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I. Purpose

A. Socorro Consolidated Schools (SCS) seeks to prevent injury and death resulting from opioid overdose among students and staff. This aim is consistent with laws of New Mexico which grants state residents authority to administer naloxone and with release from liability. NMSA 1978, Section 24-23-1 (2016).

B. This policy enables school personnel and students to administer an opioid antagonist to another person if the person 1) in good faith, believes the other person is experiencing a drug overdose; and 2) acts with reasonable care in administering the drug to the other person. NMSA 1978, Section 24-23-1(B) (2016).

II. Definitions of Relevant Terms

A. "Opioid" means any substance containing or derived from opium.

B. "Opioid overdose" describes when a toxic or excess dose of opioid overwhelms the body.

C. "Opioid antagonist" refers to a drug approved by the Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that negates the pharmacological effects of an opioid in the body when administered.

D. "Naloxone" means an FDA approved opioid antagonist medication that is used to reverse an opioid overdose. Naloxone is sometimes referred to by the brand name "Narcan."

E. "Administration of opioid antagonist" means the direct application of an opioid antagonist to an individual by inhalation, injection, ingestion, or other means.

F. "Harm reduction" describes a set of practical strategies and ideas to reduce potential negative consequences of drug use; i.e. taking drugs as prescribed.

III. Opioid Overdose Training

A. All School Nurses shall be trained in Naloxone administration.

B. All District staff shall be offered opioid overdose training.

C. Opioid overdose training for students shall be offered at the high school and middle school levels, such as through Casa de Luz, Socorro County Options, Prevention, and Education (SCOPE) or like community outreach programs.

- D. The selected providers of overdose response training offered to staff and students shall meet the New Mexico Department of Health's requirements for overdose prevention and education programs in accordance with regulation 7.32.7.8 NMAC.
- E. All overdose response training should be coordinated through the SCS District Office.

IV. Opioid Overdose Response

- A. Before any SCS staff may administer Naloxone, the staff must successfully complete overdose prevention and Naloxone administration training.
- B. A person may administer an opioid antagonist to another person if the person 1) in good faith, believes the other person is experiencing a drug overdose; and 2) acts with reasonable care in administering the drug to the other person. Section 24-23-1.B.
- C. Specific response and follow-up procedures for responding to a potential opioid overdose shall be outlined in the corresponding administrative regulation.
- D. Principals are encouraged to identify trained staff members who would volunteer to respond to a potential opioid overdose on District property or at a school event.
- E. Nothing in this policy is intended to regulate, restrict, or otherwise deter a medical professional, law enforcement officer, or other individual from administering naloxone when responding in good faith to a suspected drug overdose occurring on school District property or at a school event.

V. Naloxone Storage and Management

- A. Naloxone shall be stored pursuant to the New Mexico Standing Order for Administration of Naloxone by School Personnel. Section 24-23-1.B.
- B. Naloxone may be stored at any school site, so long as the storage location is kept secure, with entry limited to trained staff.
- C. Naloxone may be carried by trained individuals, as long as it is kept secure with reasonable care.
- D. Naloxone must be checked monthly for expiration. In the event it expires, new Naloxone must be obtained and the expired naloxone properly disposed of.
- E. Naloxone must be replaced prior to the expiration date on the product label.

VI. Liability

A. A person who possesses or who administers, dispenses or distributes an opioid antagonist to another person pursuant to this policy shall not be subject to civil liability, criminal prosecution or professional disciplinary action as a result of the possession, administration, distribution or dispensing of the opioid antagonist; provided that actions are taken with reasonable care and without willful, wanton or reckless behavior. NMSA 1978, Section 24-23-1.H References: NMSA 1978, Section 24-23-1 to -3 (2016); 7.32.7 NMAC; New Mexico Standing Order for Administration of Naloxone by School Personnel (effective August 2016 until rescinded).