

WAKEFIELD SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
Wakefield, Ma

POLICY SR-108-10
STUDENT ATHLETIC CONCUSSION
(1 of 2 pages)

The Wakefield Public Schools is committed to the health and safety of all students who participate in athletics and extra-curricular activities.

Effective July 1, 2011, all students participating in high impact activities must take a concussion screening test prior to being permitted to attend practices, games, or otherwise in order to establish student baseline data. This baseline data is needed to evaluate the athlete should a concussion occur. The Athletic Director or his designee will be responsible for tracking which students have completed the screening test prior to the commencement of a sports season. The Superintendent or his/her designee will annually designate the list of high impact activities and present it to the Wakefield School Committee no later than May 1 to be effective starting July 1 of the same calendar year. Screening tests are only valid for the shorter of the durations specified by the test vendor, School District Physician, or his/her designee.

Students who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from a practice or competition and will not be permitted to return to play in any physical contact activities without being cleared by the express, written consent of a health-care professional (as determined by the Department of Public Health) or his/her designee and subject to final discretion of the Wakefield Public Schools' Athletic Trainer.

All Wakefield Public School coaches and others will educate themselves annually in regards to concussions.

Wakefield Public Schools' medical personnel will be responsible for members of our teams. Therefore, when Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) assigned medical personnel are also present at a tournament site, the Association's personnel will defer to the school's staff, but are ready to assist whenever requested. Medical personnel must be certified in the National Federation or similar concussion course.

School medical personnel, and not the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athlete Association's assigned medical personnel, will make participation decisions.

The Superintendent of Schools will develop and implement a process to execute this policy within 90 days of its adoption and present it to the Wakefield School Committee. Further, the Superintendent of Schools will present changes being implemented in the process, whenever they occur, to the Wakefield School Committee.

Ref: MGL, Ch. 111, Sec. 223

Responsible: Administrators
Impacted: All students

Adopted: January 11, 2011