These protocols are the responsibility of both the coach and the building administrator. They have been developed to ensure the health and safety of BVSD student athletes.

In order to ensure middle level student athletes are provided effective recovery time after sustaining a head injury/concussion, it is important that the student-athlete report all injuries to the coach, and the coach report all injuries to the building administrator.

It should be made clear to all concerned, that no penalty, stated or implied, should deter the student-athlete from reporting an injury. Coaches shall neither require nor permit a sick or injured student-athlete to participate in a practice or game without the approval of the building administrator or other appropriate outside medical provider.

Reporting an Injury -

1. Coaches are required to report any student athlete that sustains a suspected or known head injury to the Assistant Principal as soon as possible.
   a. The coach is responsible for completing the **BVSD Student Accident Report** (SAR) on the day of the injury and ensuring it is turned in to the Assistant Principal (AP).
   b. The AP will then ensure it is forwarded to the health room and the concussion team leader for follow up by the school’s concussion team.
2. The coach will be responsible for providing the student with the **BVSD Return to Play Form** which must be completed and signed by an approved health care provider before the student athlete may begin the *Return to Play* process.

Management of the Student Athlete after removal from practice or play due to head injury -

1. All students in BVSD who have diagnosed or suspected concussions will enter the BVSD concussion management protocol. Return to Learn, is the priority and will be managed by the school’s concussion team.
2. The student will be provided with academic adjustments as long as they continue to experience symptoms of concussion. **NO** student athlete will be permitted to begin the Return to Play (RTP) protocol until academic adjustments have been removed and the concussion team leader provides clearance to the athletic department that they are cleared academically.
   a. In the event a student is medically ‘cleared’ but not academically ‘cleared’ they may **NOT** begin the RTP process.
   b. The coach will communicate with the concussion team leader to determine if academic adjustments are still being implemented.
   c. The student athlete may elicit feedback from their teachers using the **Teacher Feedback Form** (available from the concussion team leader) to report that all adjustments have been discontinued.
   d. The concussion team leader will use this information to determine if the student is academically cleared and if they may begin the RTP process.
3. When the concussion team has provided notification that the student is cleared of all academic adjustments and the student has returned a signed BVSD Return to Play form the coach may begin the RTP process.
   a. If at any time during the RTP process the student experiences concussion symptoms and must stop the process, the school’s concussion team should be made aware so they can implement academic adjustments as needed.

4. A copy of the signed BVSD Return to Play form should be returned to the health room to be maintained in the student’s record, a copy may also be maintained by the athletic department.

The communication between the athletic department, coach and health room/concussion team leader is paramount to the student athlete’s quick recovery and return to learning and play.

Additional information on Middle Level Sports is available in the Middle Level Activities (MLAC) Handbook: http://www.bvsd.org/employees/AthleticsActivities/MLAC%20Information/MLAC%202016-17%20Handbook.pdf