

**POSSESSION OF ASTHMA INHALERS AND EPI-PENS
(TREATMENT FOR THE PREVENTION OF ANAPHYLACTIC SHOCK)
BY STUDENTS FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION
DURING POTENTIALLY LIFE-THREATENING SITUATIONS**

The Weston Public Schools will monitor students requiring the use of asthma inhalers and Auto-Injectible Epinephrine (Epi-Pens) for emergency medical purposes as advised by the prescribing physician. Some students may be allowed to retain and self-administer these prescription medications during school hours under the following conditions:

1. At the beginning of each school year parents/guardians are responsible for providing the school nurse with a signed Medication Order Form and Parental Consent form. These forms will be kept on file in the nurse's office of the student's school and must be renewed each school year. The signed forms will indicate that:
 - a. The parent agrees that the student should retain custody of the asthma inhaler or Epi-Pen and warrants that the student has been instructed in the safe and proper use of the inhaler or Epi-Pen.
 - b. In particular, the prescribing health care provider will train the student in the proper use of the Epi-Pen and educate the student regarding his/her allergy. This Epi-Pen training will be reviewed by the school nurse with the student up to three times per year (fall, winter, spring) to ensure that the student is able to:
 - demonstrate the proper technique for using the Epi-Pen with an Epi-Trainer (practice Epi-Pen);
 - describe his/her individual symptoms related to the allergy; and
 - demonstrate knowledge in the proper handling and disposal of an Epi-Pen.
2. In the event that school personnel become aware that an asthma inhaler or Epi-Pen is being improperly or unsafely used or carried, the inhaler or Epi-Pen will be placed in the custody of the school nurse or Principal and the parent will be immediately notified. Custody of the inhaler or Epi-Pen will be returned to the student after consultation with the school nurse on the proper use of the inhaler or Epi-Pen and the consequences inherent in its abuse. Prior to returning the inhaler or Epi-Pen to the student, the parent and student shall be required to sign a statement indicating that the student has consulted with the school nurse regarding the proper usage of the inhaler or Epi-Pen and understands the same.
3. Each September the school nurse will meet with the family and student to establish an Individual Emergency Healthcare Plan which will address the following:
 - a. an emergency action plan;
 - b. a plan for the classroom; and
 - c. a plan for the bus and field trips.
4. The parents/guardians and school nurse will approve and sign the Individual Emergency Healthcare Plan. The plan will be shared with the school Principal and appropriate staff.
5. The staff at the student's school will have annual training regarding anaphylactic shock and the use of an Epi-Pen. All persons directly associated with the student's educational program will be provided with additional training, if necessary, either individually or in small groups.

This additional training will occur annually or more frequently when deemed necessary by the school nurse. The training, at a minimum, shall include:

- a. proper use of the Epi-Pen;
- b. the importance of consulting and following the Individual Emergency Healthcare Plan;
- c. recognition of the symptoms of a severe allergic reaction; and
- d. requirements for proper storage and security, notification of appropriate persons following administration, and record keeping.

Adopted: November 21, 2011