



Colchester Public Schools

127 Norwich Avenue, Suite 202
Colchester, CT 06415

Karen A. Loiselle
Superintendent of Schools

Phone (860) 537-7208
Fax (860) 537-1252

February 22, 2010

Dear Parents and Guardians of Middle and High School Students:

I am writing to inform you of a recent decision made by the Colchester Board of Education to discontinue the practice of conducting "mass screening" sports physicals using our school physician effective the 2010-2011 school year. As you may know, the CT Association of Schools Interscholastic Athletic Conference requires that a pre-participating medical examination be performed within the last thirteen months before a student can engage in a school athletic program.


This decision was made in accordance with the goal of the American Academy of Pediatrics that every student have an ongoing relationship with a primary health care provider and their findings that mass screenings do not offer the privacy and time to identify and discuss important health and developmental concerns. Our property and liability insurance consultant also recommended that we eliminate this practice.

I am notifying you of this decision now to provide you with adequate time to schedule sports physicals for next school year. Families who do not have access to a primary health care provider can contact the Colchester Backus Health Center to arrange for a sports physical. Any uninsured family should contact head nurse, Jean Stauning, at 860-537-2378 to confidentially discuss options for ensuring that your child(ren) receive this required sports physical.

Sports physical forms are available in the middle and high school offices or on our website at www.colchesterct.org > Our Schools > Bacon Academy > School Health and Medical Information.

The Board of Education is committed to making decisions to ensure the safety and well-being of Colchester's students. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about this important change.

Sincerely,


Karen A. Loiselle
Superintendent of Schools

Cc: Board of Education
School Administrators
School Nurses
Anna DiPierro, WJJMS Athletic Coordinator
Kevin Burke, BA Athletic Director