

policy

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
GENEVA COMMUNITY UNIT
SCHOOL DISTRICT #304**

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CONCUSSIONS AND HEAD INJURIES: STUDENTS **AND STUDENT** **ATHLETES**

Any student who is suspected of having suffered a concussion or head injury during a physical education class or any recreational or curricular activity of the school shall be removed from the activity and referred to the school nurse. The school nurse shall notify the student's parent/guardian and take such further actions as deemed necessary.

A "student athlete" is any student who tries out for or participates on any athletic team sponsored by the District. Any student athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury shall be removed from participation or competition at that time. When so removed from an interscholastic or other competition including any practice session, a student athlete may not return to the contest or the practice unless cleared by a physician licensed in Illinois to practice medicine in all of its branches or a certified athletic trainer. If not so cleared to return to that contest or practice, a student athlete cannot return to play or practice until the student has provided the school with a written clearance from a physician licensed in Illinois to practice medicine in all of its branches or a certified athletic trainer working in conjunction with a physician licensed in Illinois to practice medicine in all of its branches.

Information regarding this policy and concussion information shall be made available to student athletes and their parents/guardians before the student athlete is allowed to participate in any interscholastic athlete activity or practice for any athletic team. Student athletes are required to sign Form 2431.01 F1 before participating in any practice or interscholastic competition.

The Athletic Director and/or Coach shall provide educational materials made available by the Illinois High School Association to educate coaches, student athletes, parents/guardians or student athletes and all physical education teachers about the nature and risks of concussions and head injuries including the continuing to play after a concussion or head injury.

In addition to the educational materials provided by the IHSA, all high school personnel, including the head and assistant coaches, as well as the athletic directors are required to complete the online concussions certification course.

All coaches and athletic directors hired before August 19, 2014 are required to complete the online concussions certification course by August 19, 2014. All coaches and athletic directors hired after August 19, 2014 are required to

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complete the online concussion certification course before starting their position with the District.

It shall be the responsibility of high school coaches to annually require that high school student athletes watch a video, from the online concussion certification program, that helps increase the student athlete's awareness of the risk of concussions and sub-concussive hits to the head.

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105 ILCS 25/1.15

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