

# policy

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
GENEVA COMMUNITY UNIT  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #304

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

***The Board shall approve a concussion oversight team. The team shall establish a return-to-play protocol for the student's return to interscholastic athletics practice or competition following a force or impact believed to have caused a concussion. The team shall also establish a return-to-learn protocol for the student's return to the classroom after the student is believed to have experienced a concussion, whether or not the concussion took place while the student was participating in an interscholastic athletic activity. The return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols must be based on peer-reviewed scientific evidence consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines.***

~~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. If a coach, physician, game official, athletic trainer, parent/guardian of the student suspect that the student has suffered a concussion or head injury, the student shall be removed from the physical activity. and referred to the school nurse. The school nurse~~ If a student is removed from such activities, the medical professional 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~~ **a student is** ~~so removed from an interscholastic or other competition including any practice session, a~~ **the student athlete** ~~may not return to the contest or the practice unless~~ **until evaluated and** ~~cleared by a physician licensed in Illinois to practice medicine in all of its branches or a certified athletic trainer~~ **working under the supervision of a physician. Additionally, the student has met all statutory requirements of the Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act and the student has completed return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols. A coach of an interscholastic team may not authorize a student's return-to-play or return-to-learn.** ~~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.~~

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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 **each school year**. Student athletes **and their parents/guardians** are required to sign Form 2431.01 F1 before participating in any practice or interscholastic competition **each school year, acknowledging receipt of concussion information and guidelines**.

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, nurses who serve on the Concussion Oversight Team, game officials of an interscholastic athletic activity and physicians servicing the Concussion Oversight Team are required to complete an approved training course in compliance with the Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act at least once every two (2) years.***

***All individuals required to take an approved concussion training course must initially complete the training no later than September 1, 2016 or after they have been hired for employment. Proof of timely completion of the approved course must be submitted to the Superintendent or designee.***

***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.***

105 ILCS 5/10-20.53  
105 ILCS 25/1.15  
105 ILCS 5/22-80

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