

Presentation of a Do Not Resuscitate Order to the District

The following criteria must be met when a Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) Order for a student presented to the District:

1. An original of the physician's order and the state Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Do Not Resuscitate form must be completed by the physician and the parent/guardian and submitted to the school. Photocopies or facsimiles are not acceptable.
2. When a student is 18 years of age or older, the DNR authorization must be made by the student, unless custody of the student has been legally awarded to a guardian.

A DNR order is to be presented to the school principal and the school nurse, who will initiate the following procedures:

1. The Superintendent, Principal and school nurse are to be informed when the school has received a DNR order.
2. Upon receiving a DNR order, a conference will be arranged with the parent/guardian, the local EMS providers, appropriate school staff, and health providers. A plan of care, which follows the physician's orders, will be developed and include goals, outcomes and delegation of care to be addressed in the student's Individualized Healthcare Plan (IHP). The healthcare plan will be written by the school nurse, in collaboration with the parent/guardian, and is to be reviewed at the beginning of each school year and as part of each IEP and/or 504 plan (if applicable) and updated as needed. All proceedings are to be documented in the student's health record. The IHP will specify which life-sustaining procedures will be used by district personnel in the case of an emergency.
3. The physician's order and EMS DNR form must be documented on the student's Emergency Card and submitted to the school nurse. DNR orders are to be reviewed at the beginning of each school year and as part of each IEP or 504 plan (if applicable).
4. Student confidentiality will be maintained as much as possible. Only school staff with a legitimate need-to-know will be informed of the DNR order. The parent(s)/guardian(s) will be advised that anyone who is not directly informed about the DNR order will otherwise follow Board policy and initiate resuscitation.
5. The school nurse will be responsible for ensuring that all staff members who are informed of the DNR order are trained to follow the expected procedures as delineated in the student's healthcare plan.

Procedures for Implementing a Do Not Resuscitate Order

If a student with a DNR order suffers a cardiac or respiratory arrest at school, the following will be implemented:

1. Activate Emergency Medical Services.
2. Contact the parent/guardian.
3. Isolate the student and maintain as normal an atmosphere as possible in the school or site.
4. Contact the physician who wrote the DNR order.
5. If a student with a DNR order dies while at school, the school principal or designee will inform the appropriate state or local medical officials, the Superintendent, and the school nurse as soon as possible. The body may not be moved until authorized by the Office of the Medical Investigator.
6. Grief counseling resources for school employees can be obtained from the Employee Assistance Program; and for students, from the Student Support Services Non-Crisis Counseling Team.
7. When appropriate, the District Crisis Counseling Team will be activated to provide assistance at the school.

Revocation of a Do Not Resuscitate Order

The DNR order may be revoked at any time by:

1. Physical destruction of the DNR Order form with the consent of the authorized decision-maker; or
2. An oral statement by the authorized decision-maker to resuscitate.

Staff who have been informed about the original DNR order will be informed of its revocation.

Record of the revocation will be made on the student's health record.

Legal References:

RSA 137-J:26, Issuance of a Do Not Resuscitate Order

RSA 137-J:27, Compliance with a Do Not Resuscitate Order

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 - 1487

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, 20 U.S.C. § 794

Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 – 12213

Law Reference:

Appendix Reference:

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