

AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS (AED's)

The Kettle Falls School District has consulted with Project Adam Inland Northwest

a program of Sacred Heart Medical Center and a Local EMS representative in the development of procedures for the use of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in emergency situations.

The Kettle Falls Board of Directors recognizes that equipping schools with automated external defibrillators (AEDs) and training employees and students in their use, increases the potential to save lives in the event of a health emergency, including cardiac arrest. The board authorizes the district to place AEDs at designated school sites. The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) requires that any person using an AED receive training. Therefore, schools and district facilities with an AED on site will designate and train selected staff in the use of AEDs according to the DOH guidelines. Student instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitations, to include appropriate use of an AED, will occur in at least one health class necessary for graduation.

A person who uses an AED at the scene of an emergency and all other persons and entities providing services are immune from civil liability for any personal injury that results from any act or omission in the use of the AED in an emergency setting, unless the acts or omissions amount to gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

AEDs, also known as semiautomatic external defibrillators, are automatic in that the device must detect specific vital signs in order to operate. They are semiautomatic in that they require a person to activate the device if the vital signs allow operation. All recent literature refers to the name "automated external defibrillator". It is a portable defibrillator unit capable of monitoring, sensing lethal arrhythmias and delivering an electrical shock to a person's heart.

Accordingly, the Board authorizes the district to place AEDs at selected school sites. Schools having an AED on site will have training for volunteers and/or designated responders in the use of the AEDs according to guidelines of the American Heart Association, Red Cross, or other state approved CPR/AED course.

It is the hope of the Kettle Falls School District that by increasing the availability of AEDs, and persons trained to use them, both the school and larger community may benefit. Evidence indicates that on-site responders are more likely to arrive quicker than the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to incidents of "sudden death". Therefore, by equipping and training employees in the use of AEDs we will increase the potential to save lives through AED intervention.

This policy does not create an obligation to use an AED nor is it intended to create any expectation that an AED will be present or a trained employee will be present and/or able to use an AED if a condition arises making the use of an AED beneficial.

Cross References: 2410 – High School Graduation Requirements

Legal Reference: RCW70.54.310 Semiautomatic external defibrillator-Duty of Acquired-Immunity from civil liability. Washington State Legislator

RCW70.136.070, Verbal Emergency Assistance Agreements, "Good Samaritan Law" & RCW 70.136.050; RCW4.24.300 – Immunity from liability for certain type of medical care.

Chapter 28A.230 RCW COMPULSORY COURSEWORK AND ACTIVITIES

Management Resources: 2018 – August Issue
 2013 – September Issue
 2100 – April Issue

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