

First Aid/Emergency Medical Care**Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention**

The Board of Education (Board) recognizes the importance of ensuring the safety of students participating in the District's intramural and interscholastic athletic programs. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for the prevention and recognition of sudden cardiac arrest in student athletes.

For purposes of this policy, "intramural or interscholastic athletics," shall include any activity sponsored by the District or a District school, as defined in C.G.S. 10-15f, or an organization sanctioned by the District that involves any athletic contest, practice, scrimmage, competition, demonstration, display or club activity.

Sudden Cardiac Awareness Program

For the school year beginning July 1, 2015, and each school year thereafter, the District shall use the sudden cardiac arrest awareness education program promulgated by the Connecticut State Board of Education (SBE). The program, to be available on the SBE's website, will include:

1. the warning signs and symptoms associated with a sudden cardiac arrest,
2. the risks associated with continuing to engage in intramural or interscholastic athletics after exhibiting such warning signs and symptoms,
3. the means of obtaining proper medical treatment for a person suspected of experiencing a sudden cardiac arrest, and
4. the proper method of allowing a student who has experienced a sudden cardiac arrest to return to intramural or interscholastic athletics.

Training

For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school year thereafter, any person who holds or is issued a coaching permit by the State Board of Education and is a coach of intramural or interscholastic athletics shall annually review the SBE promulgated program prior to beginning the coaching assignment for the season of such intramural or interscholastic athletics.

Students

Note: The SBE may revoke the coaching permit, as provided by law, of any coach who (1) does not annually review the program, (2) fails to immediately remove a student showing signs of sudden cardiac arrest, or (3) allows such student to resume participating without receiving appropriate medical clearance.

Consent Form Requirement

Each school year, beginning July 1, 2015, prior to participation in an athletic activity, parent/guardians of students participating in intramural or interscholastic athletics shall sign the SBE developed and approved informed consent form on sudden cardiac arrest.

Removal from Play

A student who, as determined by the coach of any intramural or interscholastic athletics, game official, certified athletic trainer, licensed physician, or other official designated by the District, exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a sudden cardiac arrest shall be removed by the coach from participating in any intramural or interscholastic athletics.

Any student known to have exhibited signs or symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest prior to or following an athletic activity shall be prevented from participating in athletic activities.

Return to Play

Prior to participation, the coach shall not return a student who previously exhibited warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest to participate in any intramural or interscholastic athletics until the student receives written clearance to participate in athletics from a licensed health care professional (a licensed physician, a physician assistant, or an advanced practice registered nurse).

(cf. 5141 – Student Health Services)

(cf. 5142 – Safety)

(cf. 6145.2 – Interscholastic/Intramural Athletics)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

PA 14-93 An Act Concerning Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention.

10-145b(i) Teaching certificates.

10-235 Indemnification of teachers, board members, employees and certain volunteers and students in damage suits; expenses of litigation.

10-212d Availability of automatic external defibrillators in schools.
Emergency action response plans for life-threatening emergencies.

Adopted: April 12, 2022

NORTH CANAAN BOARD OF EDUCATION
North Canaan, Connecticut