

STOCK EPINEPHRINE ON PREMISES

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE: Anaphylaxis is an acute allergic reaction to an antigen to which the body has become hypersensitive. Foods, insect bites or stings, and medications are the primary causes of allergic reactions and they may occur during school. An estimated five percent 5% of students have a food or other form of allergy. Although allergic reactions are often minor and include an itchy rash, swelling of the throat and eyes and low blood pressure, anaphylaxis can be fatal. Epinephrine is used to treat anaphylaxis and is injected into those experiencing a serious allergic reaction. Fayette County Public Schools have health care plans on file for students prescribed epinephrine and employees are trained annually for administering it. In recent years there has been a strong push to keep stock epinephrine in schools to administer to anyone experiencing anaphylaxis. In 2013 the Kentucky General Assembly modified KRS 158.836 to encourage schools to keep an epinephrine auto-injector in a minimum of two (2) locations, including but not limited to the school office and the school cafeteria. The District Coordinated School Health Committee has reviewed this proposal and supports the District keeping epinephrine auto-injectors in all schools. Dr. Priya Warriar an allergist with Family Allergy and Asthma, Laura Jackson of the Kentucky Families with Food Allergies and our nursing partners at Lexington-Fayette County Health Department have been instrumental in moving this forward for Fayette County Public Schools.

COSTS:

Mylan Inc., the manufacturer of Epi-pen will provide four free epi-pens per school building annually (valued at \$26,400). They will also provide onetime, one free wall-mounted storage box per school (valued at \$13,200).

District costs are estimated at \$13,600 in onetime costs:

1. Installation of 1 wall-mounted storage box in each school cafeteria - \$13,200
2. 2 posters per building explaining instructions for Epi-pens and signs of a life-threatening reaction - \$400 one-time expense.

And \$1,200 in recurring costs:

1. Replacement Epi-pens - \$1200

STAFF CONTACT: Myron Thompson, Health and Wellness Coordinator

REFERENCE: KRS 158.836

RECOMMENDATION: A motion is in order to:

“keep two epinephrine auto-injectors in a minimum of two (2) locations in each school, including but not limited to the school office and the school cafeteria, so that epinephrine may be administered to any student believed to be having a life-threatening allergic or anaphylactic reaction.”

On motion by _____, seconded by _____,
the Board approved placing stock epinephrine in schools.

John Price, Board Chair

Tom Shelton, Superintendent