



**HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL  
255 UNION AVENUE  
HARRISON, NEW YORK 10528**

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FAX# (914) 835-3917  
galanoc@harrisonscd.org

LOUIS N. WOOL, Ed.D.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

CHRISTOPHER GALANO  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, PHYSICAL  
EDUCATION AND ATHLETICS

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As of July, 2012, New York State Law will require all public schools to establish a Concession Management Policy. In 2011, the Harrison Central School District implemented a concussion assessment program as part of our sports clearance process. The program is called ImPACT, which stands for Immediate Post Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing. This program is a computerized exam that establishes a cognitive baseline measure to aid in the assessment of a head injury. Athletes will take an initial baseline test prior to the season. If a student is believed to have suffered a head injury, he or she will re-take the exam to help determine (a) the extent of the injury, and (b) when the injury has healed.

The ImPACT study is widely recognized as an industry standard toward identifying and better managing concussion-type injuries. The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center's Sport Concussion Program is the founding group of this program and software. The exam has gained recognition around the world and is being utilized by such organizations as the NFL, MLB, NBA, NHL, Olympic Organizations, Professional Automobile Racing and many major colleges and universities.

The exam takes about 40 minutes to complete and is non-invasive. The program is a computer-based program that measures an athlete's memory, reaction time, processing speed, and concentration. It is a simple, non-invasive test to administer and most of the athletes enjoy the challenge it gives their brain.

If a concussion is suspected, the athlete is re-tested on ImPACT prior to their return to play and the results are evaluated by a neuropsychologist, who is an expert in Impact interpretation and is hired by the District for this express purpose, and the district medical director to determine the student's level of cognitive function. If the retest results are similar to the baseline results, it is a first indication that the athlete's brain is beginning to heal. The student must also pass the "return to play protocol" which is attached. The information can be shared with your medical provider(s) so that a sound decision can be made as to when return-to-play is appropriate and safe. In keeping with current practice, Dr. Ann Engelland, the district medical director, will assess every sport-related injury and determine if the student can return to play.

This program gives us the best available information in preventing brain damage that can occur with multiple concussions or complication of an otherwise "mild" or "simple" concussion. The administration, coaches, athletic training, and health services staff are keeping your child's health and safety at the forefront of the athletic experience.

If you are interested in reviewing information about ImPACT, please feel free to visit the ImPACT website at [www.impacttest.com](http://www.impacttest.com) If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact: Chris Galano, Athletic Director at 630-3125; Linda Sannicandro, High School Nurse at 630-3123; or Susan Fiorenza, Middle School Nurse at 630-3046. Please complete the enclosed ImPACT Evaluation Permission Form and return to the Athletic Office prior to testing.

Chris Galano  
Athletic Director

Dr. Ann Engelland  
District Physician

Linda Sannicandro  
High School Nurse

Susan Fiorenza  
Middle School Nurse

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Harrison Central School District  
50 Union Avenue • Harrison, NY 10528  
914-835-3300



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Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Concussion Management and Awareness Act has gone into effect as of July 1, 2012 for all public schools and charter schools.

Enclosed, please find the NYSPHSAA (New York State Public High School Athletic Association) student and parent information sheet – Concussions: The Invisible Injury.

Once you have read the information sheet, please sign below and send back to the nurse's office that you have read the information.

Linda Sannicandro, HHS School Nurse  
255 Union Avenue  
Harrison, New York 10528

Susan Fiorenza, LMK School Nurse  
50 Union Avenue  
Harrison, New York 10528

If you have any questions, please contact either Susan Fiorenza, Nurse at LMK (914) 630-3046 or Linda Sannicandro, Nurse at HHS (914) 630-3123.

Sincerely,

Chris Galano  
Director of Physical Education, Health and Athletics

CG:rw

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I, \_\_\_\_\_ have read the NYSPHAA Student and Parent Information Sheet on Concussions: The Invisible Injury.

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Signature

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Date