



Mount Sinai Union Free School District

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Superintendent of Schools

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August 26, 2016

Dear Mount Sinai Residents,

There has been great controversy in the news regarding the cost of EpiPens. EpiPen is an injection containing epinephrine, a chemical that narrows blood vessels and opens airways in the lungs. These effects can reverse severe low blood pressure, wheezing, severe skin itching, hives, and other symptoms of an allergic reaction.

Regardless of the rising cost of an EpiPen they are purchased by the District and kept in supply in each of our buildings' Nurses' offices. In addition to our Nurses being trained, all staff who will be in contact with a student who may require the use of an EpiPen (Aides and Teachers) are trained as well during Superintendent Conference Days before school opens. This year training will take place on August 30 and August 31. The training sessions include EpiPen administration, first aid, use of AED device and CPR.

Another result of the increased cost of the EpiPen is the increased availability of other similar devices such as the "Adrenaclick." Although New York State has not required training in the use of this emergency injection, District staff will be trained by Dr. John Gil, District Physician, on Wednesday, August. 31.

Sincerely,

Gordon Brosdal
Superintendent of Schools