

MILLER PLACE HIGH SCHOOL

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Miller Place School District Hazing Policy

The Miller Place School District strictly prohibits any person from engaging individually or collectively in any form of hazing or related activity on school property, in conjunction with any school activity, or involving any person associated with the school, regardless of where it occurs. Any person who participates in hazing or related initiation activity, or conspires to engage in hazing will face immediate disciplinary action, up to and including suspension, expulsion, exclusion and loss of participation privileges in extracurricular activities. In addition, persons participating in hazing will be referred to law enforcement authorities and may face prosecution.

Definitions

"Hazing" means the act of intentionally or recklessly engaging in conduct which creates a substantial risk of physical injury to another person, and/or causes or is likely to cause harassment or emotional harm, extreme embarrassment, ridicule, personal degradation or loss of dignity to any student or person associated with the school. "Consent of participation" is no defense to hazing. No club, team or organization within the school may require any condition or ritual that causes or is likely to cause physical, mental or emotional harm. The term "hazing" does not include customary, school-sponsored athletic event, intramural activities, or any similar school-sponsored student contest or competitions. "Conspire to engage in hazing" means to plan, encourage, fail to take reasonable steps to prevent, and to fail to report hazing and related prohibited activities.

Prohibited Conduct

- Any act that involves physical brutality or physical aggression that causes or is likely to cause physical harm to an individual.
- Any act that involves forced consumption of food, alcohol, drugs or other substance, or any other forced physical activity that could result in the physical harm to the health and safety of an individual.
- Any act that would subject an individual to mental stress or physical harm, or any other forced activity that could result in affecting the mental health or dignity of the individual.
- Any activity that unreasonably interferes with a student's academic efforts,
- Morally humiliating or degrading games, pranks, stunts, practical jokes or any activity designed to make the individual the object of amusement, shame, embarrassment or intimidation.
- Harassment such as pushing, shoving, cursing, shouting and yelling. Requiring an individual to wear uncomfortable, embarrassing or ridiculous clothing.
- Activities requiring a student to participate in any illegal activity, whether misdemeanor or criminal act.
- Any act causing indecent exposure or any other gross or lewd behavior including nudity. Any act that is contrary to an individual's moral or religious beliefs, or contrary to the rule, policies and regulations of the Miller Place School District.

Students will be asked to sign an *Acknowledgement Form* before participating in extracurricular activities.

Concussion and Head Injury Signs and Symptoms

Symptoms of a concussion are the result of a temporary change in the brain's function.

In most cases, the symptoms of a concussion generally resolve over a short period of time; however, in some cases, symptoms will last for weeks or longer. Children and adolescents are more susceptible to concussion and take longer than adults to recover.

It is imperative that any student who is suspected of having a concussion is removed from athletic activity (i.e. recess, PE class, sports) and remains out of such activities until evaluated and cleared to return to activity by a physician.

Students who develop worsening symptoms, cannot be awakened, slurred speech, or repeated vomiting should be seen immediately at St. Charles Hospital's emergency department.

Symptoms include, but are not limited to:

- Confusion or appears dazed
- Headache or head pressure
- Loss of consciousness
- Balance difficulties, dizziness, or clumsy movements
- Double or blurry vision
- Sensitivity to light and/or sound
- Nausea, vomiting, and/or loss of appetite
- Irritability, sadness or other changes in personality
- Feeling sluggish, foggy or light-headed
- Concentration or focusing problems
- Drowsiness
- Fatigue and/or sleep issues – sleeping more or less than usual
- Decreased or absent memory of events prior to or immediately after the injury, or difficulty retaining new information.

RETURN TO LEARN and RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOLS

Cognitive Rest: Activities students should avoid include, but are not limited to the following:

- Computers and video games
- Television viewing
- Texting
- Reading or writing
- Studying or homework
- Taking a test or completing significant projects
- Loud music
- Bright lights

Physical Rest: Activities students should avoid include, but are not limited to the following:

- Contact and collision
- High speed, intense exercise and/or sports
- High risk for re-injury or impacts
- Any activity that results in an increased heart rate or increased head pressure.

Return to Play Protocol: Once the student is symptom free for at least 24 hours and has been cleared by the school's Chief Medical Officer for Concussions, they will begin a 6 stage gradual return to play protocol.

CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICERS FOR CONCUSSIONS

- Orthopedic Associates of Long Island (631)-689-6698
- St. Charles Think Smart! Concussion Management Clinic (631)-476-4323

If you think your child has a concussion:

- Remove them from all physical activity
- Implement cognitive rest as stated above
- If symptoms worsen, bring them to the emergency department at St. Charles Hospital
- Make an appointment with the school's Chief Medical Officer for Concussions.