

SOMERSET BERKLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

LIFE-THREATENING ALLERGY POLICY

I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In order to minimize the incidence of life-threatening allergic reactions, the Somerset Berkley Regional School District (SBRHS) will maintain a system-wide procedure for addressing life-threatening allergic reactions and maintain an Allergy Action Plan for any student whose parent/guardian and physicians have informed the school in writing that the student has a potentially life-threatening allergy.

II. PROCEDURE FOR IMPLEMENTING LIFE-THREATENING ALLERGY POLICY

The Somerset Berkley Regional School District will:

- A. Provide life-threatening allergy awareness information to all SBRHS employees.
- B. The use of food for curriculum instruction or special luncheons during the school day will be restricted to approval by the principal, only after teachers have provided full disclosure of all food items and all ingredients in writing to all parents/guardians and have received written consent of all parents/guardians that their child may participate. The use of food as a reward in any classroom will be eliminated, unless otherwise specified in an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504.
- C. If necessary, the school will provide peanut-free/tree-nut free tables in the cafeteria. Reasonable efforts will be made for such tables to become "free" of other allergens as deemed needed for an individual student through documentation from the student's primary care physician or board certified allergist.
- D. SBRHS staff are not responsible for implementing the Life-Threatening Allergy Policy and related protocols and procedures during (1) school sponsored events beyond the school day that are open to the public (e.g. school athletic contests, plays, or ceremonies) or (2) programs or events on SBRHS property that are sponsored by various staff, parent, community, or private groups. School nurses are not available after school hours.
- E. When a student's medical need to be in a safe environment is clearly documented by a board certified allergist, and clear directions from the allergist are provided, SBRHS will make reasonable efforts to create safe classrooms for the student. SBRHS reserves the right to consult with a board certified allergist of its choice to review the recommendation to determine if it will authorize its implementation.
- F. With parent/guardian consent, information about the student's life-threatening allergy will be shared with authorized school personnel. Staff will be reminded that all medical information is confidential and shared on a need-to-know basis.
- G. Due to the confidentiality of medical records, with parent/guardian consent, SBRHS will share the information about the student's life-threatening allergy with the food service manager. The food service manager will obtain permission from the parent/guardian for any intended use(s) of this information by the food service manager, including, but not limited to, re-disclosure of information to other food service personnel, input of

information into their system-wide computers, and train food service personnel to monitor student's food tray.

III. EMPLOYEE TRAINING ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF EPINEPHRINE BY AUTO-INJECTOR TO INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING LIFE-THREATENING REACTIONS

In accordance with 105 CMR 210.000, if SBRHS is registered with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH), the school nurse may train unlicensed personnel to administer epinephrine by auto-injector to individuals with diagnosed life-threatening allergic events. The training program is managed with full decision-making authority, by the designated school nurse leader or responsible school nurse, in consultation with the school physician. This person, or school nurses designated by this person, shall select the individuals authorized to administer epinephrine by auto-injector. Persons authorized to administer epinephrine by auto-injector shall meet the requirements of section 210.004 (B)(2):

- A. The school personnel authorized to administer epinephrine by auto-injector are trained and tested for competency by the designated school nurse leader or responsible school nurse, or school nurses designated by this person, in accordance with the standards established by the MDPH.
 1. The designated school nurse leader or responsible school nurse, or school nurses designated by this person, shall document the training and testing of competency.
 2. The designated school nurse leader or responsible school nurse, or school nurses designated by this person, shall provide a training review and informational update at least twice a year.
 3. The training, at a minimum, shall include:
 - a. Procedures for risk reduction
 - b. Recognition of the symptoms of a severe allergic reaction
 - c. The importance of following the medication administration plan
 - d. Proper use of the auto-injector
 - e. Requirements for the proper storage and security of the auto-injector(s)
 - f. Notification of the appropriate persons following administration
 - g. Record keeping
 4. SBRHS shall maintain and make available, upon request by parent/guardian or staff, a list of those school personnel authorized and trained to administer epinephrine by auto-injector in an emergency when the school nurse is not immediately available.
- B. In addition to the above and as recommended by the MDPH, the SBRHS District will have written protocol signed by the school physician, authorizing the school nurse to administer epinephrine by auto-injector to previously undiagnosed individuals who experience their first life-threatening allergic event in the school setting. Stock supplies of epinephrine will be provided by the SBRHS District and maintained by the school nurse for this purpose.

IV. POLICY REVIEW AND REVISION

Review and revision of these policies and procedures shall occur as needed but at least every two years.

Approved by the School Physician: _____ Date: _____

Approved by the School Nurse: _____ Date: _____

Approved by the School Committee on: _____

Authorizing Signature: _____

Date registered by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health for approval to train unlicensed personnel in the administration of epinephrine by auto-injector to students with diagnosed life-threatening allergic conditions: _____

Valid to _____