

Students

Student Health Services

School District Medical Advisor

The Amity Regional School District No. 5 (ARSD) Board of Education (Board) shall appoint a school district medical advisor and appropriate medical support service personnel including nurses.

The ARSD medical advisor, in cooperation with the Board and the board of health/health department for ARSD, shall:

1. Plan and administer each school's health program
2. Advise on the provision of school health services
3. Provide consultation on the school health environment
4. Perform any other duties as agreed between the advisor and the appointing board of education

School health efforts shall be directed toward detection and prevention of health problems and to emergency treatment, including the following student health services:

1. Appraising the health status of student and school personnel
2. Counseling students, parents, and others concerning the findings of health examination
3. Encouraging correction of defects
4. Helping prevent and control disease
5. Providing emergency care for student injury and sudden illness
6. Maintaining school health records

Health Records

There shall be a health record for each student enrolled in ARSD, which will be maintained in the school nurse's room. For the purposes of confidentiality records will be treated in the same manner as the student's cumulative academic record.

Student health records are covered by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and are exempt from the Health Insurance Portability Act (HIPAA) privacy rule. However, it is recognized that obtaining medical information from health care providers will require schools to have proper authorization and to inform parents that such information, once released by health care providers, is no longer protected under HIPAA but is covered under FERPA.

Regular Health Assessments

Health assessments shall be required in grade 7 and in grade 10 by a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, an advanced practiced registered nurse licensed pursuant to C.G.S.

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Chapter 378, a physician assistant licensed pursuant to C.G.S. Chapter 370, a school medical advisor or a legally qualified practitioner of medicine, an advanced practice registered nurse, or a physician assistant stationed at any military base prior to school entrance in Connecticut. The purpose of the health assessment is to ascertain whether a student has any physical disability or other health problem. Such health assessments shall include:

1. Physical examination which shall include hematocrit or hemoglobin tests, height, weight, blood pressure, and a chronic disease assessment which shall include, but not be limited to, asthma
2. Updating of immunizations required under C.G.S. 10-204a and the Department of Public Health, Public Health Code, 10-204a-2a, 10-204-3a and 10-204a-4
3. Vision, hearing, postural, and gross dental screenings
4. If required by the current medical standard, testing for tuberculosis and sickle cell anemia or Cooley's anemia
5. Any other information including a health history that the physician believes to be necessary and appropriate

A child will not be allowed, as the case may be, to begin or continue in ARSD schools unless health assessments are performed as required. Students transferring into ARSD must provide evidence of required Connecticut vaccinations, immunizations, and health assessments at enrollment and prior to school attendance.

The ARSD Board shall annually designate a representative to receive reports of health assessments and immunizations from health care providers.

Health assessment results and recommendations signed by the examining physician or authorized medical personnel shall be recorded on forms provided by the Connecticut State Board of Education and kept on file in the school the student attends. Upon written authorization from the student's parent or guardian, original cumulative health records shall be sent to the chief administrative officer of the school district to which such student moves (or his/her designee) and a true copy of the student's cumulative health records maintained with the student's academic records. The Superintendent of Schools or designee shall notify parents of any health-related problems detected in health assessments and shall make reasonable efforts to assure that further testing and treatment is provided, including advice on obtaining such required testing or treatment.

Students who are in violation of Board requirements for health assessments and immunizations will be excluded from school after appropriate parental notice and warning.

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Postural Screening

School nurses will screen all female students in grade 7 and male students in grade 8 or 9 for scoliosis or other postural problems. Additional postural screenings will also be conducted in response to appropriate requests from parents/guardians or professionals working with the student. Results will be recorded in the student's health record on forms supplied by the Connecticut State Board of Education, and the Superintendent shall cause a written notice to be given to the parent or guardian of each student found to have any postural defect or problem with a brief statement describing such defect or disease.

As necessary, special educational provisions shall be made for students with disabilities.

Tuberculin Testing

It is required that students at each mandated health assessment be screened for their risk of exposure to tuberculosis (TB). A child determined to be at risk for exposure to TB should be required to be tested.

Immunizations/Vaccinations

No student will be allowed to enroll in ARSD schools without adequate immunization against the following diseases:

1. Measles
2. Rubella
3. Poliomyelitis
4. Diphtheria
5. Tetanus
6. Pertussis
7. Mumps
8. Hepatitis B
9. Varicella (Chickenpox)
10. Meningococcal disease
11. Any other vaccine required by section 19a 7f of Connecticut General Statutes

All students in grades 7-12 are required to have received 2 doses of measles, mumps, and rubella vaccine or demonstrate serologic proof of immunity. Students entering seventh grade shall show proof of having received 2 doses of varicella vaccine, laboratory confirmation of immunity, or present a written statement signed by a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse indicating the individual has had varicella based on family or medical history.

