

Concussion Policy (approved 3/19/18)

Purpose

The purpose of the Pioneer Springs Community School (PSCS) Concussion Policy is to comply with the Gfeller-Waller Concussion Awareness Act and provide an outline to ensure each PSCS student, after sustaining a concussion, is treated with a consistent set of guidelines to ensure a safe and sustainable return to school. These guidelines focus on the PSCS staff, PSCS parent/guardian, PSCS student and medical care provider(s)' responsibilities, from initial concussion diagnosis through a student's safe return to school as well as annual staff development.

Policy

As required by the Gfeller-Waller Concussion Awareness Act, the school shall maintain complete and accurate records of all concussion-related injuries and request for any concussion updates on our annually required health forms.

As noted in the [Gfeller-Waller Seasonal Compliance Checklist](#), below are the items that must be followed to remain compliant with the Gfeller-Waller Concussion Awareness Act.

Concussion Statement Forms shall be signed and collected from head and assistant coaches, athletic trainers, first responders, school nurses, volunteers, students, and parents prior to participating in PSCS athletic programs:

- [Student-Athlete & Parent/Custodian Concussion Statement Form](#)
- [Schools & Athletic Personnel Concussion Information Sheet](#)
- [Schools & Athletic Personnel Concussion Statement Form](#)

A Post Concussion Plan shall be in place that, at a minimum, includes:

- No same day return-to-play for any student-athlete exhibiting signs and symptoms consistent with concussion.
- Student-athlete exhibiting signs and symptoms consistent with concussion must complete a "Return to Learn" Form to be completed by a medical professional trained in concussion management prior to return-to play/practice.

- If a student has a diagnosed concussion, then all stakeholders in the student's education must be notified (e.g., teachers, coaches, administrators, etc.).

In the event of a concussion, the following forms shall be utilized:

- [Concussion Injury History](#)
- [Medical Provider Concussion Evaluation](#)
- [Return to Learn](#)
- [Return to Play Protocol](#)
- [Return to Play Form](#)

Concussion plans and guidelines shall be reviewed annually by head and assistant coaches/athletic trainers/first responders/school nurses/volunteers.

The school shall create a written Emergency Action Plan (EAP) reviewed by a Licensed Athletic Trainer (LAT) in North Carolina and approved annually by the Director of PSCS. The EAP shall include a delineation of roles, methods of communication, available emergency equipment, and access to and plan for emergency transport. The EAP must be provided to all coaches, administrators, volunteers, etc. involved in interscholastic athletics and must be posted conspicuously at all venues. The EAP must be annually reviewed and rehearsed by all licensed athletic trainers (LAT), first responders, coaches, school nurses, athletic directors, and volunteers for interscholastic athletics.

Note: The forms above may be found at the NC High School Athletic Association's website:

<http://nchsaa.org/parents-students/health-safety/concussion-awareness>