

## STUDENTS

### WELFARE SERVICES - ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

The safety of every student is a matter of serious concern at all times. School buildings and grounds should be regularly inspected for health, fire, and safety hazards. The school staff should be alert to hazardous practices or situations, especially when students are moving about within the buildings or on the grounds. Rules and understandings should be developed which will help reduce the chances for accidents.

Procedures are established for caring for a student who has suffered an accident, illness, or injury. A copy of these procedures shall be readily available in every Principal's office and school nurse's office. All staff members shall be expected to understand and follow such procedures. Parent(s)/guardian(s) should be contacted in the case of accidents and injuries.

A written report of any accident involving a student shall be completed by the person having supervision, knowledge, or jurisdiction over the student at the time of the accident. A copy of the report shall be sent to the Principal and the Superintendent, and distributed to all specifically designated persons.

#### Movable Soccer Goal Safety

If the District owns and controls a movable soccer goal, the Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement a soccer goal safety and education policy that outlines how the District will specifically address the safety issues associated with movable soccer goals. All soccer goals that are not permanent must be tip-resistant according to the standards set by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM).

#### Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement a program to manage concussions and head injuries suffered by students. The program shall:

1. Prepare for the full implementation of the Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act, that provides, without limitation, each of the following:
  - a. The Board must appoint or approve members of a Concussion Oversight Team for the District.
  - b. The Concussion Oversight Team shall establish each of the following based on peer-reviewed scientific evidence consistent with guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
    - i. A return-to-play protocol governing a student's return to interscholastic athletics practice or competition following a force of impact believed to have caused a concussion. The Superintendent or designee shall supervise an athletic trainer or other person responsible for compliance with the return-to-play protocol.
    - ii. A return-to-learn protocol governing a student's return to the classroom following a force of impact believed to have caused a concussion. The Superintendent or designee shall supervise the person responsible for compliance with the return-to-learn protocol.

STUDENTSWELFARE SERVICES - ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

- c. Each student and the student's parent/guardian shall be required to sign a concussion information receipt form each school year before participating in an interscholastic athletic activity.
  - d. A student shall be removed from an interscholastic athletic practice or competition immediately if any of the following individuals believes that the student sustained a concussion during the practice and/or competition: a coach, a physician, a game official, an athletic trainer, the student's parent/guardian, the student, or any other person deemed appropriate under the return-to-play protocol.
  - e. A student who was removed from interscholastic athletic practice or competition shall be allowed to return only after all statutory prerequisites are completed, including without limitation, the return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols developed by the Concussion Oversight Team. An athletic team coach or assistant coach may not authorize a student's return-to-play or return-to-learn.
  - f. The following individuals must complete concussion training as specified in the Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act: all coaches or assistant coaches (whether volunteer or a district employee) of interscholastic athletic activities; nurses who serve on the Concussion Oversight Team; athletic trainers; game officials of interscholastic athletic activities; and physicians who serve on the Concussion Oversight Team.
  - g. The Board shall approve school-specific emergency action plans for interscholastic athletic activities to address the serious injuries and acute medical conditions in which a student's condition may deteriorate rapidly.
2. Comply with the concussion protocols, policies, and by-laws of the Illinois High School Association, including its *Protocol for NFHS Concussion Playing Rules*, and its *Return to Play Policy*. These specifically require that:
    - a. A student athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion in a practice or game shall be removed from participation or competition at that time.
    - b. A student athlete who has been removed from an interscholastic contest for a possible concussion or head injury may not return to that contest unless cleared to do so by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois or a certified athletic trainer.
    - c. If not cleared to return to that contest, a student athlete may not return to play or practice until the student athlete has provided his or her school with written clearance from a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois or a certified athletic trainer working in conjunction with a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois.
  3. Inform student athletes and their parents/guardians about this policy in the *Agreement to Participate* or other written instrument that a student athlete and his or her parent/guardian must sign before the student is allowed to participate in a practice or interscholastic competition.

STUDENTSWELFARE SERVICES - ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

4. Provide coaches and student athletes and their parents/guardians with educational materials from the Illinois High School Association regarding the nature and risk of concussions and head injuries, including the risks inherent in continuing to play after a concussion or head injury.
5. Include a requirement for staff members to notify the parent/guardian of a student who exhibits symptoms consistent with that of a concussion.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/22-80  
105 ILCS 25/1.15  
430 ILCS 145/Movable Soccer Goal Safety Act – “Zach’s Law”

CROSS REF.: 720.12 and 730.02

Adopted: May 12, 1983  
Revised: February 24, 1994  
Revised: December 10, 1998  
Revised: March 22, 2012  
Revised: August 11, 2016  
Revised: September 22, 2016  
Revised: September 13, 2018