

**Parents, we continue to have problems with medications at school.
We need you to help by being informed and adhering to district policy.**

Medication Policy Highlights

O.P. Earle Elementary School Janice Petty, RN

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- Any medication brought to school should be “...**necessary for school attendance and cannot otherwise be accomplished.**” “For comfort only” measures are not considered necessary. A child who is not well enough to participate in the activities of the academic day should not be at school.
- Sometimes over-the-counter medications mask more serious conditions. Also, toxic conditions can occur with the misuse of some of the “safe” over-the-counter conditions.
- All medication must be administered through the Health Room unless specifically requested in writing by both the parent and the student’s physician.
- *Prescription medication must be accompanied by a written doctor’s order* and brought to school in a current container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy. Ask the pharmacist for two bottles, one for home and one for school.
- Antibiotics, etc. prescribed for **three or less times per day** should not be brought to school.
- *Over-the-counter medications* – even cough drops, throat lozenges, topical ointments, creams and gels – must be in the original bottle, bag, etc., labeled so that we can determine the ingredients, side effects and the appropriate dose for the individual child.
- **A parent’s written request must accompany any medication.** A note will suffice the first day. Then, a *Permission for School Administration of Non-Prescription Medication* form will be sent home. The completed form must be returned the following day or the medication will not be given at school.
- Requests for a dosage outside the labeling directions must be accompanied by a written order from a physician.
- **Herbal and other alternative treatments** may have some benefits, but they have not been sufficiently tested and are not regulated in such a way that they are acceptable for use at school without a physician’s written order.
- Because of the association between the development of Reye’s Syndrome and the use of **aspirin or products containing aspirin**, these medications will only be given at school when there is a doctor’s written order.
- **Any products brought or sent to school that are used for medicinal purposes must meet the above guidelines or they will not be administered and will be discarded according to district medication policy.**
- Medication will not be sent home by a student.