Stafford Township Board of Education Regulation

R 5310 HEALTH SERVICES

A. Definitions – (N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.3)

1. Advanced practice nurse (APN) – means a person who holds a current license as either an advanced practice nurse or a nurse practitioner/clinical nurse specialist from the State Board of Nursing.

2. Certified school nurse – means a person who holds a current license as a registered professional nurse from the State Board of Nursing and an educational services certificate, school nurse, or school nurse/non-instructional endorsement from the Department of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-14.3 and 14.4.

3. Medical home – means a health care provider, including New Jersey FamilyCare providers as defined by N.J.S.A. 30:4J-12 and the provider's practice site chosen by the student's parent for the provision of health care.

4. Non–certified nurse – means a person who holds a current license as a professional nurse from the State Board of Nursing and is employed by a Board of Education and who is not certified as a school nurse by the Department of Education.

5. Parent – means the natural parent(s), adoptive parent(s), legal guardian(s), resource family parent(s), or surrogate parent(s) of a student. When parents are separated or divorced, "parent" means the person or agency who has legal custody of the student, as well as the natural or adoptive parent(s) of the student, provided parental rights have not been terminated by a court of appropriate jurisdiction.

6. Physical examination – means the examination of the body by a professional licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy, or an advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant. The term includes specific procedures required by statute as stated in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2.

7. Physician assistant (PA) – means a health care professional licensed to practice medicine with physician supervision.

8. School physician – means a physician currently licensed by the New Jersey Board of Medical Examiners in medicine or osteopathy whose training and scope of practice includes child and adolescent health and development. The physician is also referred to as the medical inspector as per N.J.S.A. 18A:40-1.

B. Medical Examinations – General Conditions (N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2)

1. Each student medical examination shall be conducted at the medical home of the student. If a student does not have a medical home, the school district shall provide the examination at the school physician's office or other comparably equipped facility, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-4.

2. The findings of required examinations under N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(h)2. through (h)5. and D. through G. below shall include the following components:

   a. Immunizations, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.1 through 4.24;

   b. Medical history, including allergies, past serious illnesses, injuries, operations, medications, and current health problems;

   c. Health screenings including height, weight, hearing, blood pressure, and vision; and

   d. Physical examinations.

3. Each school shall have available and maintain an automated external defibrillator (AED), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41a.a.(1) and (3), that is:

   a. In an unlocked location on school property, with an appropriate identifying sign;

   b. Accessible during the school day and any other time when a school-sponsored athletic event or team practice is taking place in which students of the school district or nonpublic school are participating; and

   c. Within a reasonable proximity of the school athletic field or gymnasium, as applicable.

4. The Board of Education shall make accessible information regarding the NJ FamilyCare Program to students who are knowingly without medical coverage, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-34.

5. Information concerning a student's HIV/AIDS status shall not be required as part of the medical examination or health history, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:5C-1 et seq.

6. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-4, a student who presents a statement signed by their parents that such required examinations interfere with the free exercise of their religious beliefs shall be examined only to the extent necessary to determine whether the student is ill or infected with a communicable disease or to determine their fitness to participate in any health, safety, or physical education course required by law.

C. Medical Examinations - Prior to Participation on a School-Sponsored Interscholastic or Intramural Athletic Team or Squad for Students Enrolled in Any Grades Six to Twelve (N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(h)1.)

1. The school district shall ensure that students receive medical examinations in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(f) and B.1. above and prior to participation on a school-sponsored interscholastic or intramural athletic team or squad for students enrolled in any grades six to twelve.

a. The examination shall be conducted within 365 days prior to the first day of official practice in an athletic season and shall be conducted by a licensed physician, APN, or PA.

b. The physical examination shall be documented using the Preparticipation Physical Evaluation (PPE) form developed jointly by the American Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Sports Medicine, American Medical Society for Sports Medicine, American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine, and American Osteopathic Academy of Sports Medicine and is available online at

http://www.state.nj.us/education/students/safety/health/records/athleticphysicalsform.pdf, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.7.

(1) Prior to performing a preparticipation physical examination, the licensed physician, APN, or PA who performs the student-athlete's physical examination shall complete the Student-Athlete Cardiac Screening professional development module and shall sign the certification statement on the PPE form attesting to the completion, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41d.

(a) If the PPE form is submitted without the signed certification statement and the school district has confirmed that the licensed physician, APN, or PA from the medical home did not complete the module, the student-athlete's parent may obtain a physical examination from a physician who can certify completion of the module or request that the school physician provides the examination.

(2) The medical report shall indicate if a student is allowed or not allowed to participate in the required sports categories and shall be completed and signed by the original examining physician, APN, or PA.

(3) An incomplete form shall be returned to the student's medical home for completion unless the school nurse can provide documentation to the school physician that the missing information is available from screenings completed by the school nurse or physician within the prior 365 days.

c. Each student whose medical examination was completed more than ninety days prior to the first day of official practice in an athletic season shall provide a health history update questionnaire completed and signed by the student's parent. The completed health history update questionnaire shall include information listed below as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.7.b.

