Many students in Sugar Salem School District participate in extra-curricular activities which are active and where they may incur a concussion. The following are guidelines which may help alleviate those associated problems.

1. **Pre-Season Baseline Testing & Education**

The administration and coaches will:

1. work to ensure that athletes, parents, coaches and teachers are educated about concussion.
2. assign a staff member or volunteer to with medical community to educate them about the school's policy.
3. have a concussion management model on hand for key team members (coaches, trainers, doctors, school administration) in case of concussion.
4. have parents sign permission slip for base line Computerized Cognitive Assessment Tool (CCAT) testing. (appendix 1)
5. make sure that athletes take the Axon Sports CCAT and affirm the test was taken in a valid manner. Testing could be done at students home, at Rehab Services office, physicians office, or in groups at school. (see appendix 2 for sample)
6. Athletes in contact sports will not be permitted to participate until proof of the testing is provided. (see appendix 3 for list of recognized contact sports)

**2. If Concussion is Suspected:**

1. *A sideline/court-side assessment will be conducted. (appendix 4)*
2. *If a concussion is suspected after the sideline/courtside assessment has been administered, the student will be immediately removed from play.*
3. *The coach or trainer should, in a timely manner, communicate with athlete’s parent/guardian concerning concussion.*

**3. Post Injury Testing & Treatment Plan**

1. *Symptom management, as prescribed by physician, should take place (rest, pain meds, etc.).*
2. *The athlete will remain out of play and practice until cleared by the physician.*
3. *The athlete will take a supervised post-injury Axon CCAT test in 24-48 hours after injury based on symptoms.*

**4. Return To Play Decisions**

**Each concussion is different and time until return to play may take days or months.**

**An athlete must pass all of the following criteria to return to play:**

1. Symptom free at rest and with cognitive exertion.
2. Normal vestibular evaluation
3. Athlete has progressed through "Stepwise Return-to-Play" progression as monitored by coach or trainer (appendix 5)
4. Post injury Axon CCAT test is within normal range of baseline and gets a "green check mark". This may take a few attempts and a few weeks to pass depending on the nature of the injury. Post injury test results should be sent to the athletes physician as well as results from the stepwise return to play progression.
5. Written clearance by the athletes supervising physician (not ER physician) for return to play.
6. The athletes final passed Axon CCAT test result are the athletes new baseline score for any future injury.