



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

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CHRISTOPHER D. CERF
Acting Commissioner

March 11, 2011

TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School Lead Persons
Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities

FROM: Barbara Gantwerk, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Student Services

SUBJECT: Sudden Cardiac Death in Young Athletes

The incidence of sudden cardiac death (SCD) among student athletes, often due to undetected heart conditions, has caused great concern throughout New Jersey. In response to this serious problem and in an effort to increase awareness and emphasize prevention of possible sudden death of young athletes, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed P. L. 2009, Chapter 260. The law established the New Jersey Student Athlete Cardiac Screening Task Force.

The Task Force has completed the portion of its mandate to develop an informational brochure about sudden cardiac death for distribution to all districts in the State. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41 school districts are required to distribute the pamphlet to the parents or guardians of students participating in school sports.

Attached for your use is an electronic version of the brochure for distribution. Also, the brochure will be available on the Department's website under Resources at www.state.nj.us/education/students/safety/health/services.

BG/SM/s/shss/legalissues/statutes/suddencardiacdeathmemo2.doc
Attachment

c: Christopher D. Cerf, Acting Commissioner
Gregg Edwards
Senior Staff
Non Public Advisory Council
Non Public Schools
Susan Martz
Christene DeWitt Parker
Executive County Superintendents