

# POLICY

## EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF EDUCATION

PUPILS

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USE OF DEFIBRILLATOR(S)

The Board of Education is committed to providing the highest quality of emergency health care to its staff and pupils.

Consistent with this commitment, the Board will have available at least one defibrillator in a central location in each of its schools. The defibrillator will be available for the treatment of victims of Sudden Cardiac Arrest, eight years of age and older (may be used to treat victims younger if a defibrillator equipped with pediatric pads is available).

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is a condition that occurs when the electrical impulses of the human heart malfunction causing a disturbance in the heart's electrical rhythm called Ventricular Fibrillation (VF). This erratic and ineffective electrical rhythm causes complete cessation of the heart's normal function of pumping blood resulting in sudden death. The most effective treatment for this condition is the administration of an electrical current to the heart by a defibrillator, delivered within a short time of the onset of VF.

An automated external defibrillator (AED) is used to treat victims who experience SCA. It is only to be applied to victims who are unconscious, without pulse, signs of circulation and normal breathing. The AED will analyze the heart rhythm and advise the operator if a shockable rhythm is detected. If a shockable rhythm is detected, the AED will charge to the appropriate energy level and advise the operator to deliver a shock

The Certified School Nurse will ensure the defibrillator is tested and maintained according to the manufacturer's operational guidelines and will notify the local first aid, ambulance, rescue squad or other appropriate emergency medical provider that a defibrillator is available at the school, the type of defibrillator and its exact location in the school building. If other defibrillators are available at a school location, the school administrator shall assign a staff member to be responsible for its maintenance (ie: athletic director).

During normal school hours, the defibrillator will be at designated locations. These locations shall be specific to each school but should allow for the device to be easily seen by staff and be retrieved outside of normal school hours. At the high school and middle school, the defibrillator may be moved from its designated location to support athletic department activities. The authorized users of the defibrillator are any



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individual who has been trained in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and the use of a defibrillator.

The school administrator will be responsible to select specific staff members to be trained in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and the use of a defibrillator and arrange for their training. The staff member training will be in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2A:62A-25. Successful completion and current certification from the American Red Cross, American Heart Association or other training programs recognized by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and the use of a defibrillator is required. A person will not use the defibrillator until he/she has successfully completed a recognized training program and holds current certification.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 2A: 62A-25 (d), the school physician has reviewed this policy prior to the district acquiring a defibrillator.

N.J.S.A. 2A: 62A-25 et seq.

Approved: 10 October 2005

