Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District

Cardiac Arrest Emergency Response Plan (Desha's Law Compliance)

Purpose

In compliance with Desha's Law (Education Law § 917, 2023), this plan establishes clear procedures for responding to sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) in any Dobbs Ferry UFSD building or campus location. The plan ensures that trained staff, AEDs, and emergency communication systems are coordinated to maximize survival and minimize response time.

Signs and symptoms with an asterisk (*) require immediate emergency medical treatment.

Activation of a Cardiac Arrest Response

A Sudden Cardiac Arrest response will be activated when an individual is observed to collapse or exhibit signs of a cardiac emergency.

According to the American Red Cross, signs of **cardiac arrest** are:

- **Not responsive***
- **Not breathing, or only gasping* (irregular breathing)**
- **No pulse**

Immediate action shall be taken according to the following steps:

Step 1: Ensure Scene Safety

- Confirm the area is secure and safe to approach.
- Keep bystanders clear while maintaining privacy and safety.

Step 2: Check for Responsiveness

- Tap the person and shout: "Are you okay?"
  - Are they talking (alert)?
  - What are they feeling?
- Assess for signs of life: responsiveness, breathing, movement, or pulse.
- If there is no response, proceed immediately to Step 3.

Step 3: Call for Help

- Direct a staff member to call 911 and report: the nature of the emergency, exact location
- Notify building administration or designee.
- Ensure trained staff respond with AED equipment.

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According to the American Red Cross, other signs of cardiac emergencies that would indicate emergency medical treatment and notification of EMS:

- Persistent chest pain is longer than 3 to 5 minutes or goes away and comes back*
- Chest pressure, squeezing, tightness, aching or heaviness*
- Isolated unexplained discomfort or pain spreading to arms, neck, jaw, back or stomach*
- Trouble breathing*
- Pale, gray or bluish skin*
- Feeling of anxiety or impending doom*
- Unresponsiveness*
- Dizziness*
- Nausea, vomiting, extreme fatigue or sweating

Roles and Responsibilities:

Staff Witnessing Event – Secure area, check responsiveness, call for help, and begin CPR if trained.

Staff Arriving to Provide Medical Assistance - Provide care based on your level of training and certification.

Main Office/Administrator – Call 911 if not already done, notify the school nurse or other trained staff, and ensure an AED is delivered to the scene. Activate internal emergency communication protocols as needed.

School Nurse/CPR-AED Certified Staff – Take over patient care as necessary and maintain supervision until EMS arrives and relieves school staff.

Security/Assigned Personnel – Guide EMS to the scene, secure the area, and assist in crowd control or scene management if necessary. Ensure that building access points are open for responders.

Principal/Designee – Call for a Hold/Hold-in-Place, if applicable. Ensure emergency notification procedures are followed, coordinate with district leadership, and support communication with parents/guardians. Lead post-incident response as needed.

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AED Equipment and Maintenance

All automated external defibrillators (AEDs) are clearly marked, readily accessible, and maintained in accordance with guidelines established by the American Heart Association or other nationally recognized standards for emergency cardiovascular care.

AED Locations and Site-Specific Response Guidance

Response procedures may vary depending on the location of the emergency. Staff should be familiar with AED locations in high-traffic areas or locations where physical activity takes place.

The building-level team will annually review and revise this list to ensure accurate, location-specific procedures are in place and communicated.

These include, but are not limited to:

Springhurst Elementary School	
Location	**Location of nearest AED**
3rd Grade Hallway	Near M-37
Nurse's Office	Near bus circle
Gym	Lobby
Turf Field	Cement wall at 50 yd line (call 911 for combo to access AED)

Dobbs Ferry Middle/High School	
Location	**Location of nearest AED**
HS 1st Floor	Next to Girls' Bathroom
HS Gym	East side wall between set of bleachers
HS 2nd Floor	Main hallway directly outside nurse's office
Exterior	South side of building next to turf door facing turf field (call 911 for combo to access AED)

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List of Staff CPR/AED Trained

STAFF NAME	LOCATION	POSITION/TITLE
Andrew Klaich	High School	Director of Physical Education, Health & Athletics
Frank Adamo	High School	Teacher/Coach
Maria Addona	High School	Teacher/Coach
Jake Broccoli	Athletics	Coach - Spring
Max Brock	High School	Teacher/Coach
Curtis Brown	Athletics	Coach – Spring
Allison Burtt	High School	Teacher/Coach
Chris Cipriano	Athletics	Coach – Winter
Joe Cox	High School	Teacher/Coach
Kelli Cronin	District	School Nurse
Ryan Davis	High School	Social Studies Teacher/Coach
Mark Degaetano	Athletics	Coach - Fall
Cara De Leon	MS/HS	School Nurse
Gina DiMaria	Springhurst	School Nurse
Patty Duane	Springhurst	Teacher/Coach
Kevin Farrington	Athletics	Coach – Fall
Ed Feller	Middle School	Teacher/Coach
Nico Ferro	High School	Teacher/Coach
Dawn Formisano	Athletics	Coach
Keith Galante	High School	Teacher/Coach
Vinny Garofalo	Springhurst	Teacher/Coach
Kasey Grisanti	Athletics	Coach – Winter
Tion Holness	Athletics	Coach – Fall
JP Kaminski	Middle School	Teacher/Coach

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Kevin Kearns	Athletics	Coach – Fall
Jim Lindsay	Athletics	AED/CRP Instructor/Coach
Mia Loran	Springhurst	Teacher/Coach
Gabriella Maggi	Springhurst	Teacher/Coach
Edwin Martinez	Athletics	Coach - Fall
Mike Meagh	High School	Teacher/Coach
Jim Moran	Athletics	Coach – Fall
Mike Pagano	High School	Teacher/Coach
Scott Patrillo	High School	Dean of Students/Coach
Stephanie Pecora	Springhurst	Teacher/Coach
Kim Reznicek	Middle School	Teacher/Coach
Dana Ryan	High School	Teacher/Coach
John Saitta	Athletics	Coach - Fall
James Turenchalk	Springhurst	Teacher/Coach
Jen Tucci	Athletics	Coach – Spring
Amy Vaccaro	Middle School	Teaching Assistant/Coach
Arianna Vizcaino	Athletics	Coach - Fall

Updated 11/2/26