

CAPITAL AREA SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS CHARTER SCHOOL

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: NALOXONE POLICY

ADOPTED: 2/13/2017

REVISED:

NALOXONE POLICY

The Board of Trustees (“Board”) of the Capital Area School for the Arts Charter School (“Charter School”) recognizes that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has suffered an alarming increase in overdose rates since 2012, most attributable to prescription opioids. *See* TRUST FOR AMERICA’S HEALTH, Pennsylvania State Report (2013), *available at*

<http://healthyamericans.org/reports/drugabuse2013/release.php?stateid=PA>. In response to the ongoing problem, Act 139 of 2014 (“the Act”), as well as guidance from the Governor of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania Departments of Health, Education, State and Drug and Alcohol Programs have provided authority for individuals administering Naloxone (also commonly known as Narcan or Evzio).

This includes a partnership to provide all public Pennsylvania high schools with two free doses of Narcan (Naloxone Hydrochloride) Nasal Spray. The Charter School will store Naloxone at the high school level and provide personnel who possess the education and knowledge to administer Naloxone. Accordingly, the Board adopts this Policy as a necessary source of guidance for families, employees, and others regarding the use and administration of Naloxone at the Charter School.

Act 139 of 2014 permits an individual in a position to assist a person at risk of opioid overdose to obtain and administer Naloxone. Naloxone is a medication that can reverse an overdose that is caused by an opioid drug. When administered during an overdose, Naloxone blocks the effects of opioids on the brain and respiratory system in order to prevent death. It is a medication that can minimize and/or reverse the effects of an overdose caused by opioid drug use. Naloxone has no known potential for abuse and is a non-narcotic and non-addicting prescription drug.

The Act authorizes medical professionals who have prescription authority to prescribe and dispense Naloxone to “a person at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose or family member, friend or other person in a position to assist a person at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose.” The Act also provides for immunity from civil, criminal or professional licensure liability for prescribing medical professionals and for a “person” involved in administering Naloxone when that “person” acts in good faith and with reasonable care. The definition of a “person” in the Controlled substance, Drug, Device, and Cosmetic Act can be read to conclude that public school entities are within the authority and protections given by Act 139.

A Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs Naloxone Fact Sheet shall be displayed in a conspicuous location within the nurses' offices at the high school level. A current version is available in the below link:

[www.ddap.pa.gov/overdose/Documents/Naloxone/Naloxone Fact Sheet.pdf](http://www.ddap.pa.gov/overdose/Documents/Naloxone/Naloxone%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf)

Permission to carry and administer Naloxone on school property shall be limited to Charter School Licensed Health Care Professionals and Safety Officers. Charter School Licensed Health Care Professionals and Safety Officers employed on the high school level shall all complete a Pennsylvania Department of Health approved Naloxone training prior to carrying and/or administering Naloxone. This training shall be repeated every three years.

The Charter School shall request a standing prescription and/or review and update any standing prescription from a licensed physician that allows the Charter School to obtain Naloxone and to replace the medication upon use or in advance of expiration. At all times, the Charter School Licensed Health Care Professionals and Safety Officers will be responsible for supervising building-level administration of Naloxone, including appropriately securing and storing Naloxone, and inventorying and recording all Naloxone in the Charter School's possession.

Naloxone shall only be administered when there is a reasonable belief that an individual is suffering from an opioid-related overdose. Any administration of Naloxone must be done in good faith and be consistent with Pennsylvania Department of Health training and the manufacturer instructions. As soon as possible after administration of Naloxone, the Charter School Licensed Health Care Professional and/or Safety Officer should contact 911.

Administration of Naloxone shall not be required in circumstances of unavailability of Naloxone, unavailability of a qualified Naloxone administrator, and/or uncertainty as to whether an opioid overdose is occurring, among other reasons. This policy shall not create a duty on the part of the Charter School and/or its personnel to administer Naloxone.

TO THE EXTENT THAT ANYTHING IN THIS POLICY COULD BE CONSTRUED TO CONFLICT WITH THE SCHOOL'S CHARTER OR APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS, THE APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS AND/OR CHARTER CONTROL.