

**CAPITAL AREA SCHOOL  
FOR THE ARTS  
CHARTER SCHOOL  
(CASA)**

No. 822

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: AUTOMATIC  
EXTERNAL  
DEFIBRILLATOR &  
CARDIOPULMONARY  
RESUSCITATION  
POLICY

ADOPTED: 1/21/2020

**Policy No. 822 – AUTOMATIC EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR &  
CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION**

In compliance with the Pennsylvania School Code, the Board of Trustees (“Board”) shall require that Capital Area School for the Arts Charter School (“Charter School”) participate in the Pennsylvania Department of Education (“PDE”) program to purchase necessary automatic external defibrillators for the Charter School building(s). The PA Public School Code defines “Automatic external defibrillator” as a portable defibrillator designed to be automated for use by a person and without substantial medical training who responds to a cardiac emergency.

The Board shall also require training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (“CPR”) for the continued good health of the Charter School community. The Public School Code defines “CPR” as a first aid technique utilizing hands-only compressions of the chest used to revive an individual whose heart has stopped beating.

The Charter School entity must:

- Assure that one (1) or more persons assigned to the Charter School location where the automatic external defibrillator will be primarily housed are trained by approved providers and will be provided opportunities for annual training and retraining in the use of the automatic external defibrillator in cardiopulmonary resuscitation provided by the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross or through an equivalent course of instruction approved by the PA Department of Health. This required training may be included in the Charter School’s continuing professional education plan.

- Ensure that the device will be secured in a safe and readily accessible location and agree to properly maintain and test the device according to the manufacturer's operational guidelines.
- The provisions of 42 Pa.C.S. § 8331.2 (relating to good Samaritan civil immunity for use of automated external defibrillator) shall apply to school employees who render care with an automatic external defibrillator.
- Not later than June 30, 2014, and each year thereafter, the Charter School entity shall make a report to the department detailing the number, condition, age and placement of automatic external defibrillators in each school building. After the initial report is made, the Charter school entity may report this information as part of its annual report or through PIMS.

### **Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (“CPR”)**

- The Charter School shall have, except in extenuating circumstances, one person certified in the use of cardiopulmonary resuscitation during regular school hours when school is in session and students are present.
- CPR combines rescue breathing and chest compressions. Rescue breathing provides oxygen to the person's lungs and chest compressions keep oxygen-rich blood flowing until the heartbeat and breathing can be restored. Permanent brain damage or death can occur within minutes if blood flow stops. Therefore, it is very important that blood flow and breathing be continued until trained medical help arrives.
- The provisions of 42 Pa.C.S. §§ 8332 (relating to nonmedical good Samaritan civil immunity) and 8337.1 (relating to civil immunity of school officers or employees relating to emergency care, first aid and rescue) shall apply to a person who renders cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

### **24 P.S. § 15-1528 - Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Education**

In accordance with Section 15-1528 of the Public School Code, the Pennsylvania Department of Education will develop a model curriculum and curriculum guidelines for instruction on cardiopulmonary resuscitation for public school students in grades nine through twelve. A school entity that offers instruction in CPR may utilize the model curriculum developed by the Department or develop the school entity's own

curriculum in accordance with academic standards and consistent with guidelines developed under Section 15-1528. A school entity may utilize appropriate publicly or privately available materials, personnel and other resources in developing and implementing this instruction, subject to these persons providing current required federal criminal clearance and state child abuse and criminal clearances and with requisite training in Mandatory Reporter requirements.

A teacher, instructor or community volunteer, with the participation of a professional educator with a Pennsylvania certification, including a professional educator certified in physical education or health education or a school nurse, may provide, facilitate or oversee the instruction offered by a school entity under Section 15-1528 and need not be a certified CPR trainer. An individual who in good faith provides instruction in CPR to a student under Section 15-1528 shall not be liable for any civil damages as a result of any act or omission relating to the instruction, except for an act or omission intentionally designed to harm or a grossly negligent act or omission that results in harm to an individual to whom the student administers CPR.

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

- Responders' use of automated external defibrillator (AED) units shall not replace the care provided by emergency medical services (EMS) providers. Patient care shall be transferred to the EMS providers upon their arrival.
- **TO THE EXTENT THAT ANYTHING IN THIS POLICY COULD BE CONSTRUED TO CONFLICT WITH APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS, THE APPLICABLE STATE AND/OR FEDERAL LAWS CONTROL. THIS POLICY IS NOT INTENDED TO CONFLICT WITH CHARTER REQUIREMENTS.**