

CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT

I. Statement of Policy

The Board of Education (the Board) of the New York Mills Union Free School District (the District) recognizes the importance of raising awareness about concussion throughout the school community and to educate staff, students, parents, and others about how to prevent, recognize and respond to concussions. In addition, the District commits to implementing strategies that reduce the risk of head injuries in the school setting and during District sponsored events.

II. Definitions

- A. Concussion - a type of traumatic brain injury, or TBI, caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or by a hit to the body that causes the head or brain to move rapidly back and forth.
- B. Athletic Activities (Interscholastic Sports) - participation in sessions for instruction and practice in skills, attitudes, and knowledge through participation in individual, group and team activities organized on an intramural, extramural, interschool athletic, or inclusive athletic basis to supplement regular physical education class instruction, otherwise known as extra class periods in physical education or extra class activities.

III. Staff Qualification & Training

- A. Each school coach, physical education teacher, nurse, certified athletic trainer, and coaches who works with or provides instruction to students engaged in school-sponsored athletic activities, shall complete, on a biennial basis, a NYSED-approved, required training course relating to recognizing the symptoms of mild traumatic brain injuries and monitoring and seeking proper medical treatment for students who suffer mild traumatic brain injuries. This course must be one that the approved by the State Education Department.
- B. Coaches may also meet the mandatory biennial training years by taking the approved course Concussion in Sports-V2.0 from the National Federation of State High School Associations or Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

IV. Concussion Management Plan

The District shall develop protocols and treatment plan for the Concussion Management Plan (the Plan) and the Plan shall be developed in collaboration with the District medical director and other licensed healthcare professionals employed by the District. This Plan shall be used by District staff when responding to a person with a head injury. The Plan will include procedures for:

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- A. identifying possible concussions;
- B. communication amongst staff to ensure healthcare provider information is received and followed; and
- C. students to resume participation with the approval of the District medical director.

V. District and Staff Responsibilities

The District shall ensure that nurses, athletic directors, certified trainers, Physical Education teachers, and coaches are informed of their responsibilities under NYSED law, regulations, and any accompanying guidance with respect to this Policy and the District Plan. A copy of the most recent NYSED guidance will be provided to affected staff members for review.

VI. Notification and Posting

- A. All students participating in athletic activities must be provided with a pre-season consent form containing information on concussions and how to obtain information from NYSED and NYSDOH as well as this Policy and District's concussion management protocols. The student must provide a signed consent form to the District prior to any participation in the Athletic Activity.
- B. The District's website shall include a link to the State Education Department's website page relating to mild traumatic brain injury.

VII. Review and Implementation of Policy

- A. The Board shall review, and revise, as necessary, this Policy at least every three (3) years or when NYSED guidance is updated.

New York Mills Union Free School District

Legal Ref: NYS Education Law § 305(42); 8 NYCRR 136.5; NYS Public Health Law §2595;
Center for Disease Control and Prevention,
<http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/sports/index.html>

Adopted: 04/03/12

Revised: 11/05/13, 11/03/15, 02/05/19, 06/04/24