

District: Tupelo Public School District
Section: J - Students
Policy Code: JGEB - Concussion Management and Return to Play

BOARD POLICY

1. Staff members with supervisory responsibility over athletics ("coaches") will take all reasonable steps to protect students from sports-related concussion.
2. Any student who is believed to have a concussion will be removed from play and will not return to competition or participation in sports activities (practice and/or games) until he/she is cleared by a health care provider.
3. The Board authorizes the superintendent to establish procedures in support of this policy.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

1. Training and Education

- a. All staff involved in coaching athletics shall receive training about concussions and head injuries.
- b. The Athletic Director will select and/or approve the training information/course.
- c. Documentation of training shall be maintained by the principal or Athletic Director.
- d. Student athletes and their parents/guardians will be provided information about the short-term and long-term effects of concussions and shall sign a copy of this policy before the start of the regular athletic season.
- e. Information about concussion signs and symptoms, as well as what to do if a concussion occurs, (1) will be posted on the field or sidelines, and (2) will be kept in the coach's notebook so it is accessible to the coach at all games and practices.

2. Removal From Play; Return to Play

- a. An athlete who reports or displays symptoms or signs of a concussion in a practice or game setting shall be removed immediately from the practice or the game.
- b. The athlete should be evaluated by a health care provider working within their scope of practice as soon as can be practically arranged.
- c. Any athlete suspected of having a concussion will not be allowed to return to the practice or game for the remainder of the day, regardless of whether the athlete appears or states that he/she is normal.
- d. The athlete will not continue to practice or return to play while still having symptoms of a concussion.
- e. An athlete who has been diagnosed with a concussion may only return to play or practice after full recovery and clearance by a health care provider.
- f. Return to play after a concussion should be gradual and follow a progressive return to competition.

3. Health Care Provider defined.

For purposes of this policy:

- a. "Health care provider" means (1) a licensed physician, (2) a licensed nurse practitioner, or (3) a licensed physician assistant or licensed health care professional working within the person's scope of practice and under the direct supervision or written consultation of a physician.
- b. All health care providers must also be trained in the evaluation and management of concussions.
- c. No health care provider may be an employee of the District.

Adopted Date:

Approved/Revised Date: