

## **New Story Schools of Ohio 2024-2025: Seizure Disorder Support Policy**

### **Policy Statement:**

New Story Schools provides a safe and supportive environment for all students, including those with seizure disorders. This policy is formulated in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code Section 3313.7117, incorporates guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and aligns with recommendations from the Epilepsy Foundation to ensure comprehensive support for students with seizure disorders.

### **Scope:**

This policy applies to all students, staff, and volunteers on the premises of New Story Schools of Ohio (NSO)

### **Definitions:**

Seizure Disorder: A medical condition characterized by recurrent, unprovoked seizures.

### **Guidelines:**

#### **Identification and Individualized Seizure Action Plans:**

Parents/guardians are responsible for notifying the school about their child's seizure disorder.

The school will collaborate with parents/guardians and healthcare professionals to develop individualized Seizure Action Plans for students with seizure disorders, incorporating guidance from the Epilepsy Foundation.

#### **Staff Training:**

All school staff, including teachers, administrators, and support personnel, will receive comprehensive training on recognizing and responding to seizures, incorporating the guidelines from the CDC and the Epilepsy Foundation.

Training will cover seizure first aid, the administration of prescribed rescue medications if applicable, and strategies for creating a supportive environment.

#### **Seizure-Safe Environments:**

Classrooms, common areas, and other relevant spaces will be regularly assessed for seizure safety using guidelines from the CDC and the Epilepsy Foundation.

Modifications will be made as needed to minimize potential hazards during a seizure.

#### **Administration of Medication:**

- If prescribed by a healthcare professional, medication certified staff or school nurse may administer rescue medications as outlined in the student's Seizure Action Plan. Medication administration will be carried out in accordance with state regulations, School Medication Policy, and guidance from the Epilepsy Foundation.

#### **Requirement for emergency medication**

- If a student does not have a completed Authorization to Dispense Medication (ADM), a school seizure plan, and (if necessary) emergency medications on file, the student will not be permitted to attend school until these items are completed and provided to the school nurse or designated school personnel.
- This policy is essential to ensure the safety and well-being of students with seizure disorders while at school. By having a completed ADM, seizure plan, and (if necessary) emergency medications readily available, the school can effectively respond to any seizure-related emergencies and provide appropriate care to the student as needed.
- Parents or guardians are encouraged to work closely with the school nurse and healthcare providers to ensure that all necessary documentation and medications are in place prior to the student's attendance at school.

### **Communication**

Teachers, staff, and school nurse will maintain open communication with parents/guardians of students with seizure disorders, incorporating guidance from the CDC and the Epilepsy Foundation.

Emergency contact information will be kept up-to-date, and parents/guardians will be informed promptly of any incidents or changes in the student's health status.

### **Emergency Response:**

#### **Emergency medical services (EMS) will be called immediately if:**

- A seizure with loss of consciousness lasts longer than 5 minutes, not responding to rescue medication if available.
- There are repeated seizures lasting longer than 10 minutes with, no recovery between them, not responding to rescue medication if available.
- Difficulty breathing occurs after a seizure.
- Serious injury occurs during a seizure.

### **Educational Support:**

Academic accommodations, as recommended by the Epilepsy Foundation, will be provided to students with seizure disorders to ensure equal access to educational opportunities.

Teachers will collaborate with parents/guardians to address any specific learning needs arising from the student's condition.

### **Review and Updates:**

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness. Updates may be made as needed to align with best practices, CDC guidelines, recommendations from the Epilepsy Foundation, and any changes in regulations. Feedback from stakeholders will be considered during the review process to enhance the effectiveness of the policy.