) months of school entry. In addition, a second general health examination and health clearance will be required upon entry to the seventh (7th) grade. This general health examination may be performed during the sixth (6th) grade, but no later than six (6) months after entry into the seventh (7th) grade.
5. Said general health examinations shall be a complete, age-appropriate history and physical examination, assessing the health and well-being of the child and evaluating any challenges to the child's success in school and school-related activities.
6. These general health examinations shall be conducted by the student's family physician, a physician's assistant under the physician's supervision, or a certified registered nurse practitioner who may collaborate with the physician.
7. If there is no evidence that the appropriate general health examination has been performed, the school system shall make provisions for said examination by the end of the school year in which it is required. No

student shall be excluded from school for failure to provide documentation of completion of a general physical examination.

8. The North Providence School Department may require additional health examinations, health clearances, or screenings, to ensure the mental and physical health of each child to participate in classroom, athletic, or special activities sponsored or conducted by the school.

9. For students suspected or identified as having special health needs, referrals by a certified school nurse-teacher shall be made as specified in the *Rules and Regulations for School Health Programs* or in the *Regulations of the Board of Regents Governing the Special Education of Students with Disabilities*.

10. Each school shall provide adequate and appropriate personnel and/or equipment to render individualized health services to students enrolled in the school. At a minimum, said services shall include those ordered by a physician, such as medication administration. North Providence School Department will develop a protocol for medication administration.

11. A student may self-carry or self-administer prescribed medication if the student enters into a written agreement, signed by the student, parent, certified school nurse-teacher or registered nurse, and licensed prescribing health care provider, with specificity regarding the circumstances in which the child may have to self-carry or self-administer. North Providence School Department will develop a protocol for students to self-carry or self-administer prescription medication.

12. No school teacher, school administrator, or school health personnel, or any other school personnel shall be liable for civil damages which may result from acts or omissions which may constitute ordinary negligence when a student self-carries and/or self-administers his/her own medication(s) in accordance with the State of Rhode Island's Rules and Regulations. This immunity does not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross negligence or willful or wanton conduct.

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