

## 5141/Accidents and Sudden Illnesses Occurring in Schools

TRUMBULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
POLICY MANUAL

SECTION: 5000  
CATEGORY: Students  
POLICY CODE: 5141/Accidents and Sudden  
Illnesses Occurring in  
Schools

### ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN ILLNESSES OCCURRING IN SCHOOLS

#### Policy Statement

First aid, the immediate and temporary care given to a student whose sickness and injury occurs on school premises during school hours or school-sponsored activities, shall be the responsibility of the school until assumed by the student's parent or guardian. Care may be given by the school nurse, the school health aide, and/or the school principal or his/her designee. In the school environment, the school nurse is the primary health care professional and is responsible for the coordination of care for all students. If the student's condition warrants immediate action for saving life, services of a physician are to be obtained and/or the student is to be moved to a hospital. A First Aid program in the school context centers around three basic problems: (1) care of seriously injured students; (2) care of suddenly ill students; and (3) minor first aid care of students.

Adopted: 6/7/1977  
Revised: 11/5/1980, 6/1998,  
4/3/2001, 8/28/2018

#### References

- Trumbull Board of Education Policy Code 3516: Security and Safety
- Trumbull Board of Education Policy Code 5139: Student Health and Safety
- Trumbull Board of Education Policy Code 5141.7: Concussions
  
- Standing Orders, Trumbull Nursing Service

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### Regulations

#### A. Care of Seriously Injured Students

1. The conditions that would warrant immediate action include, but are not limited to, severe injury, sudden collapse (heart attack or cerebral accident), asphyxiation, and ingestion of poison. If condition warrants immediate action for saving life, Emergency Medical Services (911) must be contacted immediately. This decision shall be made by the school nurse, school health aide, and/or school principal or his/her designee at the time of the incident.
2. The school nurse, school health aide, and/or school principal or his/her designee shall direct the ambulance driver to the nearest appropriate hospital emergency room, unless another appropriate hospital emergency room has been specifically requested by the student's parent/guardian. As permitted by ambulance regulations and personnel, an employee of the District shall accompany the student in the ambulance; otherwise, an employee of the District shall travel to the hospital emergency room separately and shall then remain with the student until the student's parent/guardian arrives.
3. The school nurse, school health aide, and/or school principal or his/her designee shall contact the student's parent/guardian by telephone as soon as possible after attention is given to the injured student.
4. The school nurse, school health aide, and/or school principal or his/her designee shall contact the Superintendent of Schools as soon as possible after attention is given to the injured student.
5. The school nurse, school health aide, and/or school principal or his/her designee shall contact the Director of Nursing for additional assistance or advice as soon as possible after attention is given to the injured student.
6. The school principal or his/her designee will obtain written statements from persons who may have witnessed the injury. These statements shall be provided to the Superintendent of Schools.
7. Only the Superintendent of Schools, the Assistant Superintendent, or the Superintendent's designee may release news of the incident.

#### B. Care of Suddenly Ill Students

1. Care shall be given as directed in the procedure outlined in the Standing Orders of the Trumbull Nursing Service.
2. Care by the school principal or his/her designee may be given in the absence of the school nurse or the school health aide.
3. If it becomes necessary to send a student home, the parent or person delegated by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) to assume responsibility shall be notified.

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4. Sick students are not to be sent home alone. In all instances, the responsibility for providing transportation home, to doctor's office, etc., rests with the student's parent/guardian or the person delegated by the student's parent/guardian to assume responsibility.
5. Parents/guardians shall be instructed to follow up with a licensed health care professional if deemed advisable.

### C. Minor First Aid Care

1. First aid shall be administered only by the school nurse, the school health aide, or other officially trained school personnel as directed in the Standing Orders of the Trumbull Nursing Service.
2. The school nurse, the school health aide, or the school principal or his/her designee shall review with the student the cause of the accident leading to first aid treatment in an attempt to prevent further recurrences.
3. Students, depending on age and individual ability, may be taught by the school nurse to take care of their own minor medical needs under supervision of the nurse.