

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Medical management of sports-related concussion continues to evolve. Recently, there has been a significant amount of new research regarding sports-related concussions in high school athletes.

The Kenai Peninsula School District (KPBSD) seeks to provide a safe return to activity for all athletes following any injury, but particularly after a concussion/head injury. In order to effectively and consistently manage these injuries, procedures have been developed to aid in insuring that concussed athletes:

- are identified, treated and referred appropriately,
- receive appropriate follow-up medical care during the school day (including academic accommodations), and
- are fully recovered prior to returning to activity.

According to Alaska state law, <u>any student suspected of having a concussion must be</u> <u>immediately removed from play</u>. The student must be evaluated by a health care provider who is "certified and qualified" in the diagnosis and treatment of concussion before they can return to play. This return-to-play (RTP) form has been developed in an effort to create a standard protocol among KPBSD schools defining the step-by-step process by which students suspected of having a head injury may progressively return to full school participation, inclusive of both cognitive and athletic activities.