Asthma Management Policy

The State Department of Education requires each public school district to take certain actions relating to the management of asthma in the school setting. The Jackson Public School District Board of Trustees and staff are committed to providing an environment in which children with asthma can participate in all activities to their full potential. To this end, the Jackson Public School District Board of Trustees shall require the following actions related to asthma management:

District Level

- 1. Provide comprehensive training on asthma to teachers, assistant teachers, school nurses, administrators, and operations, maintenance, and support staff.
- 2. Conduct a health needs assessment that addresses and supports the following: health school environment, physical activity, staff wellness, counseling/psychological services, nutrition services, family/community involvement, health education and health services. The result of the assessment shall be used in the development of long-range maintenance plans that include specific indoor air quality components for each school building. This plan must be included in the school's wellness plan.
- 3. All school construction projects shall have containment procedures for dust, gases, fumes, and other pollutants that trigger asthma.
- 4. School nurses must attend certified asthma educators training.
- 5. Each school's air quality and ventilation systems will be assessed annually with an assessment checklist using the Environmental Protection Agency Tools for Schools Indoor Air Quality Checklist.
- 6. School bus drivers shall minimize the idling of school bus engines to prevent exposure of children and adults to diesel exhaust fumes.

School Level

- 1. Each child with asthma shall have a current asthma action plan (AAP) on file at the child's school for use by the school nurse, healthcare provider, teachers, and staff.
- 2. Parents/guardians of a child with asthma are to have the child's AAP developed and signed by the child's physician/healthcare provider. The AAP should include the child's asthma severity classification, current asthma medication, and emergency contact information.
- 3. The AAP must be updated annually.
- 4. Each school shall adopt an emergency protocol for all staff in case of a major medical emergency for asthma and all other life-threatening diseases.
- 5. Each school health council shall adopt and support the implementation of a local school wellness policy that includes minimizing children's

- exposure to dust, gases, fumes, and other pollutants that can aggravate asthma in the school setting.
- 6. The use of hazardous substances, such as, but not limited to, chemical cleaning products and pesticides in and around school buildings during the hours children are present is prohibited.
- 7. Each school shall have in place an integrated pest management program that includes procedural guidelines for pesticide application, education of building occupants and inspection and monitoring of pesticide application.

Source: Jackson Public School District

Legal Source: Senate Bill 2393, 2010 Regular Session

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