



**NORTH ALLEGHENY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

SECTION:	PROGRAMS
TITLE:	CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT
ADOPTED:	3/23/16
REVISED:	

123.2 - CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT

Section 1. Purpose

The Board recognizes the importance of ensuring the safety of students participating in the district’s athletic programs. This policy has been developed to provide guidance for prevention, detection and treatment of concussions sustained by students while participating in an athletic activity.

Section 2. Definitions

Appropriate medical professional shall mean all of the following:

- a. Licensed Physician - one who is trained in the evaluation and management of concussions.
- b. Licensed or Certified Health Care Professional - one who is trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and designated by a licensed physician trained in the evaluation and management of concussions.
- c. Licensed Psychologist – one who is neuropsychologically trained in the evaluation and management of concussions or who has postdoctoral training in neuropsychology and specific training in the evaluation and management of concussions.
- d. Athletic activity shall mean all of the following:
 - 1. Interscholastic athletics.
 - 2. An athletic contest or competition, other than interscholastic athletics, that is sponsored by or associated with the school, including cheerleading, club sponsored sports activities and sports activities sponsored by school-affiliated organizations.
 - 3. Noncompetitive cheerleading that is sponsored by or associated with the school.
 - 4. Practices, interschool practices, and scrimmages for all athletic

24 P.S.
Sec. 5322

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<p>24 P.S. Sec. 5323</p>	<p>activities.</p> <p>Section 3. <u>Delegation of Responsibility</u></p> <p>a. Each school year, prior to participation in an athletic activity, every student athlete and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) shall sign and return the acknowledgement of receipt and review of Section 3 of the PIAA CIPE - Understanding of Risk of Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury. All athletes will also participate in any baseline testing required by the School District.</p> <p>b. The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy, which shall include protocols for concussion management.</p>
<p>24 P.S. Sec. 5323</p>	<p>Section 4. <u>Guidelines</u></p> <p>a. Informational Meeting</p> <p>The school may hold an informational meeting prior to the start of each athletic season for all competitors regarding concussions and other head injuries, the importance of proper concussion management, and how preseason baseline assessments can aid in the evaluation, management and recovery process. In addition to the student athletes, such meetings may include parent(s)/guardian(s), coaches, other appropriate school officials, physicians, neuropsychologists, athletic trainers, and physical therapists.</p>
<p>24 P.S. Sec. 5323</p>	<p>b. Removal from Play</p> <p>A student who, as determined by a game official, coach from the student’s team, certified athletic trainer, licensed physician, licensed physical therapist or other official designated by the district, exhibits signs or symptoms of a concussion or traumatic brain injury while participating in an athletic activity shall be removed by the coach from participation at that time.</p>
<p>24 P.S. Sec. 5323</p>	<p>c. Return to Play</p> <p>1. The coach shall not return a student to participation until the student is evaluated and cleared for return to participation in writing by an appropriate medical professional.</p> <p>2. The student must also be cleared by the Athletic Trainer through use of the Athletic Department approved baseline testing software and concussion protocol. The Board may designate a specific appropriate medical professional(s) to provide written clearance for return to participation.</p>
<p>24 P.S. Sec. 5323</p>	<p>d. Training</p>

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All coaches shall annually, prior to coaching an athletic activity, complete a concussion management certification training course offered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Federation of State High School Associations or another provider approved by the Department of Health. These records will be housed in the Athletic Office.

e. Penalties

1. A coach found in violation of the provisions of this policy related to removal from play and return to play shall be subject to the following penalties:
 - For a first violation, suspension from coaching any athletic activity for the remainder of the season.
 - For a second violation, suspension from coaching any athletic activity for the remainder of the season and for the next season.
 - For a third violation, permanent suspension from coaching any athletic activity.
2. The Board reserves the right to implement permanent suspension from coaching any athletic activity after a first or second violation.

References:

Safety In Youth Sports Act – 24 P.S. Sec. 5321, 5322, 5323 et seq.
Board Policy – 122, 123