

BOARD POLICY

Title: Concussion Policy Statement

Effective Date: January 2020

- 1.1 The Near North District School Board recognizes that students are among those at risk for concussions and that while there is potential for a concussion any time there is body trauma, the risk is greatest during activities where collisions can occur, such as during physical education classes, playground time, or school-based sports activities.
- 1.2 Educators, school staff, coaches and supervisors play a crucial role in the identification of a suspected concussion as well as the ongoing monitoring and management of a student with concussion. Awareness of the signs and symptoms of concussion and knowledge of how to properly manage a diagnosed concussion is crucial in a student's recovery and is essential in helping to prevent the student from returning to learning or physical activities too soon and risking further complications. Ultimately, this awareness and knowledge could help contribute to the student's long-term health and academic success.
- 1.3 As part of its commitment to student safety, injury prevention and well-being, the Near North District School Board supports concussion awareness, prevention, identification, management, tracking and training in schools through policy, procedures and resources.
- 1.4 The roles and responsibilities of relevant school staff and board staff, as well as students, parents, and school volunteers will be clearly articulated.
- 1.5 The Near North District School Board will provide annual concussion training for relevant school staff that includes training on concussion awareness, prevention and management.
- 1.6 The Near North District School Board will receive confirmation of annual review of approved Concussion Awareness Resources by individuals participating in board-sponsored interschool sports.

- 1.7 The Near North District School Board will establish Concussion Codes of Conduct for individuals participating in board-sponsored interschool sports, and the receipt of confirmation of annual review of the relevant Code of Conduct for those individuals.
- 1.8 The Near North District School Board will establish an updated process for the removal of students with a suspected concussion from physical activity and, for those diagnosed with a concussion, a Return to School Plan, which includes their return to learning and to physical activity.
- 1.9 The Near North District School Board will establish a process to document and track a student's progress, from removal from an activity due to a suspected concussion, to the return, through graduated steps, to learning and to physical activity.
- 1.10 The Near North District School Board will use, access and disclose only relevant diagnostic information needed to fulfill the requirements of this policy and will limit the collection, use, access and disclosure of personal and health information to that which is reasonably necessary to carry out the school board's concussion and identification procedures and Return to School Plan.
- 1.11 A copy of this policy shall be available on the Near North District School website.