

Policy Guide



Policy No. 123.2

Section PROGRAMS

Title SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST

Adopted MAY 22, 2018

Revised _____

POLICY NO. 123.2 SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST		
Section 1	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <p>The Board recognizes the importance of ensuring the safety of students participating in the district’s athletic programs. This policy has been developed to provide guidance for prevention and recognition of sudden cardiac arrest in student athletes.</p>	24 P.S. Sec. 5331 et seq.
Section 2	<p><u>Definitions</u></p> <p>Athletic activity shall mean any of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Interscholastic athletics. 2. An athletic contest or competition, other than interscholastic athletics, that is sponsored by or associated with the school, including cheerleading, club sponsored sports activities and sports activities sponsored by school affiliated organizations. 3. Noncompetitive cheerleading that is sponsored by or associated with the school. 4. Practices, interschool practices and scrimmages for all athletic activities. <p>A Sudden Cardiac Arrest occurs when the heart stops beating, suddenly and unexpectedly; stopping blood flow to the brain and other organs.</p>	24 P.S. Sec. 5332

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Section 3

Delegation of Responsibility

Each school year, prior to participation in an athletic activity, every student athlete and his/her parent/guardian shall sign and return the acknowledgement of receipt and review of the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Symptoms and Warning Signs Information Sheet (123.2-AR-1).

24 P.S. Sec. 5333

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to implement this policy, which shall include protocols for sudden cardiac arrest prevention, education, and management.

Section 4

Guidelines

The District will provide educational information concerning Sudden Cardiac Arrest in the Athletic Handbook, the district website and by any other reasonable means.

The District will hold an informational meeting at least annually for all competitors regarding the symptoms and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest. In addition to the student athletes, such meetings may include parents/guardians, coaches, other appropriate school officials, physicians, pediatric cardiologists, and athletic trainers.

24 P.S. Sec. 5333

Removal from Play

A student who, as determined by a game official, coach from the student's team, certified athletic trainer, licensed physician, or other official designated by the district, exhibits signs or symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest while participating in an athletic activity shall be removed by the coach from participation at that time.

24 P.S. Sec. 5333

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 unless they are evaluated and cleared by a licensed physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or cardiologist.

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Return to Play

The coach shall not return a student to participation until the student is evaluated and cleared for return to participation in writing by a licensed physician, certified registered nurse practitioner or cardiologist.

24 P.S. Sec. 5333

Training

All coaches shall annually, prior to coaching an athletic activity, complete the sudden cardiac arrest training course offered by a provider approved by the PA Department of Health.

24 P.S. Sec. 5333

Penalties

A coach found in violation of the provisions of this policy related to removal from play and return to play shall be permanent suspension from coaching any athletic activity.

24 P.S. Sec. 5333

References:

Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act – 24 P.S. Sec. 5331 et seq.