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5 Management of Sports Related Concussions

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7 The Bigfork School District #38 recognizes that concussions and head injuries are commonly reported
8 injuries in children and adolescents who participate in sports and other recreational activities. The Board
9 acknowledges the risk of catastrophic injuries or death is significant when a concussion or head injury is
10 not properly evaluated and managed. Therefore, all K-12 competitive sport athletic activities in the
11 District will be identified by the administration.

12 Consistent with guidelines provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for
13 Disease Control and Prevention, the National Federation of High School (NFHS) and the Montana High
14 School Association (MHSA), the District will utilize procedures developed by the MHSA and other
15 pertinent information to inform and educate coaches, athletic trainers, officials, youth athletes, and their
16 parents and/or guardians of the nature and risk of concussions or head injuries, including the dangers
17 associated with continuing to play after a concussion or head injury. Resources are available on the
18 Montana High School Association Sports Medicine page at www.mhsa.org; U.S. Department of Health
19 and Human Services page at: www.hhs.gov; and; the Centers for Disease and Prevention page at
20 www.cdc.gov/concussion/sports.index.html.

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22 Annually, the district will distribute a head injury and concussion information and sign-off sheet to all
23 parents and guardians of student-athletes in competitive sport activities prior to the student-athlete's initial
24 practice or competition.

25 All coaches, athletic trainers, officials, including volunteers participating in organized youth athletic
26 activities, shall complete the training program at least once each school year as required in the District
27 procedure. Additionally, all coaches, athletic trainers, officials, including volunteers participating in
28 organized youth athletic activities will comply with all procedures for the management of head injuries
29 and concussions.

30 Reference: Montana High School Association, Rules and Regulations
31 Section 4, Return to Play

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33 Legal Reference: Dylan Steigers Protection of Youth Athletes Act
34 20-7-1301, MCA Purpose
35 20-7-1302, MCA Definitions
36 20-7-1303, MCA Youth athletes – concussion education requirements
37 20-7-1304, MCA Youth athletes – removal from participation
38 following concussion – medical clearance required
39 before return to participation

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41 Cross Reference: 3415F Student-Athlete & Parent/Legal Custodian Concussion Statement

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43 Policy History:
44 Revised on: 08/13/2013
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46 Second reading/Adopted on: 12/8/21