ImPACT Concussion Testing FAQ

By implementing concussion testing at our school, we are taking valuable measures to help prepare our staff and students for when a concussion is suspected. Students in grades 9-12 are required to take the baseline concussion test before participating in sports. The test will be repeated in two years.

What is ImPACT?

ImPACT (Immediate Post-Concussion Assessment and Cognitive Testing) is the most scientifically validated computerized neurocognitive test used by more than 7,400 high schools and 1,000 colleges and universities to help evaluate and manage suspected concussions. Since 2006, over 7.5 million individuals have taken the ImPACT test.

ImPACT comes in two forms:

1. **Baseline Test** – Administered by a physician, nurse, athletic trainer, athletic director, or coach before the start of a sport season. ImPACT recommends re-administering the baseline test every two years.

2. **Post-Injury Test** – Administered by a licensed healthcare provider when a concussion is suspected. Test results are compared to baseline scores and/or normative data scores as part of a healthcare provider’s assessment of the injury. Multiple post-injury tests may be given to an individual during the course of treatment and rehabilitation.

Here's How ImPACT Works:

- 25-minute computerized, online test
- Delivered via a secure web portal
- Taken via a desktop computer (PC and Mac compatible) that has an internet connection and a mouse
- Administered in the presence of a physician, nurse, athletic trainer, athletic director, or coach (only a licensed healthcare provider can administer an ImPACT post-injury test)
- Results interpreted by a licensed healthcare provider
- School personnel do not have access to testing results. Staff administering the test will receive a confirmation number when a student completes the test.

What does ImPACT measure?

The test tracks a student's symptoms and measures multiple aspects of cognitive functioning, including attention span, working memory, sustained and selective attention time, non-verbal problem solving, and reaction time.

*If you have further questions about the concussion testing at school, please contact the school nurse.*