

**WHITE RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT #416
BOARD POLICY**

No. 3422

3000 STUDENTS

Student Welfare

**3422 – Student Sports – Concussion, Head Injury
and Sudden Cardiac Arrest**

The White River School District Board of Directors recognizes that concussions and head injuries are commonly reported injuries in children and adolescents who participate in sports and other recreational activities. The Board acknowledges the risk of catastrophic injuries or death are significant when a concussion or head injury is not properly evaluated and managed.

Therefore, all competitive sport activities in the District will be identified by the administration and all appropriate district staff, coaches and team volunteers will complete training as required in Procedure 3422 to recognize warning signs and symptoms of concussion and head injury. Additionally, all coaches will comply with Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) guidelines for the management of concussions and head injuries.

Consistent with Washington law, the District will utilize guidelines developed with the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) and other pertinent information and forms to inform and educate coaches, youth athletes, and their parents and/or guardians of the nature and risk of concussions or head injuries, including the dangers associated with continuing to play after a concussion or head injury.

Annually, the district will distribute a head injury and concussion information sheet to all parents and guardians of student participants in competitive sport activities. The parent/guardian and student must return a signed acknowledgement indicating that they have reviewed and understand the information provided before the student participates in any covered activity. Until this acknowledgement form is returned and on file with the District, the student may not practice or compete.

Prior to their first use of school facilities, all private nonprofit youth programs must provide a written statement of compliance with this policy in regard to concussion and head injury with proof of insurance as required by RCW 4.24.660.

Sudden Cardiac Arrest

The Board of Directors further recognizes that sudden cardiac arrest is reported to be the leading cause of death in young athletes. The board will work with the WIAA and the University of Washington medical center for sports cardiology to make an online pamphlet that provides student athletes, their parents/guardians and coaches with information about sudden cardiac arrest. To this end, the district will maintain a link on its website to the OSPI website where the online pamphlet will be posted.

Annually, prior to participating in an interscholastic athletic activity, students and their parent/guardian must review the online pamphlet and return a signed statement to the

school documenting their review. This form may be combined with the annually distributed head injury and concussion information sheet referenced above.

The board will also work with the WIAA and the University of Washington medicine center for sports cardiology to make available an existing online sudden cardiac arrest prevention program for coaches. Each year, prior to coaching an interscholastic athletic activity, all coaches will complete the online program and provide a certificate of completion to the district.

All coaches, including volunteers, will complete training as required in the district procedure. Additionally, all coaches will comply with Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) guidelines for the management of sudden cardiac arrest. Prior to their first use of school facilities, all private nonprofit youth programs must provide a written statement of compliance with this policy in regard to sudden cardiac arrest with proof of insurance as required by RCW 4.24.660.

Cross References:

Policy 4260	Use of School Facilities
Policy 3418	Response to Student Injury or Illness
Policy 3412	Automated External Defibrillators

Legal References:

RCW 28A.600	Students
RCW 4.24.660	Liability of school districts under contract with youth programs.

Management Resources:

<i>Policy News</i> , August 2009	Concussion and Head Injuries Legislation
2014 - August Issue	
2015 – June Policy Issue	