

## **FOR FAMILIES:**

### **Fred Moore Day Nursery School policy regarding UNASSIGNED EPINEPHRINE AUTO-INJECTORS**

#### **Overview:**

In accordance with Texas Administrative code, Fred Moore Day Nursery School has adopted a policy to allow trained and authorized staff to administer an unassigned epinephrine auto-injector to someone who is reasonably believed to be experiencing an anaphylaxis reaction.

#### *Frequently Asked Questions:*

#### **Why Unassigned Epinephrine Auto-injectors at Fred Moore Day Nursery School?**

The CDC encourages all school campuses to be ready to effectively manage students with known food allergies and be prepared to respond effectively to the emergency needs of students who are not known to have food allergies as well as respond to any other anaphylaxis trigger.

#### **What is anaphylaxis?**

Anaphylaxis is a severe, potentially life threatening allergic reaction. Symptoms can affect several areas of the body, including breathing and blood circulation.

#### **What can cause anaphylaxis?**

Food allergy is the most common cause of anaphylaxis, although several other allergens- such as insect stings, medications or latex- can be potential triggers.

#### **What is Epinephrine?**

Epinephrine is a synthetic form of the hormone adrenaline. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved it as a safe and highly effective medication that can reverse severe allergy symptoms. Epinephrine is the first-line of treatment for anaphylaxis.

#### **What is an Epinephrine Auto-Injector?**

A single-use injectable device that delivers a fixed dose of epinephrine. The epinephrine injector at Fred Moore Day Nursery School is procured and provided by Denton ISD's Director of Health Services.

#### **Is there a risk associated with the administration of an Epinephrine Auto-Injector?**

Because the risk of death or serious disability from anaphylaxis itself usually outweighs other concerns, existing studies clearly favor the benefit of epinephrine administration in most situations.

**Why does my student have to be transported by EMS to the nearest ER after the administration of an unassigned Epinephrine Auto-Injector?**

While initial symptoms respond to epinephrine, someone who has received epinephrine may still need more treatment for the allergic reaction. Therefore, it is imperative that following the administration of epinephrine, the student be transported by emergency medical services (EMS) to the nearest hospital emergency department even if the symptoms appear to have resolved.

**Is training provided to Fred Moore Day Nursery School staff?**

FMDNS staff attend and participate in a generalized training on an overview and basic instruction on how to identify and take emergency actions in the event of an allergic or anaphylactic reaction during CPR and First Aid Training.

**What if my student has a known allergy and has prescribed epinephrine?**

Students or staff with known anaphylactic reactions, and with prescribed epinephrine, will need to provide the campus with their prescribed individual epinephrine and their allergy action plan signed by their physician.