The completed health history update questionnaire shall be reviewed by the school nurse and, if applicable, the school athletic trainer and shall include information as to whether, in the time period since the date of the student's last preparticipation physical examination, the student has:

(1) Been advised by a licensed physician, APN, or PA not to participate in a sport;

(2) Sustained a concussion, been unconscious or lost memory from a blow to the head;

(3) Broken a bone or sprained, strained, or dislocated any muscles or joints;

(4) Fainted or blacked out;

(5) Experienced chest pains, shortness of breath, or heart racing;

(6) Had a recent history of fatigue and unusual tiredness;

(7) Been hospitalized, visited an emergency room, or had a significant medical illness;

(8) Started or stopped taking any over the counter or prescribed medications; or

(9) Had a sudden death in the family, or whether any member of the student's family under the age of fifty has had a heart attack or heart trouble.

d. The school district shall provide to the parent written notification signed by the school physician stating approval of the student's participation in athletics based upon the medical report or the reasons for the school physician's disapproval of the student's participation.

e. The Board shall not permit a student enrolled in grades six to twelve to participate on a school-sponsored interscholastic or intramural athletic team or squad unless the student submits a PPE form signed by the licensed physician, APN, or PA who performed the physical examination and, if applicable, a completed health history update questionnaire, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.7.c.

f. The school district shall distribute to a student-athlete and the student-athlete's parent the sudden cardiac arrest pamphlet developed by the Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health, the American Heart Association, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.

(1) A student-athlete and the student-athlete's parent annually shall sign the Commissioner-developed form that they received and reviewed the pamphlet, and shall return it, to the student's school, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.d.

(2) The Commissioner shall update the pamphlet, as necessary, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.b.

(3) The Commissioner shall distribute the pamphlet, at no charge, to the school district, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.b.

D. Medical Examinations - Upon Enrollment in School (N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(h)2.)

1. The school district shall ensure that students receive medical examinations in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(f) and B.1. above and upon enrollment in school.

   a. The school district shall require parents to provide within thirty days of enrollment entry-examination documentation for each student.

   b. When a student transfers to another school, the sending school district shall ensure the entry-examination documentation is forwarded to the receiving school district, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.4(d).

   c. Students transferring into this school district from out-of-State or out-of-country may be allowed a thirty-day period to obtain entry-examination documentation.

   d. The school district shall notify parents through its website or other means about the importance of obtaining subsequent medical examinations of the student at least once during each developmental stage: at early childhood (pre-school through grade three), pre-adolescence (grade four through six), and adolescence (grade seven through twelve).

E. Medical Examinations - When Students Apply for Working Papers (N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(h)3.)

1. The school district shall ensure that students receive medical examinations in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(f) and B.1. above and when applying for working papers.

2. The school district may provide for the administration of a medical examination for a student pursuing a certificate of employment.

3. The school district shall not be held responsible for the costs for examinations at the student's medical home or other medical provider(s).

F. Medical Examinations - For the Purposes of the Comprehensive Child Study Team Evaluation Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.4 (N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(h)4.)

1. The school district shall ensure that students receive medical examinations in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(f) and B.1. above and for the purposes of the comprehensive child study team evaluation, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.4.

G. Medical Examinations - When a Student is Suspected of Being Under the Influence of Alcohol or Controlled Dangerous Substances, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-12 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.3 (N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(h)5.)

1. The school district shall ensure that students receive medical examinations in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(f) and B.1. above and when a student is suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or controlled dangerous substances, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-12 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.3.

2. If a student who is suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or controlled dangerous substances is reported to the certified school nurse, the certified school nurse shall monitor the student's vital signs and general health status for emergent issues and take appropriate action pending the medical examination, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.3.

3. No school staff shall interfere with a student receiving a medical examination for suspicion of being under the influence of alcohol or controlled dangerous substances, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.3.

H. Health Screenings (N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(l))

The Board of Education shall ensure that students receive health screenings in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(l).

1. Screening for height, weight, and blood pressure shall be conducted annually for each student in Kindergarten through grade twelve.

2. Screening for visual acuity shall be conducted biennially for students in Kindergarten through grade ten.

3. Screening for auditory acuity shall be conducted annually for students in Kindergarten through grade three and in grades seven and eleven, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-4.

4. Screening for scoliosis shall be conducted biennially for students between the ages of ten and eighteen, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-4.3.

5. Screenings shall be conducted by a school physician, school nurse, or other school personnel properly trained.

6. The school district shall notify the parent of any student suspected of deviation from the recommended standard.

7. The school nurse or designee shall screen to ensure hearing aids worn by students who are deaf and/or hard of hearing are functioning properly. The school nurse or designee will ensure any FM hearing aid systems in classrooms or any school equipment in the school building used to assist students to hear, are functioning properly.

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