

GRANITE FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT

STUDENT

POLICY 5060: EMERGENCY TREATMENT

The board recognizes that schools are responsible for providing first aid or emergency treatment in case of sudden illness or injury to a student, but that further medical attention is the responsibility of the parent or guardian.

When a student is injured it is the responsibility of staff to see that immediate care and attention is given the injured party until relieved by a superior, a nurse or a doctor. Word of the accident should be sent to the principal's office and to the nurse. The principal or designated staff should immediately contact the parent so that the parent can arrange for care or treatment of the injured.

In the event that the parent or emergency contact cannot be reached and in the judgment of the principal or person in charge immediate medical attention is required, call the local emergency medical services (911) and care of the sick/injured student should be turned over to the emergency medical service. An injured or ill student should only be moved if a first aid provider has determined that it is safe to do so, or that it is safe to transport the student in a private vehicle. Students with head or neck injuries should only be moved or transported by emergency medical technicians. When the parent is located, he/she may then choose to continue the treatment or make other arrangements.

The district is not qualified under law to comply with directives to physicians limiting medical treatment and will not accept such directives.

The superintendent shall establish procedures to be followed in any accident, and for providing first aid or emergency treatment to a student who is ill or injured.

Cross Reference: Policy 5066

ADOPTED: JUNE 11, 1981

AMENDED: APRIL 27, 2000

POLICY 5060 PROCEDURES

Staff is encouraged to become trained and/or maintain skills in recognized first aid procedures. Staff has the affirmative duty to aid an injured student and act in a reasonable and prudent manner in obtaining immediate care. The staff member who exercises his/her judgment and skills in aiding an injured person during the school day or during a school event is protected by the district's liability insurance except when the individual is operating outside the scope of his/her employment or designated duties.

For a life-threatening emergency (severe bleeding, shock, breathing difficulty, heart attack, etc) call 911. Parent/guardian notification should be made as soon as possible, if the parent/guardian cannot be reached, the emergency phone number listed on the student's enrollment card should be called.

For other illness or injury that is NOT life threatening, the principal, nurse, designated person or involved staff member should contact the parent/guardian as quickly as possible to determine whether the child should:

1. Remain at school, or
2. Be immediately picked up the parent/guardian to
 - a. Be taken home,
 - b. Be taken to the doctor,
 - c. Be taken to the hospital, or
 - d. Be transported to medical treatment by 911.

If an illness or injury is NOT life threatening, the parent/guardian should arrange transportation. If a parent/guardian requests, 911 can be called for transportation. If a parent requests that a child be allowed to walk home, do NOT allow that if the child has a high fever (102+), a head injury or is likely to go into shock from the injury. Do not send the child home unaccompanied if the way home is not likely to be a safe route.

If the injury is deemed to be MINOR, the trained staff member should:

1. Administer first aid to the child as necessary (following the flip chart in the nurse's office or following standard Red Cross procedure);
2. Notify the nurse, principal or designee. The nurse may be consulted by phone if not in the school;
3. Remain with the child until released by the principal, nurse, designee or parent/guardian. The nurse, principal or designee should make the decision whether an ill or injured child who has received first aid should return to class. If there is any doubt, the parent/guardian should be consulted.

If a serious injury occurs during a physical education class or during an athletic team practice or game, emergency procedures shall be conducted in the following manner:

1. Stop play immediately at first indication of possible injury or illness;
2. Look for obvious deformity or other deviation from the athlete's normal structure or motion;

3. Listen to the athlete's description of his complaint and how the injury occurred;
4. Move the athlete only after serious injury is ruled out.

The teacher or coach should avoid being hurried into moving an athlete who has been hurt. He/she should attempt to restore life - sustaining functions, (e.g., stop/repair uncontrolled bleeding, suffocation, cardiac arrest) while a designated individual calls 911. An athlete with a suspected neck or spinal cord injury should NOT be moved, if at all possible until the local emergency services arrive and deem it safe to do so.

An accident report must be completed by the teacher/coach/activity director as soon as possible from information provided by the person at the scene of the accident. The written report should include a description of the circumstances of the illness or injury and procedures followed in handling the incident. A copy should be sent to both the student's school principal and the superintendent's office.

School staff may not accept and may not agree to comply with directives to physicians that would withhold or withdraw life-sustaining treatment from students.