# Superintendent’s Memo # 198-19

[](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/administrators/index.shtml)  
**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA   
Department of Education**

DATE: August 16, 2019

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction

## SUBJECT: Naloxone Administration in Schools

The General Assembly passed HB 2318 (McGuire) effective July 1, 2019, to amend the language of [§ 54.1-3408.X](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/54.1-3408) to add “*school nurses, local health department employees that are assigned to a public school pursuant to an agreement between the local health department and the school board,* [and] *other school board employees or individuals contracted by a school board to provide school health services*” to the list of individuals who may possess and administer naloxone or other opioid antagonist used for overdose reversal, provided that they have completed the necessary training program.

Naloxone is a medication that is administered by intra-nasal spray or injectable form to students believed to be experiencing, or about to experience, a life-threatening opioid overdose. In order to possess or administer naloxone in the school setting, local school boards must develop and implement policies and procedures for the administration of naloxone in schools and ensure the training of relevant school personnel, pursuant to [§ 54.1-3408.X](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/54.1-3408).

School divisions wishing to access REVIVE training may contact their local Community Service Board (CSB) or visit the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) [REVIVE webpage](http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/behavioral-health/substance-abuse-services/revive). Schools should document training of school personnel on an annual basis.

For further information, you may contact Ms. Tracy White, School Health Specialist, by telephone, at (804) 786-8671, or by email, at [Tracy.White@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Tracy.White@doe.virginia.gov).

JFL/TLW/rge