

5.54 ATHLETE AND STUDENT CONCUSSION AND TRAUMATIC HEAD INJURY POLICY

Approved Oct 18, 2011

A. Purpose and Philosophy

As medical management of sports-related concussion continues to evolve, Tooele County School District recognizes there has been a significant amount of new research regarding sports-related concussions in high school athletes. Tooele County School District has established this protocol to provide education about concussion for coaches, school personnel, parents and students, as well as any miscellaneous special program within the District. This protocol outlines procedures for all staff members to follow in managing concussions as it pertains to return to play issues following a concussion.

Tooele County School District seeks to provide a safe return to activity for all students following any injury, but particularly after a concussion. In order to effectively and consistently manage these injuries, procedures have been developed to aid in insuring that concussed students are identified, treated and referred appropriately, receive appropriate follow-up medical care during the school day and are fully recovered prior to returning to activity.

Tooele County School District shall ensure that Tooele County Health Department and Physical Education specialists in the District shall review this policy annually. Any changes or modifications shall be reviewed and provided to administrators, athletic department staff, including coaches and other appropriate school personnel in writing. All appropriate staff shall attend a yearly in-service meeting in which procedures for managing sporting event-related concussions are discussed. Annual notification to parents/guardians and parents/guardians' signature shall be required for any student participating in a "sporting event" as identified in this policy.

B. Policy

1. This policy applies to students participating in:
 - a. recess, field days, or elementary school activities;
 - b. physical education classes offered by the District; and
 - c. extra-curricular activities sponsored by the District or statewide athletic associations or both groups jointly.
2. Schools shall provide a written copy of this policy to parents/guardians of students participating in sporting events (as defined in this policy), and obtain a signed statement from the parent/guardian acknowledging that the parent/guardian has read, understands, and agrees to abide by the concussion and traumatic head injury policy.
3. "Sporting events" for purpose of this policy means any of the following athletic activities that is organized, operated, managed, or sponsored by the District
 - a. a game
 - b. a performance
 - c. a practice
 - d. a sports camp
 - e. physical education class
 - f. a competition