

UNEXPECTED HEALTH EMERGENCIES

This policy is to provide guidance with respect to how the Board of Education will respond to unexpected health emergencies, such as sudden cardiac arrest and opioid overdoses, in accordance with Ministerial Orders.

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) occurs when the heart's electrical system stops working properly. This causes the heart to stop pumping blood, which can lead to death. The most effective treatment for this condition is the administration of an electrical current to the heart by an Automated External Defibrillators (AED), delivered within a short time of the onset disturbance. An AED is only to be applied to victims who are unconscious, without a pulse, signs of circulation and normal breathing.

Naloxone is a fast-acting medication used to temporarily reverse the effects of opioid overdoses, also called an opioid poisoning.

The Board will ensure that life-saving first aid tools, including AEDs and naloxone kits are readily accessible and maintained in every school.

Legal Reference: Ministerial Order 149/89 Support Services for Schools Order

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