

Health & Safety Meeting Minutes

December 19, 2018 5:30p

Attendees

Belinda Cameron, Lisa Tate, Kristi Brouillette, Kim Clift, Ryan Osborne, Dr. Donna Gamache, Jackie Kunstmann, Dollie Johnson and Mary Fisher, Alex Fisher, Matt Stemmler, Kristen Tolliver, Kim Simon, Mike Thompson

Scribe

Belinda Cameron and Mary Fisher

Agenda

- **Business**
 - Concussion Sub Committee Report
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- **Informational Items & Round Table Discussion**
 - Report of local health concerns from committee members
 - Report on PD 16 activities

Business

Concussion Policy Discussion

- Mary Fisher reported that the subcommittee has continued to work on all aspects of concussion care to continue developing KGCS best practices.
- Recently, KGSB requested a review of and proposed changes to Policy JJAC: Student-Athlete Concussions During Extra-Curricular Activities in order to include all students, not only student-athletes.
- In lieu of making changes, MFisher provided the subcommittee's efforts to date and current practices. SB agreed to table the discussion as the Health and Safety Advisory's work was appropriate and adequate. Further, MFisher believes that VSBA will be continue updating Policy JJAC to include all students as well.
- Nurses and Athletic Trainer (AT) discussed current concussion cases. One of the biggest concerns is the lack of guidance from the state in regards to Returning to Learn (RTL) and length of time students are out of class.
- Subcommittee recommends consideration of a 504 plan if concussion has not resolved within the typical medical guidance of 4-6 weeks, unless the student is being followed by a doctor who has provided additional recommendations for RTL.
- Nurses are concerned about the language of "staging" being outside of their scope of practice. Because "staging" is a medical term used to define the severity of the

concussion, KGCS will use color coded levels and remove the term "stage" from our RTL chart.

- Stemmler (AT) pointed out language regarding 2016 Virginia Board of Education Guidelines For Policies on Concussions in Students references six phases for RTL, whereas our chart only contains five levels. It was clarified that Phases 1 and 2 are combined into Level 1 because both Phases have the student at home full time, and there is no differentiation on the school's procedures within those two Phases.
- It was also discussed that the Guidelines state the following:

Each non-interscholastic youth sports program utilizing public school property shall either (i) establish policies and procedures regarding the identification and handling of suspected concussions in student-athletes, consistent with either the local school division's policies and procedures developed in compliance with this section or the Board's Guidelines for Policies on Concussions in Student-Athletes, or (ii) follow the local school division's policies and procedures as set forth in subsection B. In addition, local school divisions may provide the guidelines to organizations sponsoring athletic activity for student-athletes on school property. Local school divisions shall not be required to enforce compliance with such policies.

While Policy JJAC references this, there is no attached regulation stating KGCS position on whether organizations will use our policies or their own. This will be discussed further with Dr. Benson.

- Committee continued discussion of other resources being used across the state, including intervention checklists, teacher observational forms, concussion 'plans', and so forth.
- It was reminded that it is important for Nurses to advocate to their administrators that teachers must be educated on concussions and their role in assisting students in the RTL process. The Nurses are not educators nor have knowledge of individual classroom requirements and therefore should not be the primary interventionist regarding a RTL plan with accommodations and modifications to the instructional environment. Rather, Nurses are a resource for the medical signs and symptoms teachers should be aware of when determining work expectations.
- RTL and RTL information is provided in the Student-Athlete Handbook, but has not been included in the Division Handbook to date. This will be discussed by the Student Handbook committee.

Information Items & Round table Discussion

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Next Meeting

2019 Meetings

February 13, 2019 -- CANCELLED

April 24, 2019

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:00p