



## **POLICY STATEMENT**

### **SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH PREVALENT MEDICAL CONDITIONS AND OTHER MEDICAL NEEDS**

#### **Rationale**

The Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board, (ALCDSB) is committed to the principle of providing healthy and safe learning environments for its students and to support students with medical conditions to fully access school in a safe, accepting, and healthy learning environment that supports well-being. It is the policy of this Board that no pupil with special medical care needs shall be denied access to the educational opportunities provided by the school system as a direct consequence of those needs. ALCDSB is committed to empowering students, as confident and capable learners, to reach their full potential for self-management of their medical condition(s), according to their Medical Care Plan.

The ALCDSB recognizes that educators, educational assistants, volunteers, or other school staff should not be involved with the administration of medication during the school day, where alternative medication schedules are acceptable. It is generally the responsibility of parents/guardians to arrange with their licensed physician for medication which can be administered before and after school. However, where such scheduling options do not exist, the administration of medication to students shall be undertaken in accordance with appropriate administrative procedures associated with this policy.

The ALCDSB recognizes that, on occasion, schools will be responsible for pupils who are receiving medication, who have a condition which requires regular medical treatment, or who, under certain circumstances, may require emergency response to medical condition(s), including severe allergic reactions, anaphylaxis, asthma, diabetes, and/or epilepsy.

The ALCDSB recognizes that situations may arise where the health needs of students are best served by the transport of such students to an appropriate medical facility. ALCDSB also recognizes that its employees will be called upon to determine the most appropriate mode of transporting students in a medical incident or a medical emergency.

#### **Guiding Principles**

- “A whole-school approach” is needed where education and community partners, including health care professionals, have important roles to play in promoting student health and safety and in fostering and maintaining healthy and safe environments in which students can learn” (PPM161).
- Safety and well-being of staff and students is a priority and is dependent upon effective

communication between the parent/guardian, staff and the student to increase awareness, lessen the risk and provide training (e.g. Sabrina's Law) for prevalent medical conditions that have the potential to result in a medical incident or a life-threatening medical emergency.

- All parents/guardians, staff and students, must fulfill their roles and responsibilities and adhere to the process for administering medication and complete all necessary documentation.
- All staff are aware of the students with special medical care needs under the direction of the Principal.
- All schools will establish and communicate, through a Medical Care Plan, action and measures in the event that an emergency response is necessary.

## **References**

*Education Act & Regulations*

*Policy/Program Memorandum No. 81*

*Policy/Program Memorandum No. 161*

*Bill 3, an Act to Protect Anaphylactic Pupils – Sabrina's Law 2005*

*Ryan's Law*

### **Administrative Procedures**

Supporting Students and Staff with Prevalent Medical Conditions and Other Medical Needs

Anaphylaxis

Diabetes

Approved: November 13, 2018

Approved: March 9, 2021