

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Hampden Academy has implemented an innovative program for evaluating and treating mild traumatic brain injuries, more commonly known as concussions. In order to better manage concussions sustained by our student athletes, Hampden has partnered with the Maine Concussion Management Initiative to acquire a software tool called ImPACT (Immediate Post Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing). ImPACT is a computerized exam developed by concussion experts at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and used in many professional, collegiate and high school sports programs across the country. Additional information about ImPACT can be found at www.impacttest.com.

Your school is asking students to take the computerized exam before beginning a sports season. The test is set up in a video-game format and takes about 20-25 minutes to complete. The ImPACT test is a pre-season physical for the brain. It records information such as memory, reaction time, but it is NOT an IQ test. The test is non-invasive and poses no risk to your child. Taking an ImPACT baseline test may help your child understand that range of cognitive problems that can happen from head injuries, and may also assist in the diagnosis of a concussion should a head injury occur and a follow-up test be taken. Taking this test may help researchers understand more about concussion effects, severity, and recovery.

If your child suffers a head injury and a concussion is suspected, your child will be referred to a medical provider for an evaluation. When the concussion symptoms subside, a post-injury test will be administered at school by our nurse or myself. This test will be evaluated by Cameron Trubey, M.D. or Mike Rizzo, FNP. They will determine when your child may return to activity. Your child's baseline (pre-season) and post-injury test data, if any, will be maintained on a secure server by ImPACT. Your child's test data will only be available to his/her physician or clinician, except as described below:

The physician or clinician evaluating your child may choose to make your child's test data available to other healthcare providers who are being consulted regarding the treatment of your child.

Your child's de-identified data may be utilized by the Maine Concussion Management Initiative at Colby College and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center for research purposes. The identity of your child will not be disclosed to these entities if the test results are used for this purpose. *If you do not want your child's de-identified ImPACT test scores used for research purposes, contact Paul D. Berkner, D.O., Colby College at pberkner@colby.edu*

At Hampden Academy, your child's health and safety are important to the student athletic experience and we are happy to work with the Maine Concussion Management Initiative to implement this program. Participation in this project is voluntary, and you and your child may withdraw consent or discontinue participation at any time. Your child's or your refusal to participate will not result in any penalty. Please sign and return this form with your child.

Sincerely,
Phil Mateja, MEd., ATC

PERMISSION SLIP

I have read and understood the above information and give permission for my son/daughter to take the ImPACT baseline test.

Printed Name of Athlete

Signature of Athlete

Date

Signature of Parent

Date