

6682

Emergency Health Care

Policy 6682

Original Adoption: 09/25/1973

Effective Date: 08/14/2013

Revision Dates: 02/23/1976, 11/24/2009, 08/13/2013

Review Dates:

I. PURPOSE

Continuous and meaningful efforts to prevent incidents that lead to emergency situations are the greatest priority of the district.

The purposes of this policy are to provide guidance to school district staff and parents in the event of sudden illness, accidental injury or emergency situations regarding a student's health and to establish the district policy with regard to Do Not Attempt Resuscitation or Do Not Intubate (DNAR and DNI) orders that families may have established with their individual caregivers. The policy is designed to guide district staff in their responsibilities to render emergency health care until the presence of a first responder relieves them, or until a minor situation is handled satisfactorily. The district recognizes that it serves students with complex health needs and that rules cannot be drawn for all situations in advance.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. Principals or site administrators of individual buildings or facilities shall disseminate emergency procedures to building staff.
- B. School personnel shall act promptly and intelligently in the event of sudden illness or injury. The goals of such actions shall be:
 - 1. preservation of lives;
 - 2. prevention of further or additional injuries to the victim or others; and
 - 3. alleviation of pain.
- C. School personnel acting to address sudden illness or injury shall alert or shall cause another to alert, the Building Administrator of the emergency situation. Emergency 911 services will be alerted as soon as possible if necessary under the circumstances of the incident.
- D. School personnel shall act in accordance with the site emergency response plan including notifying members of the Site Emergency Team of any incidents.
- E. Parents of student victims of sudden illness and injury shall be notified as soon as possible.
- F. Subsequent treatment of the victim of sudden illness and injury after emergency care has been received is not the responsibility of the district, the school or the district employees responding to the emergency need.

- G. Off campus incidents where school staff are in a supervisory position to students shall be generally treated as though the event occurred at school, including a 9-1-1 emergency call as soon as possible, if warranted by the situation.
- H. Notwithstanding this district policy, Individualized Education Program (IEP) and Section 504 teams must develop individualized emergency care plans for students when appropriate in accordance with state and federal law.
- I. The school and district crisis support teams will be used as needed for student and staff support following an emergency.

III. DO NOT ATTEMPT RESUSCITATION (DNAR) AND DO NOT INTUBATE (DNI) ORDERS OR REQUESTS.

- A. Definitions: For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions apply:
 - 1. “designated hospital” is the hospital selected by the parent, guardian, or medically fragile adult person to be used in case of an emergency. Any medical directive must include the name of the designated hospital, if one has been chosen. In the absence of a choice indicated on the medical directive, the District will refer all emergencies to Hennepin County Medical Center, or to the hospital directed by the first responders who arrive and take charge of the medical care of the ill or injured person.
 - 2. “district health care staff” includes those district employees who are licensed health care providers, school nurses, registered nurses, nurse practitioners, licensed practical nurses and health services assistants.
 - 3. “DNAR” A DNAR or Do Not Attempt Resuscitation request is a written directive to a physician signed by the parent or guardian of a medically fragile person, or an adult medically fragile person requesting that medical treatment be limited or withheld. It does not apply to emergency first aid procedures that are necessary to promote comfort or care.
 - 4. “emergency first aid procedures” refers to those actions taken in the circumstances of an emergency health crisis or accident to provide care or treatment to an ill or injured person before regular medical aid can be obtained.
 - 5. “medically fragile person” means a person with serious, long-standing or emerging, progressive illness that are often life-threatening.
- B. The primary mission of the District is education. DNAR/DNI orders are medical documents. District education staff shall follow all planned responses to emergency situations until relieved by district health care staff or emergency medical services. Planned responses include restoration of breathing, attempts to stem or stop bleeding, care or action to prevent shock, and physical and emotional comforting. District health care staff shall follow all medical orders including DNAR and DNI orders.

- C. Parents, Guardians or adult students who present DNAR or DNI orders to District staff shall be directed to the school health office. School health staff will accept the order and place it on file for submission to emergency medical responders.
- D. The School Nurse shall coordinate an individual health plan (IHP) with an appropriate team for every person for whom a DNAR or DNI order is received. Notice of receipt of a DNAR or DNI order at a school shall be given to the District Nursing Supervisors, and appropriate school staff, including the principal and the affected student's teachers.
- E. Questions or concerns regarding a DNAR or DNI order shall be referred to the District General Counsel.
- F. Upon arrival of emergency medical responders, the person's DNAR or DNI order shall be delivered to the responders by the Principal or principal's designee.
- G. **Review of Orders** Any DNAR or DNI order received by the school shall be reviewed by the school nurse with the IHP team no less than every eight (8) weeks.
- H. **Rescission of Orders.** If the parent, guardian or adult subject wishes to rescind a DNAR or DNI order, the parent, guardian or adult subject must notify the school's licensed school nurse in writing. Notice of receipt of such a rescission shall be given by the school nurse to the District Nursing Supervisors, the Principal and appropriate school staff. The licensed school nurse shall confirm the rescission order in writing to the parent, guardian or adult subject, the subject's medical provider and any designated hospital identified in the original DNAR or DNI order.

Legal References:

29 USC §794 *et seq.* (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, §504)
42 USC §§ 12101-12213 (Americans with Disabilities Act)

Cross References:

MPS Policy 1040 (Student and Staff Data Protection)
MPS Policy 6680 (Safety, Security and Emergency Crisis Management)
MPS Policy 6681 (Accident Prevention and Reporting)
MPS Policy 6691 (Communicable Diseases Affecting Students)
MPS Policy 6692 (Student Medication)

MPS Regulation 6682 A: (Staff Responsibilities)
MPS Regulation 6682 B: (DNAR/ DNI Plans)

Other References:

“Do Not Attempt Resuscitation (DNAR) Issue Brief” National Association of School Nurses
Position Statement, June 2012

“Honoring Do-Not-Attempt-Resuscitation Requests in Schools”, American Academy of
Pediatrics Position Statement, April 26, 2010.