

Students

First Aid/Emergency Medical Care

Illness

Use of Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs)

In order to assist individuals who may experience cardiac arrest on school property, the New Milford Board of Education has acquired external defibrillators for use in school buildings. It is the policy of the New Milford Board of Education to support the use of these automatic external defibrillators (AED) by school personnel trained in the operation of such AED and the use of cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Such trained personnel and AEDs shall be accessible during the school's normal operational hours, during school-sponsored athletic practices and athletic events taking place on school grounds and during school sponsored events not occurring during the normal operational hours of the school. The word "events," as used in this policy means school sponsored performances, competitions, assemblies and other large gatherings where members of the public are invited to attend. The word "events" does not include activities that take place at school but are sponsored by a PTO or other independently operated organization. The District's continued use of AEDs and training of personnel is subject to available federal, state or private funding.

Each school shall develop an emergency action response plan that addresses the appropriate use of school personnel to respond to incidents involving an individual experiencing sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency while on school grounds. For each school with an athletic department or organized athletic program the emergency action response plan must also address the appropriate use of school personnel to respond to incidents involving an individual experiencing sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency while attending or participating in an athletic practice or event while on school grounds.

An Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) is a device that: (A) is used to administer an electric shock through the chest wall to the heart; (B) contains internal decision-making electronics, microcomputers or special software that allows it to interpret physiological signals, make medical diagnosis, and, if necessary, apply therapy; (C) guides the user through the process of using the device by audible or visual prompts; and (D) does not require the user to employ any discretion or judgment in its use.

Only personnel who are CPR and AED certified in accordance with the standards set forth by the American Red Cross or American Heart Association and has a copy of his/her current certification on record with the school system shall be authorized to use AEDs maintained by the school system. Such personnel who use an external defibrillator to provide emergency treatment do so voluntarily, and are afforded the protection from liability provided under C.G.S. § 52-557b ("Good Samaritan law").

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This policy and accompanying regulations shall be disseminated to personnel authorized to use AEDs upon hiring and, at the discretion of the school administration, periodically thereafter. Personnel authorized the use AEDs acquired by the school system shall acknowledge receipt of school policy and accompanying regulations and shall be responsible for adhering to such policy and regulations. Certifications (and recertifications) of CPR and AED training shall be kept current and copies of such certifications shall be provided to school administration and retained in school administration files.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall be responsible for developing administrative regulations in furtherance of the Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) policy, in conformity with the provisions of applicable statutes and regulations.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
10-212d Availability of automatic external defibrillators in schools.
Emergency action response plans for life-threatening emergencies
10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules.
19a-175 Definitions
52-557b "Good Samaritan law."

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NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Milford, Connecticut