

District #111 mchs.net

Mission: Strengthen Mastery, Collaboration, High Expectations, and Success for All Students.

# **Cardiac Emergency Response Plan**

# **Objective**

To establish a clear, coordinated, and efficient protocol for responding to cardiac emergencies in order to safeguard the health and well-being of students, staff, and visitors within the school district.

#### **Key Personnel**

- CPR-Certified Staff Members
- Licensed School Nurse(s)
- School Resource Officers (SROs)
- Administrative Support Personnel (as needed)

### **Essential Equipment**

- Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs): Strategically located throughout each campus for quick access
- Emergency Medical Kits: Stocked with essential life-saving supplies
- **Communication Devices:** Walkie-talkies, intercom systems, and other means for internal coordination

#### **Emergency Protocol**

## 1. Immediate Recognition and Alert

- Identify Signs of Cardiac Distress: Sudden collapse, unresponsiveness, abnormal breathing (e.g., gasping)
- Notify Key Responders: Immediately alert nearby CPR-certified staff, school nurses, and SROs
- Activate Emergency Medical Services (EMS): Call 911, clearly stating the condition of the individual and their exact location within the school

#### 2. CPR and AED Administration

# By CPR-Certified Staff or School Nurse:

- Initiate CPR immediately, following current American Heart Association (AHA) guidelines for chest compressions and rescue breaths
- Assign a responder to retrieve the nearest AED

# **Using the AED:**

- Power on the device and follow audio/visual prompts
- Ensure the individual's chest is dry and place the AED pads correctly
- Allow the AED to analyze the heart rhythm
  - If a shock is advised, make sure no one is in contact with the individual before delivering the shock
  - Resume CPR immediately after shock delivery, or if no shock is advised, and continue until EMS arrives or signs of recovery are evident

#### **Roles and Responsibilities**

#### **CPR-Certified Staff**

Provide immediate CPR and AED support

- Rotate with other trained personnel to maintain effectiveness
- Remain with the individual until advanced care arrives

#### **School Nurse**

- Assume primary leadership of the medical response
- Assist with CPR/AED administration and monitor the individual's condition
- Document vital details of the incident and provide follow-up care as needed

# School Resource Officers (SROs)

- Secure the scene and maintain crowd control
- Initiate the Standard Response Protocol "HOLD" to keep hallways clear
- Facilitate swift entry and guidance for EMS personnel
- Assist with emergency care if certified

# **Post-Emergency Actions**

## **Documentation and Reporting**

- Record key incident details:
  - Time of collapse
  - Time CPR was initiated
  - AED application and number of shocks
  - Arrival time of EMS
- Submit incident reports to district administration and appropriate agencies

## **Debriefing and Emotional Support**

Conduct a structured debrief with all involved personnel

- Review response effectiveness and identify improvement areas
- Provide access to counseling or emotional support resources if needed

# **Equipment Review and Restocking**

- Inspect AED and restock used supplies in emergency medical kits
- Replace batteries and pads as necessary to maintain equipment readiness

#### **Parent and Administrative Notification**

- Notify the individual's emergency contacts and parents (if applicable)
- Communicate details to school and district leadership in accordance with privacy laws

# Training, Drills, and Preparedness

## **Ongoing Training**

- Conduct annual CPR/AED certification and recertification courses for designated staff
- Provide periodic refreshers on the use of undesignated emergency medications

#### **Cardiac Emergency Drills**

- Implement regular cardiac response drills as part of the school's emergency preparedness program
- Evaluate performance and revise procedures based on drill outcomes and staff feedback

#### **Communication Plan**

#### **Internal Communication**

 Use school intercom and walkie-talkies to broadcast alerts and coordinate real-time responses • Ensure all key personnel are informed immediately and assigned roles promptly

#### **External Communication**

- Establish a procedure for informing parents/guardians and the school community when appropriate
- Ensure communications comply with FERPA, HIPAA, and other relevant privacy regulations

#### Conclusion

Minooka Community High School is committed to maintaining a safe and responsive environment for all individuals on campus. This **Cardiac Emergency Response Plan** is a critical component of the district's comprehensive safety strategy, emphasizing rapid action, trained personnel, and coordinated communication. Through regular training, preparedness drills, and post-incident evaluation, we aim to minimize risks and ensure the best possible outcomes in any cardiac emergency.