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SUBJECT: STUDENT PHYSICALS

Health Examination

Each student enrolled in a district schools should have a satisfactory health examination conducted by the student's physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner within twelve months prior to the commencement of the school year when:

- a) Entering the school district for the first time;
- b) Pre-kindergarten or kindergarten; and
- c) 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, and 11th grades.

The District may also require an examination and health history of a student when it is determined by the District that it would promote the educational interests of the student.

The District will also provide health examinations before participation in strenuous physical activity **such as interscholastic athletics** and periodically throughout the season as necessary, as well as for the issuance of employment certificates, vacation work permits, newspaper carrier certificates, and street trades badges.

Health Certificate

Each student must submit a health certificate attesting to the health examination within 30 calendar days after his or her entrance into:

- a) A District school at any grade level;
- b) Pre-Kindergarten or kindergarten; and
- c) 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, and 11th grades.

The building principal or designee will send a notice to the parent of, or person in parental relation to, any student who does not present a health certificate, that if the required health certificate is not furnished within 30 calendar days from the date of the notice, an examination by health appraisal will be made of the student by the Director of School Health Services.

The health certificate will be filed in the student's cumulative record. The health certificate must:

- a) Be on a form prescribed by the Commissioner;
- b) Describe the condition of the student when the examination was given, provided that such examination was not given more than 12 months prior to the commencement of the school year in which the examination is required;

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- c) State the results of any test conducted on the student for sickle cell anemia;
- d) State whether the student is in a fit condition of health to permit his or her attendance at a District school and, where applicable, whether the student has impaired sight or hearing, has received a scoliosis screening, or has any other physical disability which may tend to prevent the student from receiving the full benefit of school work or from receiving the best educational results, or which may require a modification of such work to prevent injury to the student;
- e) State the student's body mass index (BMI) and weight status category; and
- f) Be signed by a duly licensed physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner, who is:
 - 1. Authorized by law to practice in New York State consistent with any applicable written practice agreement; or
 - 2. Authorized to practice in the jurisdiction in which the examination was given, provided that the Commissioner has determined that the jurisdiction has standards of licensure and practice comparable to those of New York State.

A licensed health professional with appropriate training may conduct a scoliosis screening.

Dental Health Certificate

The District will request a dental health certificate from each student within 30 calendar days after his or her entrance into:

- a) A District school at any grade level; and
- b) 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, and 9th grades.

The District may also request an assessment and dental health history of a student when it is determined by the District that it would promote the educational interests of the student.

Examination by Health Appraisal

The Director of School Health Services will cause students who are required to, but have not submitted, the required health certificate and students with disabilities to be separately and carefully examined and tested to ascertain whether any such student has defective sight or hearing, or any other physical disability which may tend to prevent the student from receiving the full benefit of school work or from receiving the best educational results, or which may require a modification of such work to prevent injury to the student.

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Each examination will include a calculation of the student's BMI and weight status category. Further, the physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner administering such examination shall determine whether a one-time test for sickle cell anemia is necessary or desirable and, if so determined, shall conduct such test and include the results in the health certificate. Unless otherwise prohibited by law, if it is ascertained that any students have defective sight or hearing, or a physical disability or other condition, including sickle cell anemia, which may require professional attention with regard to health, the Principal or Principal's designee shall notify, in writing, the student's parents or persons in parental relation as to the existence of such disability **or condition**. If the parents or persons in parental relation are unable or unwilling to provide the necessary relief and treatment for such students, such fact shall be reported by the Principal or Principal's designee to the Director of School Health Services, who then has the duty to provide relief for such students.

District Reporting of BMI and Weight Status Category

Each school year, the New York State Department of Health randomly selects a certain number of districts across New York State to report, in the aggregate, students' BMI and weight status categories. Selected districts must report BMI results on-line using the Department of Health's Health Provider Network secure website. A student's parent or person in parental relation may refuse to have the student's BMI and weight status category included in such survey.

Athletic Health Appraisal

All students must have the approval of the district medical director prior to participating in interscholastic athletics.

The athletic health appraisal will include:

- a) Physical Examination and Pre-participation/Interval Athletic Health History (Form 7512) required annually for the student wishing to participate in the school's interscholastic athletic program.
- b) Pre-participation/Interval Athletic Health History (Form 7512) – required for the student wishing to participate in additional seasons of interscholastic athletics who has had a physical exam that school year.
- c) In accordance with Policy 7518 HEAD/BRAIN INJURIES AND CONCUSSIONS and per the Concussion Management and Awareness Act, students who suffer or are suspected of suffering a concussion during athletic activities (interscholastic sports) will be evaluated and receive clearance in writing, from a duly licensed physician. Such written clearance will be sent to the school for review and approval by the district medical director and should be kept in the student's cumulative health record.

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Health Screenings

The District will provide:

a) Scoliosis screening, if not documented on the student's health certificate, at least once each school year for male students in grade 9, and for female students in grades 5 and 7. The positive results of any such screening examinations for the presence of scoliosis shall be provided in writing to the student's parent or person in parental relation within ninety (90) days after such finding;

b) Vision screening, if not documented on the student's health certificate, to all students who enroll in school including at a minimum color perception, distance acuity, near vision and hyperopia within six (6) months of admission to the school. In addition, all students shall be screened for distance acuity and near vision in grades pre-kindergarten or kindergarten, 1, 3, 5, 7, and 11, and at any other time deemed necessary. The results of all vision screening examinations will be provided in writing to the student's parent or person in parental relation and to any teacher of the student while the student is enrolled in the District school; and

c) Hearing screening, if not documented on the student's health certificate, to all students within six months of admission to the school and in grades pre-kindergarten or kindergarten, 1, 3, 5, 7, and 11, as well as at any other time deemed necessary. Screening shall include, but not be limited to, pure tone screening. The results of any hearing tests requiring a follow-up examination will be provided in writing to the student's parent or person in parental relation and to any teacher of the student while the student is enrolled in the District school.

The results of all health screenings (dental, hearing, vision and scoliosis) shall be recorded on appropriate forms signed by the health professional making the examination, include appropriate recommendations, and be kept on file in the school.

Student Health Records

The health records of individual students will be kept confidential in accordance with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and any other applicable federal and State laws.

Accommodation for Religious Beliefs

No health examinations, health history, examinations for health appraisal, screening examinations for sickle cell anemia and/or other health screenings shall be required where a student or the parent or person in parental relation to the student, objects to the examinations, health history and/or screenings, conflict with their genuine and sincere religious beliefs. A written and signed statement from the student or the student's parent or person in parental relation that they person holds such beliefs must be submitted to the Principal or Principal's designee, in which case the Principal or Principal's designee may require supporting documents.

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Students in Temporary Housing

For students in temporary housing (i.e., homeless children and youth), the enrolling school must immediately refer the parent or guardian of the student to the District's homeless liaison, who must assist them in obtaining the necessary medical records.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974(FERPA)
20 United States Code (USC) Section 1232(g)
34 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 99
Education Law Sections 901-905, 912 and 3217
8 New York Code of Rules and Regulations (NYCRR) Part 136

Adopted: 1/17/19