

Orders to Forgo Life-Sustaining Treatment

Written orders from parent(s)/guardian(s) to forgo life-sustaining treatment for their child must be signed by the student's physician and given to the Superintendent. This policy shall be interpreted in accordance with the Illinois Health Care Surrogate Act. 755 ILCS 40/. [1]

Whenever an order to forgo life-sustaining treatment is received, the Superintendent shall convene a multi-disciplinary team that includes:

1. The student, when appropriate;
2. The student's parent(s)/guardian(s);
3. Other medical professionals, e.g., licensed physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner;
4. Local first responders for the building in which the student is assigned to attend school;[
5. The school nurse;
6. Clergy, if requested by the student or his or her parent(s)/guardians(s);
7. Other individuals to provide support to the student or his or her parent(s)/guardian(s); and
8. School personnel designated by the Superintendent.

The team shall determine guidelines to be used by school staff members in the event the child suffers a life-threatening episode at school or a school event.[1]

The District personnel shall convey orders to forgo life-sustaining treatment to the appropriate emergency or healthcare provider.

LEGAL REF.: Health Care Surrogate Act, 755 ILCS 40/.
 Cruzan v. Director, Missouri Dept. of Health, 497 U.S. 261 (1990).
 In re C.A., a minor, 236 Ill.App.3d 594 (1st Dist. 1992).

UPDATED: July 2017