Book	Policy Manual
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# 5340 - STUDENT ACCIDENTS/ILLNESS/CONCUSSION

The Board of Education believes that school personnel have certain responsibilities in case of accidents, illness or concussions that occur in school. Said responsibilities extend to the administration of first aid by persons trained to do so, summoning of medical assistance, notification of administration personnel, notification of parents, and the filing of accident reports.

## **Accidents**

Employees should administer first aid within the limits of their knowledge of recommended practices. All employees should make an effort to increase their understanding of the proper steps to be taken in the event of an accident. However, any staff member or volunteer who, in good faith, renders emergency care to a student is immune from civil liability for his/her acts or omissions in rendering such emergency care.

The Superintendent may provide for an in-service program on first aid and CPR procedures.

The administrator in charge must submit an accident report to the Superintendent on all accidents.

### Illness

School personnel shall not diagnose illness or administer medication of any kind except in accordance with <u>Policy 5330</u> <u>District</u> <u>policy</u>.

### **Concussion**

A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury. Concussions occur when there is a forceful blow to the head or body that results in rapid movement of the head and causes any change in behavior, thinking, or physical functioning. Concussions are not limited to situations involving loss of consciousness. Some symptoms of a concussion include headache, nausea, confusion, memory difficulties, dizziness, blurred vision, anxiety, difficulty concentrating, and difficulty sleeping.

At the beginning of a season of any athletic sport, the Athletic Director shall distribute a concussion and head injury information sheet to each coach and to each student participant. No student will be permitted to participate in any athletic activity unless that student, or if the student is under age nineteen (19) his/her parent, has returned a signed concussion and head injury information sheet. A student is only required to return one (1) signed sheet per school year in order to participate in athletics. Each school year students/parents shall be provided with an information sheet regarding concussion and head injury. If a student is going to participate in an activity where a concussive event may occur, the appropriate release must be signed at least once per school year.

A coach shall remove from competition or practice any student that the coach determines is exhibiting signs, symptoms, or behavior consistent with a concussion or head injury or who the coach suspects has sustained a concussion or head injury. Any student removed from participation under this section may not return to participation until a written release to participate from a health care professional is provided.

Further, p Parents who inform coaches and teachers that their child is being treated by a healthcare professional for a concussion must provide written clearance from that healthcare professional for full or limited participation in class, practice, activity, or competition. Prior to receiving written clearance from a healthcare professional, students who have sustained a concussion may not participate in any school-related physical activities.

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