



Smithtown Central School District

26 New York Avenue, Smithtown, New York 11787

Jason Lambert

Coordinator of Physical Education, Health, Athletics and Nurses
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Mark Secaur, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

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Parents,

Due to the magnitude of a concussion and the difficulty in the diagnosis, the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) has established specific guidelines regarding medical clearances. These guidelines have been adopted by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA), which is the governing body for athletics here in New York. These guidelines, regarding concussions or perceived concussions, mandate that all student athletes be medically cleared by the District's Chief Medical Officer. Dr. Anthony Donatelli is the Chief Medical Officer for the Smithtown Central School District.

Dr. Donatelli's direction is for all students to be evaluated by physicians that are ImPACT program certified. The ImPACT concussion program is a thorough concussion assessment and return to play program. This program is considered the premier program in the assessment and treatment of concussions. All students involved in contact sports have taken the ImPACT program cognitive baseline assessment. This proactive measure will help in the concussion assessment process and further ensure the safety and wellbeing of our student athletes.

For Student Athletes, it is recommended as best practice that students receive clearance for a concussion from an ImPACT trained physician to return to a sport. In the event that the parent is unable to use an ImPACT trained physician, then the student athlete may be cleared by their own physician. The physician's clearance must be sent to the district's medical director for review and final clearance.

For Non-athletic Students, if a student sustains a concussion at any time either in or outside of school, the student needs medical clearance by a private physician in order to be cleared to participate in physical activity such as PE and/or recess. These students do not need to be cleared by the medical director under normal circumstances.

Sincerely,

Jason Lambert
Coordinator of Physical Education, Health,
Athletes and Nurses

JL:vp