PHYSICAL EXAMINATION OF STUDENTS

NEPN/NSBA Code: JLCA

The Board is aware of the relationship between student health and success is school. Recognizing that parents/guardians bear the major responsibility for attending to the health needs of their children and that the school system has an interest in the well-being of its students, the Board adopts the following policy.

A. Physical Examinations and Screenings

Parents/guardians shall be encouraged to have their children physically examined prior to entering school and again prior to entering Grades 4, 7, 9 and 11. Dental examinations shall also be encouraged.

Vision, hearing and scoliosis screenings will be conducted as required by Maine law. Parents will be notified of any suspected health problems identified through screening.

School staff are encouraged to be alert to the general well-being of students and should refer any concerns to the school nurse.

B. Participation in Athletics

Students who wish to participate in middle school or high school athletics are required to have a physical and medical approval before doing so. A student will not be allowed to participate in practice or competition without the required physical examination and medical approval. Physicals shall be required every two (2) years.

C. Parental Consent

Parent/guardian consent shall be required for physical examinations if given by the school physician or under the auspices of the school.

Parents/guardians and eligible students (students 18 years of age or older) shall be notified annually and have the opportunity to opt the student out of any nonemergency, invasive, physical examination or screening that is:

1. Required as a condition of attendance;

2. Administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and

3. Not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student, or of other students.

For the purpose of this policy, "invasive physical examination" means any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts, or any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body, but does not include a hearing, vision or scoliosis screening.

Legal Reference: 20-A M.R.S.A. §§ 6402-A, 6451-6453
20 U.S.C. § 1232h(c)

Cross Reference: JLCB – Immunization of Students

Adopted: March 14, 2006

Revised: July 30, 2013