



Athletics Concussion Management

City Schools of Decatur (CSD) believes that youth athletic activities are an important and valuable part of the educational experience of students. CSD wishes to provide safe youth athletic activity opportunities to all the students in the school system. In furtherance of that goal, CSD adopts this concussion management and return to play policy in adherence to GA State Code O.C.G.A. § 20-2-324.

As used in this administrative regulation, the term:

1. “Health care provider” means a licensed physician or another licensed individual under the supervision of a licensed physician, such as a nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or certified athletic trainer who has received training in concussion evaluation and management.
2. “Youth athlete” means a participant in a youth athletic activity who is seven years of age or older and under 19 years of age.
3. “Youth athletic activity” means an organized athletic activity in which the majority of the participants are youth athletes and are engaging in an organized athletic game or competition against another team, club, or entity or in practice or preparation for an organized game or competition against another team, club, or entity. This term shall not include college or university activities or an activity which is entered into for instructional purposes only, an athletic activity that is incidental to a non-athletic program, youth athletic activities offered through a church or synagogue, or a lesson.

Prior to the beginning of each athletic season of a youth athletic activity, the administration of each school that offers youth athletic activities shall provide an information sheet to all youth athletes’ parents or legal guardians that informs them of the nature and risk of concussions and head injuries.

If during an athletic event or practice a youth athlete makes contact with another athlete, the ground or equipment that could result in a concussion, the athlete must undergo a preliminary concussion screening by the team trainer and be cleared before returning to play.

If a youth athlete participating in a youth athletic activity exhibits symptoms of having a concussion, that athlete shall be removed from the game, competition, tryout, or practice and be evaluated by a health care provider.

If a youth athlete is deemed by a health care provider to have sustained a concussion, the coach or other designated personnel shall not permit the youth athlete to return to play until the



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youth athlete receives clearance from a health care provider for a full or graduated return to play.

This policy is not intended to create any liability for, or create a cause of action against the board of education or their officers, employees, volunteers or other designated individuals for any act or omission to act related to the removal or non-removal of a student from an extracurricular athletic activity.

Questions about this regulation should be directed to the Executive Director of Schools.

Related Board Policy: 2.7

Public Comment Window: N/A

Approved by Cabinet: August 5, 2019