

POLICY

2021

7515
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Students

SUBJECT: DISTRICT SUN SAFETY POLICY

Rationale and Purpose

The Gloversville Enlarged School District's Board of Education along with the New York State Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recognizes that the sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation can cause skin cancer. To help prevent skin cancer, the District will support sun safety behaviors in students; create environmental supports to avoid overexposure to the sun when students are outdoors; and provide key sun safety education; and communication with students and families. The Board directs that the Gloversville Enlarged School District will implement the following sun safety policy.

Policy

Hats, Protective Clothing and Sunglasses while outdoors

Students will be allowed and encouraged to wear articles of sun protective clothing when outdoors, including during the school day, athletic events and afterschool programs. The District's Student Dress Code will continue to specify the type(s) of clothing that are, or are not, permissible on campus. When students are outdoors, they will be allowed to wear sunglasses, which protect the eyes from UV radiation. When students are engaged in activities outdoors, they will be allowed to wear hats to cover their scalp, forehead and back of neck from UV radiation.

Sunscreen

Students who are participating in outdoor interscholastic sports will be encouraged and can carry and use topical, over the counter sunscreen products approved by the US Food and Drug Administration with written permission of the parent or guardian of the student. An annually updated record of this permission must be maintained by the school. Students who are physically unable to apply sunscreen may be assisted by unlicensed personnel when directed to do so by the student, if permitted by a parent or guardian and authorized school. The sunscreen must be used for the purpose of avoiding overexposure to the sun (during the athletic training and practices and events) and not for medical treatment of an injury or illness. Individual sunscreen containers cannot be shared with other students and must be provided by parents or guardians. Public use sunscreen dispensers will be housed at the athletic fields for interscholastic sports for the Gloversville High School and Middle School Campus and maintained by the grounds crew.

Shade Protection

School administrators, building and grounds personnel, and other District employees will consider the availability of shade when planning outdoor activities. Appropriate staff will encourage shade options for students and staff and will encourage the use of shaded or indoor areas or EZ up portable tents or shade sails for congregation and recreation areas as appropriate. Appropriate staff will also survey the school campus to identify existing shaded areas, and non-shaded areas where the addition of shade would be practical and desirable.

(Continued)

SUBJECT: DISTRICT SUN SAFETY POLICY (Cont'd.)

Priority will be given to including ample shade in new construction plans and adding shade when remodeling school facilities.

Education and Communication

All District staff will be provided a copy of this policy. Educators will be allowed to provide education at each grade level, prekindergarten through 12, which relates to skin cancer, including information about harmful effects of UV radiation and recommended practices for preventing skin cancer at any time of the school year. The program may use, but will not be restricted to, available curriculum and educational materials, and visual (e. g., posters) to remind students to engage in sun-safe behaviors. The administration will evaluate and revise sun safety programs, as needed.

The District will inform parents and guardians about the importance of, and strategies for, preventing skin cancer. Communication will include, but will not be limited to, details of the District policy relating to hats, sun-protective clothing, sunscreen usage and sunglasses. The District will also encourage families to reinforce sun-safe behavior outside the school and to support the school's sun safety programs. In addition, the District will provide notice of this policy to all contracted partners, agencies, or community-based organizations providing services to students.

Policy Monitoring and Review

The Gloversville Enlarged School District will evaluate and revise this policy on an annual basis.

Education Law, Article 19 § 907
NYSED, Updated Information Regarding the Use of Sunscreen

Adopted: 8/16/21

GLOVERSVILLE ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUNSCREEN USE PERMISSION FORM
Gloversville High School/Middle School Interscholastic Sports
Parent/Legal Guardian Permission for Use of Sunscreen
2021-2022 School Year

Student Name:

Grade:

I give permission for my child to carry and use sunscreen that I have provided and or the Gloversville Enlarged School District has made available for interscholastic sports activities for the current school year. I affirm that my child understands the need for sunscreen and is able to use it appropriately. S/he will not share sunscreen with others.

If my child is unable to physically apply sunscreen, s/he may be assisted by unlicensed personnel when directed to do so by the student and authorized by the school.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature:

Date:

Please return this form to your child's school nurse. A record of this permission slip will be maintained by the school.