
STUDENT SAFETY IN PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES

Background

The Division is committed to providing a safe and healthy study and work environment for its students. Further, the Division is committed to the provision of safe instruction, safe facilities and safe equipment for all physical activities.

Procedures

1. The principal must ensure that procedures are in place for the safe conduct of physical activities in the school.
 - 1.1 The principal will ensure that school procedures regarding the safe conduct of physical activities in the school are developed. Such school procedures will include:
 - 1.1.1 The identification of accepted activities in the school and the requirement to meet or exceed the safety standards;
 - 1.1.2 The identification of facility and equipment checklists;
 - 1.1.3 The identification of responsibility of specified staff to carry out the safety inspections according to a safety inspection schedule; and
 - 1.1.4 The emergency procedures to be followed in the case of accident including on site care of the injured student and the appropriate means of transportation.
 - 1.2 The principal will ensure that in-service opportunities for safety in physical activities are provided for staff.
2. Those instructing or supervising physical activities must possess the knowledge and expertise required to ensure the safe conduct of any physical activity as well as the safety of the facilities and equipment used for the physical activity. The teacher will:
 - 2.1 Ensure that any physical activity fulfills a general and specific outcome of the Physical Education portion of the Program of Study for the Province of Alberta.
 - 2.2 Have the training and experience to safely conduct the activity.
 - 2.3 Ensure that the activity is age appropriate and that the students achieve proficiency in the activity through an appropriate developmental training sequence.
 - 2.4 Ensure that the activity is not identified as not recommended in the publication, Safety Guidelines for Physical Activity in Alberta Schools. These activities will be considered as prohibited.
 - 2.5 Ensure that the equipment and facilities are:
 - 2.5.1 Inspected for safety before the students participate in the activity. If the equipment or facility is found to present a safety concern the activity will be cancelled;

- 2.5.2 Age appropriate for the students.
- 2.6 Ensure that the teacher/coach is:
 - 2.6.1 Aware of any health concerns of the students; and
 - 2.6.2 Aware of any physical limitations of any student in the class.
- 3. Those instructing or supervising physical activities must possess the knowledge and expertise required to ensure the utilization of correct procedures in case of an accident.
 - 3.1 In the event of an accident resulting in injury to a student, the teacher or the supervisor will:
 - 3.1.1 Initiate the actions identified in the school's Accident Emergency Action Plan;
 - 3.1.2 Initiate the protocol for assessing exposure risk if blood or body fluids are involved;
 - 3.1.3 Inform the principal who will inform the parents;
 - 3.1.4 Arrange transportation to the Health Care Facility in accordance with the school's Accident Emergency Action Plan. In cases of severe injury, only ambulance transport is to used; and
 - 3.1.5 Fill out the Student Accident Report Form (Form 315-01) in detail and give it to the Principal.
- 4. Students will be instructed on safety considerations identified under the General Outcomes of the Physical Education section of the Program of Study.
 - 4.1 All students will receive safety training in physical education classes as identified in the safety strand of General Outcome #4 of the Physical Education portion of the Alberta Program of Study.
 - 4.2 All students will receive safety training in their Health program as identified in Theme 4 of the Health portion of the Alberta Program of Study.

Reference: Sections 33, 54, 256 Education Act

Approved: November 2005

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