

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Cherry Hill, New Jersey

POLICY 6145.1

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS AND EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR ATHLETICS

Pursuant to rules and regulations set forth in N.J.A.C. 6:29-3.4, the Board of Education will annually review the content and procedures for the administration of medical examinations and emergency procedures for all athletic practice sessions and events as provided by the State of New Jersey Office of Education, Support Services “School Health Services Guidelines” and as contained in the Cherry Hill Nursing Policy and Procedure Manual.

The medical director will annually review and approve all requirements and procedures for medical examinations and emergency requests for athletics. Those requirements are indicated below and can be found in the guidelines and manual noted above.

All pupils in grades six (6) through twelve (12) participating in intramural or interscholastic athletics must be given a medical examination within 365 days prior to the first practice session, with a health history update if the examination was completed more than 60 days prior to the first practice session of the first sport participated in. The medical examination shall be given by the student’s physician. If a student does not have a physician, the school physician shall conduct the medical examination. Examinations shall be made available throughout the school year consistent with the district athletic schedule. The examination shall be documented on the form approved by the commissioner of education and include, as a minimum, the components listed in the administrative code. In the event a private physician is used, the medical examination shall not be at the expense of the board of education.

The parents/guardians shall be sent written notification signed by the examining physician testifying to the pupil's physical fitness to participate in athletics. The reason for the physician's disapproval of the pupil's participation shall be included in the notification. The health findings of the medical examination for participation in athletics shall be made part of the general health examination record.

The superintendent shall present to the board for adoption procedures for administration of the required medical examination. The procedures for the medical examination to determine the fitness of a pupil to participate in athletics shall include a form for a medical history to be filled out and returned by a parent/guardian and a form to be filled out by the examining physician.

The medical examination to determine the fitness of a pupil to participate in athletics shall include, as a minimum, the following:

A. A medical history questionnaire, completed by the parent/guardian of the pupil, to determine if the pupil:

1. Has been medically advised not to participate in any sport, and the reason for such advice;
2. Is under a physician's care and the reasons for such care;
3. Has experienced loss of consciousness after an injury;
4. Has experienced a fracture or dislocation;
5. Has undergone any surgery;
6. Takes any medication on a regular basis, the names of such medication and the reasons for such medication;
7. Has allergies including hives, asthma and reaction to bee stings;
8. Has experienced frequent chest pains or palpitations;
9. Has a recent history of fatigue and undue tiredness;
10. Has a history of fainting with exercise;
11. Has a history of family members dying suddenly.

B. A physical examination which shall include, as a minimum, no less than:

1. Measurement of weight, height, and blood pressure;
2. Examination of the skin to determine the presence of infection, scars of previous surgery or trauma, jaundice, and purpura;
3. Examination of the eyes to determine visual acuity, use of eyeglasses or contact lenses, and examination of the sclera for the presence of jaundice;
4. Examination of the ears to determine the presence of acute or chronic infection, perforation of the eardrum and gross hearing loss;
5. Examination of the nose to assess the presence of deformity which may affect endurance;
6. Assessment of the neck to determine range of motion and the presence of pain associated with such motion;
7. Examination of chest contour;
8. Auscultation and percussion of the lungs;
9. Assessment of the heart with attention to the presence of murmurs, noting rhythm and rate;
10. Assessment of the abdomen with attention to the possible presence of hepatomegaly, splenomegaly, or abnormal masses;
11. Assessment of the back to determine range of motion and abnormal curvature of the spine;
12. Examination of extremities to determine abnormal mobility or immobility, deformity, instability, muscle weakness or atrophy, surgical scars and varicosities;
13. Examination of the testes to determine the presence and descent of both testes, abnormal masses or configurations, or hernia;
14. Assessment of physiological maturation;

15. Neurological examination to assess balance and coordination and the presence of abnormal reflexes.

Insurance

The board will cover each participant in all interscholastic and intramural athletics as well as extracurricular activities with excess insurance coverage.

Parents/guardians shall be strongly encouraged to participate in the supplemental pupil accident insurance program offered by the board.

Legal References

N.J.S.A. 5:17-1 et seq. Athletic code of conduct permitted; "youth sports event" defined...

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3 Voluntary associations regulating conduct of student activities; membership; rules and regulations; appeals

N.J.S.A. 18A:26-2.1 et al. Supervisory certificate required for appointment as director of athletics

N.J.S.A. 18A:36-20 Discrimination; prohibition

N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-1 et seq. Substance abuse

See particularly:

N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-9, -10, -11

N.J.S.A. 18A:42-2 School orchestra not to compete with civilian musicians; exceptions

N.J.S.A. 18A:43-1 Accident insurance for pupils authorized

N.J.A.C. 6:3-8.1 et seq. Athletics Procedures

See particularly:

N.J.A.C. 6:3-8.1(c), -8.1(d), -8.1(f)

N.J.A.C. 6:8-4.1 Review of mandated programs and services

N.J.A.C. 6:11-3.24 Athletics personnel

N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.4 Responsibilities of the district board of education

N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.7 Equality in school and classroom practices

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.4(a)6 District policies and procedures

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.1 et seq. General Provisions for School Health Services

See particularly:

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2

N.J.A.C. 6A:30-1.1 et seq. Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts

20 U.S.C.A. 1681 et seq. - Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972

29 U.S.C.A. 794 et seq. - Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Krupp v. Bd. of Ed. of Union County Reg. H.S. Dist. #1, 278 N.J. Super. 31 (App. Div. 1994)
cert. den. 140 N.J. 277 (1994)

NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations

Manual for the Evaluation of Local School Districts (September 2002)

Multi-year Equity Plan for the Academic Years 2000-2001 through 2002-2003, New Jersey State
Department of Education Division of Student Services Office of Bilingual Education
and Equity Issues

Formerly Policy JGCA

Adopted: 7/15/85

Amended: 8/24/04