



## **Littleton Public Schools Middle School Protocol for Concussion Management**

### **Background Information**

Colorado Senate Bill 11-040, the Jake Snakenberg Youth Concussion Act, C.R.S. 25-43-101 specifies requirements related to concussion management during youth athletic activities in middle schools. The following outlines the Littleton Public Schools (LPS) protocol for District response to a potential concussion during an athletic activity in LPS middle schools.

### **Basic Principles**

- Each LPS middle school will follow a standard protocol for concussion management which will apply to all intramural and inter-school sports.
- Any decision related to student removal or return to practice or play will be made with the priority for student safety.
- Final decisions regarding removal or return to practice or play are ultimately the responsibility of the principal of the middle school in consultation with the head coach of the sport or activity.
- All middle school staff members who coach an intramural and/or inter-school sport will be required to complete an annual concussion management training program.

### **On-Field or Sideline Concussion Management**

If a coach suspects that a student has sustained a concussion following an observed or suspected blow to the head or body in a game or practice, the following standard protocol will be used:

1. The student will be removed immediately from practice or play. Emergency management principles will be used.
2. The parent/guardian will be informed of the suspicion of a concussion in all cases. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to obtain follow-up medical care.

### **Protocol for Return to Practice or Play**

Students shall not be returned to practice or play the same day of injury. In order for consideration for return to practice or play, the following protocol will be followed:

1. The student must provide the school principal a completed and signed "Return to Practice or Play" release form from a licensed health care provider, as defined in C.R.S. 25-43-101 before returning to practice or play. The signed release form must state whether the student suffered a concussion. If so, the signed release form must indicate the student's condition has improved to the point that he or she is fully ready to practice or play.
2. If the licensed health care provider concludes that the student did not suffer a concussion in the first place, the student will be allowed to return to practice and play.
3. Coaches, at their discretion, will continue to monitor the student for a reasonable period of time.

It is ultimately the principal's decision whether to return a student to practice or play after a student has suffered a concussion. In determining this decision the principal shall consider input from the coach, student, parents, and health care provider. Student safety and well-being will be the priority in the decision-making process.

\*Additional information related to this concussion management protocol can be obtained through the middle school Principal's office.