POLICY:	Defibrillators			#	808
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APPROVAL/REVISION DATE:	July 13, 2024	EFFECTIVE DATE:	July 17, 2024	REVIEW DATE:	July 13, 2029
CROSS REFERENCE:	Chase McEachern Act (Heart Defibrillator Civil Liability Act, 2006)				

POLICY

1. 1.1 It is the policy of the Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board that every reasonable precaution to ensure the health and well being of all students and staff will be taken to prevent serious medical emergencies.

1.2 The use of a defibrillator as an emergency device to aid a person during a life threatening medical episode is one method of immediate medical intervention.

Regulations

1. An Automated External Defibrillator (AED), is a portable electronic device that can audibly prompt and deliver an electric shock that will disrupt or stop the heart's dysrhythmic electrical activity. The shock can cause the heart to revert to a more effective rhythm during some life threatening situations. However, the AED is not a stand-alone treatment. It is only one step in a chain of medical care involving cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, defibrillation, advanced life support with drugs and airway control, and cardiac intensive care in a hospital.

2. In 2007, the Ontario government introduced the Chase McEachern Act (Heart Defibrillator Civil Liability Act, 2007). This Act protects people from liability if they use a defibrillator to assist someone at an emergency, as long as the defibrillators were made available in good faith. Protection from civil liability, use of defibrillator Section 2. (1) reads: *Despite the rules of common law, a person described in subsection (2) who, in good faith, voluntarily and without reasonable expectation of compensation or reward uses a defibrillator on a person experiencing an emergency is not liable for damages that result from the person's negligence in acting or failing to act while using the defibrillator, unless it is established that the damages were caused by the gross negligence of the person. 2007, c. 10, Schedule. N, s. 2 (1).*

PROCEDURE

2. 2.1 Deployment of AED Units

AED devices will be installed in a secure location in each school, one per site. Each AED cabinet which houses the defibrillator unit has a key which disarms the alarm. The alarm is activated when the cabinet door is opened. One key must be housed in the cabinet the second key must be stored in a secure location.

2.2 Training

In buildings where an AED exists, two levels of training will occur. The Director of Education is designated as the contact for the Education Centre:

2.2.1 Awareness Training

- The Principal will ensure that each staff has received awareness training.
- The awareness training will occur at the beginning of each school year.
- Staff will be made aware of the location of the AED.
- The Principal will ensure that the location of the AED is included in the school gmail folder.
- The Principal will ensure that information relating to the location of the AED is left for supply staff.

2.2.2 Training of Certified First Aid/CPR Staff

- Each School has staff members trained in First Aid/CPR. This training is provided by the Board, through a certified provider. Participants in this training become certified in First Aid/CPR.
- The First Aid/CPR certification training shall include a module on the use of AED's.
- School personnel must be made aware of which school staff have First Aid/CPR Training.
- Principals and Certified First Aid/CPR trained staff will work together to ensure that school–based procedures are in place to manage emergencies requiring the use of AED's.
- Principals will ensure that staff who have been involved in an emergency that required the use of the AED are apprised of services available to them through EAP.

3. Maintenance of AED Device

3.1 Daily

Each AED device will be visually inspected on a daily basis by custodial staff to ensure that the green Ready Light is on and that the device or casing has not been tampered with. If it is determined that the green ready light is not on or the device or its casing has been tampered with, a verbal report is to be made to the Principal who will in turn contact the Board's Safety Officer at the phone number located on the outside of the AED device cabinet. The daily inspection includes a sign off by the custodian inspecting with instructions to document any deficiencies.

3.2 Usage

Should the AED be used in an emergency, the Principal or designate will contact the Superior North EMS immediately or on the next business day so that servicing may occur.