

Associated School Boards of South Dakota	NEPN Code: EBBA
Policy Reference Manual	

FIRST AID

The school is responsible for giving first aid or emergency treatment only in case of sudden illness or injury to a pupil or a member of the staff. Further medical attention in the case of a pupil is the responsibility of the parent or guardian, or the person designated for emergencies; and in the case of a member of the staff, or the particular individual.

First aid is defined as the immediate and temporary care given in case of an accident or sudden illness, which enables the child to be taken safely home or to a physician. It does not include diagnosis or treatment. Any care beyond first aid will not be given.

Each principal will be charged with directing the immediate care of ill or injured persons who come within his/her area of responsibility until parent, guardian, or medical professional arrives.

Procedures for the proper handling of such emergencies will be developed and made known to the staff. These will incorporate the following requirements:

1. No treatment except first aid is permitted in schools. The school's responsibility is to place the ill or injured student in the care of the home or family physician as soon as possible.
2. Teachers or other trained persons, or bus drivers if the injury occurs on a school bus, will be responsible for administering first aid to students with minor injuries such as scratches, abrasions, bruises, etc.
3. A master first aid kit will be kept and properly maintained in each school and each school bus.
4. No drugs will be administered by school personnel unless authorized by the school nurse.
5. Parents will be asked to sign and submit an emergency medical authorization, which will indicate the procedure they wish the school to follow in event of a medical emergency involving their child.
6. In all cases where the nature of an illness or an injury appears serious, the parent or guardian will be contacted if possible, and the instructions on the child's emergency card followed. Thus, in extreme emergencies arrangements usually may be made for a child's immediate hospitalization whether or not the parent or guardian can be reached.
7. No young child who is ill or injured will be sent home alone, nor will an older child unless the illness is minor and the parent or guardian has been informed in advance.

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