



# Wachusett Regional School District

Holden, Paxton, Princeton, Rutland, Sterling

## STATE LAW REGARDING SPORTS-RELATED HEAD INJURY & CONCUSSIONS

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services now requires that all schools subject to the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) rules adhere to the following law. Student-athletes and their parents, coaches, athletic directors, school nurses, and physicians must learn about the consequences of head injuries and concussions through training programs and written materials. ***The law requires that athletes and their parents inform their coaches about prior head injuries at the beginning of the season.*** If a student-athlete becomes unconscious, or suspected of having a concussion, during a game or practice, the law now mandates taking the student out of play or practice, and requires written certification from a licensed medical professional for “return to play”.

Parents, and students who plan to participate in any athletic program at Wachusett Regional High School, or in a Wachusett Regional School District middle school, must also take a free on-line course. Two free on-line courses are available and contain all the information required by the law. The first is available through the National Federation of High School Coaches. You will need to click the “order here” button and complete a brief information form to register. At the end of the course, you will receive a certificate of completion. The entire course, including registration, can be completed in less than 30 minutes.

<http://www.nfhslearn.com>

The second on-line course is available through the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention at:

[www.cdc.gov/Concussion](http://www.cdc.gov/Concussion)

Please sign below indicating that you have read the above and completed one of the courses listed. This is required in order to participate on any athletic team at Wachusett Regional High School, or one of the District middle schools. Thank you.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Effective 09/2011  
7/1/2011