

Unity School District

Administration Rule 453.14

Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness in Youth Athletic Activities

Last Revised 7/12/2022

Per section 118.2935(1) of the state statutes, a District-operated “youth athletic activity” means any organized indoor or outdoor athletic activity sponsored and supervised by the District in which the participants, a majority of whom are under 19 years of age, are engaged in an athletic game or competition against another team, club, or entity, or in practice or preparation for an organized athletic game or competition against another team, club, or entity. A “youth athletic activity” does not include a physical activity that is incidental to a nonathletic program.

District-operated activities that meet the statutory definition of a “youth athletic activity” are “youth athletic activities” for purposes of this rule.

A. Distribution of Information Sheets Addressing Sudden Cardiac Arrest

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO DISTRICT PERSONNEL AND COACHES/ACTIVITY SUPERVISORS: State law requires the District to distribute and collect signed copies of the information sheets that address **concussions and other head injuries** to **all** individuals who wish to participate in any District-operated youth athletic activity, including those activities that are offered to persons who are under 12 years of age. In contrast, the additional state mandates regarding information about **sudden cardiac arrest** apply only to those youth athletic activities that are offered to individuals who are 12 years of age or older.

For any District-operated youth athletic activity that is offered to persons who are 12 years of age or older:

1. The Athletic Director shall develop and oversee the implementation of procedures to ensure that an information sheet combining state-mandated information about sudden cardiac arrest and concussions/head injuries is distributed:
 - a. To all coaches and other persons holding equivalent positions that involve direct supervision and leadership of a covered youth athletic activity (e.g., even if the position is referred to as the activity “advisor” or goes by some other title); and
 - b. To each individual who wishes to participate in a covered youth athletic activity.
2. Normally, distribution of the information sheets shall occur at the beginning of the relevant season and prior to any individual beginning participation in a covered activity. However, for any participant who is a **student enrolled in a District school**, District personnel/agents are not required to distribute or collect an additional signed information sheet for the student during any July 1 to June 30 school year if that student

has already returned a properly-signed information sheet for another District-operated youth athletic activity during that same school year.

3. No person may participate in a District-operated youth athletic activity (inclusive of competitions, practices, and other preparatory physical activities occurring as part of any youth athletic activity season) unless the person has returned a properly-signed information sheet or the relevant signature portion thereof.

a. The returned document must be signed (1) by the individual who wishes to participate (e.g., the student or other youth); and (2) if the participant is under age 19, by the participant's parent or guardian.

b. Coaches and other persons who hold equivalent positions are expected to consistently enforce the requirements for returning a properly-signed information sheet prior to permitting an individual to participate in a covered youth athletic activity. Accordingly, coaches and such other persons are expected to take reasonable steps to verify that each individual who wishes to participate in the relevant activity has the necessary signature document on file.