



DeKalb County
Board of Education

Wiring students to learn, achieve, and succeed

Patrick M. Cripps
Director of Schools

Board Members

- Shaun Tubbs, Chairman*
- Jim Beshearse, Vice Chairman*
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CONSENT FOR SCHOOL NURSES TO TREAT

Pursuant to the Family Rights and Responsibilities Act and Tenn. Code Ann. § 63-1-173(c)(1), I am the parent/guardian of _____,
D/O/B _____, and I hereby (check one):

GIVE _____

WITHHOLD _____

the school nursing staff of DeKalb County Schools permission to care for my child as follows:

- To render aid and to treat any non-emergency health conditions such as stomachache, headache, vomiting, cuts and abrasions, nose bleeds, etc.
- To render aid and to treat any emergency health conditions such as allergic reactions, serious wounds or injuries, etc.
- To dispense over-the-counter medication as may be required to treat the child.
- To follow medical orders received from treating physicians or other health care professionals.

I understand that, if I give consent, then I have the right to revoke consent at any time upon informing the school nursing staff **in writing**.

I also understand that, if I withhold or revoke consent, then I agree that I will come to school immediately to care for my child myself. I also understand that the school staff, in its discretion, may call 911 to deal with any emergency and that, if they do so, then I may be responsible for any charges.

Name of parent/guardian

Date



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To: DeKalb County Board of Education
From: Attorney D. Scott Bennett
Re: Proposed revision to Bd. Pol. No. 6.401 to address the new Families' Rights and Responsibilities Act

This past legislative session, the General Assembly enacted Public Chapter 1061, the Families' Rights and Responsibilities Act. Among other things, this Act requires parental consent before school nurses can treat students for a wide range of conditions.

The Act also allows, however, parents to give blanket consent ahead of time for nurses to treat students. We have developed a consent form, and we are recommending a revision to Bd. Pol. No. 6.401 to address what may happen if a parent fails to return a form granting OR withholding consent. Where the parent has not spoken, nurses should be given the professional discretion to help the child where necessary.

At the end of the existing Pol. No. 6.401, we propose new language:

Consent to Provide School Nursing Services

Before the start of each school year, the Administration will send home consent forms to the parents/guardians of each student. Parents/guardians may grant or withhold consent from school nursing staff to render aid to their students in emergency and non-emergency situations and to follow any medical orders that may be on file.

In the event a child needs emergency or non-emergency care and a parent/guardian has not returned a consent form, then the school must attempt to contact the parent/guardian using the information on file with the school. In the event the parent/guardian cannot be reached within a reasonable amount of time, the nurse is authorized to render emergency care if, in the nurse's discretion, such care is necessary to protect the health and well-being of the child. The Board will protect, defend, and hold harmless the nurse against any claim for damages arising out of a good faith decision to aid a student in an emergency where the school has been unable to reach the parent/guardian.

Consent is not necessary for providing support in activities of daily living (ADLs) as those are defined by the Tennessee Department of Education.