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All seventh grade students must show proof of 1 dose of meningococcal vaccine and 1 dose of Tdap, in addition to the completion of the primary DTP series.

All students in grades 7-12 are required to have 3 doses of Hepatitis B vaccine or serologic evidence of immunity.

Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year all incoming seventh grade students must show proof of 2 doses of Hepatitis A vaccine.

Students shall be exempt from the appropriate provisions of this policy when:

1. They present a certificate from a physician, physician assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, or local health agency stating that initial immunizations have been given and additional immunizations are in process under guidelines and schedules specified by the Commissioner of Health Services or
2. They present a certificate from a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse stating that in the opinion of such medical provider, immunization is medically contraindicated because of the physical condition of such child. Such certification shall be provided on the medical exemption certificate form developed by the Department of Public Health and available on its website or
3. They present a written statement from their parents/guardians that such immunization would be contrary to the religious beliefs of such child or his/her parents/guardians; such statement to be officially acknowledged by a notary public or a judge, a court clerk/deputy clerk, a town clerk, a justice of the peace, a Connecticut attorney, or a school nurse, and such religious exemption was granted prior to April 28, 2021 (by midnight April 27, 2021). Such student retains this exemption through grade twelve, even if the student transfers to another school in Connecticut or in the case of measles, mumps, or rubella present a certificate from a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse or from the Director of Health in such child's present or previous town of residence, stating that the child has had a confirmed case of such disease or
4. In the case of hemophilus influenza type B has passed his or her fifth birthday or
5. In the case of diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis has a medical exemption confirmed in writing by a physician, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse (per C.G.S. 19a-7f).

The school nurse will report to the local director of health any occurrence of State of Connecticut defined reportable communicable diseases.

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Health Assessments/Interscholastic Sports Programs

Any student participating in an interscholastic sports program must have a health assessment. Each participant in a sport program must complete a health questionnaire prior to their health assessment. Completed physical examination forms or copies must be on file in the Health Office of the high school or middle school prior to the first tryout/practice session. The physical examination is valid for 13 months and must cover the athlete for the entire sport season (including the tryout period) as specified by the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC). Physicals cannot expire during the season. ARSD will annually post the dates for eligible physicals. A parent/guardian may submit an appeal to the Athletic Department in writing, if the last competition of the sports season is scheduled prior to 13 months from the posted physical eligibility date. Physical examinations performed by a student's parent who is a medical professional will not be accepted.

Student Medical Care at School

School personnel are responsible for the immediate care necessary for a student whose sickness or injury occurs on the school premises during school hours or in school-sponsored and supervised activities.

Schools shall maintain files of Emergency Information cards (on paper or electronically) for each student. If a child's injury requires immediate care, the parent/guardian will be called by telephone by the nurse, the building Principal, or other personnel designated by the Principal and advised of the student's condition. When immediate medical or dental attention is indicated and when parents or guardians cannot be reached the student will be transported to the nearest hospital. In this event the family physician/dentist and ARSD medical advisor will be notified of school district actions at the discretion of the school nurse.

(cf. 5142 - Student Safety)

(cf. 5141.4 - Child Abuse and Neglect)

(cf. 5141.5 - Suicide Prevention)

(cf. 6145.2 - Interscholastic/Intramural Athletics)

(cf. 6171 - Special Education)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-203 03 Sanitation

10-204 Required immunizations (as amended by PA 15-174, PA 15-242, and PA 21-6)

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10-204 04c Immunity from liability

10-205 Appointment of school medical advisors

10-206 Health assessments, as amended by PA 07-58 and PA 11-179 and PA 18-168

10-206 Free health assessments

10-207 07 Duties of medical advisers, (as amended by P.A. 12-198)

10-208 Exemption from examination or treatment

10-208 08a Physical activity of student restricted; boards to honor notice

10-209 Records not to be made public (as amended by PA 03-211)

10-210 Notice of disease to be given parent or guardian

10-212 School nurses and nurse practitioners

10-212a Administration of medicines by school personnel

10-214 Vision, audiometric and postural screenings: When required; notification of parents re defects; record of results (as amended by PA 96-229 An Act Concerning Scoliosis Screening)

10-214a Eye protective devices

10-214b Compliance report by local or regional Board of Education

10-217a Health services for children in private non-profit schools; payments from the state, towns in which children reside and private non-profit schools

Department of Public Health, Public Health Code – 10-204a-2a, 10-204a-3a, and 10-204a-4

Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (section 438 of the General Education Provisions Act, as amended, added by section 513 of P.L. 93-568, codified at 20 U.S.C. 1232g)

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42 U.S.C. 1320d-1320d-8, P.L. 104-191, Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)

PA 18-168 An Act Concerning the Department of Public Health's Recommendations Regarding Various Revisions to the Public Health Statutes Sections 7-9, 539, & 540