

# INDIANA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

## Medical Intervention

**Policy: O-59**

**Policy:** The health and safety of students is a primary concern of the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Advances in medical science and educational programs have resulted in students with significant medical needs attending school on a more frequent basis. While rare, it is now possible for students with potentially fatal conditions to be in school attendance.

The Health Care Consent Act (I.C. 16-36-1) spurred the widespread utilization of Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) requests. These requests are a cooperative effort made by the patient and their physician, or the legal guardian and the physician for those individuals less than eighteen (18) years of age. Parents or guardians may present DNR requests on behalf of their child to the school.

As guided by the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE), IC 16-36-5 (Out of Hospital Do Not Resuscitate Declarations), and I.C.31-34-1-9, the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ISBVI) Board directs ISBVI employees to not withhold any life-saving measures for its students or staff; this applies to both events occurring on the school grounds or on school-sponsored trips. The Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired School Board further expects employees to use reasonable care in protecting the health, safety and welfare of all students. This responsibility includes exercising all reasonable means to preserve a student's life in the event of a medical emergency or crisis even if the student is the subject of a Do Not Resuscitate Order or a similar health-care directive (collectively called a DNR).

If the parent or guardian presents a school employee with a DNR order with respect to a student, the employee should advise the parent or guardian of the policy stated above and advise the parent or guardian to contact the Superintendent or the Director of Health Services with any further questions.

The ISBVI Board directs the Superintendent to ensure ISBVI staff comply with this policy by:

- 1.) Providing staff written notice and documenting their awareness and receipt of this document by obtaining their respective signatures;
- 2.) Affording initial and periodic training to ISBVI staff on the ISBVI Board Policy Medical Intervention policy.

**ISBVI Policy O-59**

**Approved:** 3/16/15

**Reviewed and Approved:** 10/22/18