

The following rules will govern First Aid and Emergency Care during the school day and other times of school-sponsored activities. During the school day and other times of school-sponsored activities, accidents or sudden illnesses will occur even though the school exercises all proper precautions. When this occurs, the school will make available trained staff to provide first aid and emergency care to students, staff or visitors present on school property. First aid and emergency care may also be administered by any person, including students, trained in CPR/AED/first aid.

All schools will utilize reporting and documentation procedures for all incidents that occur on the school campus. When indicated, a referral will be made to appropriate medical staff, including the Watauga County Emergency Services (EMS).

In order to provide care in all areas of need, at the beginning of each school year, and thereafter as circumstances require, the school nurse will assist the principal to determine which persons on his/her staff will:

1. Serve as First Responders- those who respond to emergency situations and administer CPR/AED/First Aid as needed in accordance with G.S. 115C-307.
2. Serve as Diabetic Care Providers- those who function as a care-giver for diabetic students in accordance with G.S. 115C-375.3 and G.S. 115C-12 (31).

Training will be conducted by school nurses for all staff serving in the above capacities and necessary supplies will be provided. Documentation of training will be forwarded to the personnel office annually. School nurses receive certification and training through the American Heart Association (AHA) (1) to provide CPR/AED/first aid services; and (2) to train other designated WCS staff in becoming American Heart Association certified providers of CPR/AED and first aid. Training shall be conducted/attended at the minimum following schedule:

- First Responders at each school site will be certified in CPR/AED/first aid every two years. Review of procedures for CPR/AED/first aid, including the identification of the locations of AED and other medical equipment and supplies, will be conducted on non-certifiable years.
- Diabetic Care Providers annually

First Responders and Diabetic Care Providers shall administer approved care and emergency medications according to procedure and adjunct to the school nurse. School personnel administering CPR, first aid, or diabetic care shall receive support from site- administration so that this function can efficiently occur.

School nurses provide CPR/AED and first aid and diabetic care training to several groups of staff located on WCS property upon request. These groups include but are not limited to:

- First Responders

- Diabetic Care Providers
- Exceptional Children's staff
- Coaches
- Physical Education Teachers
- Bus Drivers
- Pre-K staff
- Extended Learning Center (afterschool) personnel

School nurses must supervise First Responders and Diabetic Care Providers according to delegation regulations by the NC Nursing Practice Act. Special Education staff, bus drivers, and coaches/physical education teachers who have received appropriate training specific to an individual student health condition and who provide services during the regular school day are considered able to respond to trained emergencies but are not considered First Responders.

School nurses may conduct basic CPR/AED/First Aid Certification training for staff involved with other programs conducted on school grounds. However, training for staff working with these separate entities is a courtesy, provided only upon request of the program director. The school nurse does not presume liability for care given to students following completion of the training sessions. A fee may be applied to cover costs of supplies for training. Separate entities include:

1. After-school extra-curricular activities such as athletic teams, music clubs, etc.
2. Schools/Community Relations program activities such as after-school and summer/intersession camps.
3. Non-WCS programs located on school property such as Mountain Alliance or NC Pre-K classrooms (Exception: if the student attending is a WCS enrolled student, he/she receives WCS nursing services during the school day).

These separate entities function independently and are not served by school nurses, First Responders or Diabetic Care Providers. The separate entities have their own staff and enrollment regulations and are responsible for providing their own system/personnel for handling health concerns, including equipment, supplies, and health care.

At the start of each new school year, the parent/guardian of every student is requested to provide the following emergency information:

- Parent/guardian location and phone number during the school day

- Name and phone number of the student's physician
- Name and phone number of a relative, neighbor or friend who may be contacted in an emergency in the event a parent/guardian cannot be reached
- Information concerning a student's medical condition or disability

The above information will be kept on file in an accessible location.

In the event of serious injury or illness to a student, the parent/guardian will be notified immediately in conjunction with Emergency Medical Services, should further medical treatment beyond basic first aid be required. Efforts to notify the parent/guardian will continue until the parent/guardian is reached.

Parents who object to the items in this policy are responsible for submitting a written emergency plan signed by the student's health care provider. The emergency plan will be reviewed by the principal and school nurse for approval.

Principals shall inform the office of the superintendent immediately of any serious injuries or illnesses suffered by students, staff or visitors while under the jurisdiction of the school. A report of such injury will be completed and filed according to Watauga County School's procedure.

Legal References:

- * GS 115C-307 Medical Care to Students; Duties of Teachers
- * GS 115C-375.3 Guidelines to Support and Assist Students with Diabetes
- * GS 115C-12(31): To Adopt Guidelines for Individual Diabetes Care Plan
- * GS 90-21.16 Senate Bill 160 2001
- * State of North Carolina Nurse Practice Act, July 2007

Issued by the Superintendent: April 11, 2016

Replaces: Policy 5.03.30, Emergency Health Care Adopted: April 5, 1982 and Revised: March 8, 1993; May 10, 2010 (rescinded by the Board, revised and issued as a regulation by the Superintendent on April 11, 2016)