

NIAGARA FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Niagara Falls, New York

Emergency Action Plan  
for  
Outdoor/Indoor Sport  
Athletic Venues

*Athletic Department*

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Superintendent of Schools

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**NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**  
**Thunder and Lightning Policy**  
*(Effective 10/25/04)*  
*(Revised October 20, 2008)*

Applies to regular season through NYSPHSSA Finals:

- 1) Thunder and lightning necessitates that contests be suspended. The occurrence of thunder and/or lightning is not subject to interpretation or discussion – thunder is thunder, lightning is lightning.
  - a) With your site administrator, set up a plan for shelter prior to the start of any contest.
- 2) When thunder is heard and/or when lightning is seen, the following procedures **must** be adhered to:
  - a) Suspend play and direct participants to go to shelter, a building normally occupied by the public, or if a building is unavailable, participants should go inside a vehicle with a solid metal top (e.g., bus, van, car).
  - b) Do not permit people to stand under or near a tree; and have all stay away from poles, antennas, towers, bleachers and underground watering systems.
  - c) After thunder and/or lightning have left the area, wait 30 minutes after the last boom is heard or strike is seen before resuming play or competition.

Additional Recommendations:

All individuals must be completely within an identified safe location when thunderstorms are already producing lightning and approaching the immediate location and when the distance between the edge of the lightning storm and the location of the outdoor activity reaches 5 nautical miles (nmi; roughly 6 statute miles or 9.26 km; Table 2).14,19,22,38–40 Evidence category: C

# NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

## Heat Index Procedures

### Administration of Heat Index Procedures:

- 1) Heat index will be checked 1 hour before the contest/practice by a certified athletic trainer, athletic director, or school designee when the air temperature is 80 degrees (Fahrenheit) or higher.
- 2) The athletic trainer, athletic director, or school designee will use the **accuweather.com website** to determine the heat index for the area of the contest/practice. The accuweather.com website can be reached through the NYSPHSAA website. Once a person is on the accuweather.com website, he/she will put in the zip code for the location of the contest/practice and the website will give him/her the air temperature as well as the RealFeel temperature (heat index).
- 3) If the RealFeel temperature (heat index) is 90 degrees or above, the athletic trainer, athletic director, or school designee must re-check the RealFeel (heat index) at halftime or midway point of the contest. If the RealFeel (heat index) temperature is 96 degrees (Fahrenheit) or more, the contest will be suspended.

Please refer to the following chart to take the appropriate actions:

	RealFeel (Heat Index) under 79 degrees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full activity. No restrictions.</li> </ul>
R E C O M M E N D E D	Heat Index Caution: RealFeel (Heat Index) 80 degrees to 85 degrees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide ample water and multiple water breaks.</li> <li>• Monitor athletes for heat illness.</li> <li>• Consider reducing the amount of time for the practice session.</li> </ul>
	Heat Index Watch: RealFeel (Heat Index) 86 degrees to 90 degrees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide ample water and multiple water breaks.</li> <li>• Monitor athletes for heat illness.</li> <li>• Consider postponing practice to a time when RealFeel temp is lower.</li> <li>• Consider reducing the amount of time for the practice session.</li> <li>• 1 hour or recovery time for every hour of practice (ex. 2 hr. practice = 2 hr. recover time).</li> </ul>
	Heat Index Warning: RealFeel (Heat Index) 91 degrees to 95 degrees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide ample water and multiple water breaks.</li> <li>• Monitor athletes for heat illness.</li> <li>• Consider postponing practice to a time when RealFeel temp is lower.</li> <li>• Consider reducing the amount of time for the practice session</li> <li>• 1 hour or recovery time for every hour of practice (ex. 2 hr. practice = 2 hr. recover time).</li> <li>• Light weight and loose fitting clothes should be worn.</li> <li>• For practices, only football helmets should be worn. No other protective equipment should be worn.</li> </ul>
<b>REQUIRED</b>	Heat Index Alert: RealFeel (Heat Index) 96 degrees or greater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No outside activity, practice, or contest should be held. Inside activity should only be held if area is air conditioned.</li> </ul>

Approved May 1, 2010

# NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

## Wind Chill Procedures

### Administration of Wind Chill Procedures:

- 1) Wind Chill will be checked 1 hour before the contest/practice by a certified athletic trainer, athletic director, or school designee when the air temperature is 39 degrees (Fahrenheit) or lower.
- 2) The athletic trainer, athletic director, or school designee will use the **accuweather.com website** to determine the wind chill for the area of the contest/practice. The accuweather.com website can be reached through the NYSPHSAA website. Once a person is on the accuweather.com website, he/she will put in the zip code for the location of the contest/practice and the website will give him/her the air temperature as well as the RealFeel temperature (wind chill).
- 3) If the RealFeel temperature (wind chill) is 10 degrees or below, the athletic trainer, athletic director, or school designee must re-check the RealFeel (wind chill) at halftime or midway point of the contest. If the RealFeel (wind chill) temperature is -11 degrees (Fahrenheit) or lower, the contest will be suspended.

Please refer to the following chart to take the appropriate actions:

	RealFeel (wind chill) above 40 degrees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full activity. No restrictions.</li> </ul>
R E C O M M E N D E D	Wind Chill Caution: RealFeel (wind chill) 39 degrees to 20 degrees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stay adequately hydrated.</li> <li>• Notify coaches of the threat of cold related illnesses.</li> <li>• Have students and coaches dress in layers of clothing.</li> </ul>
	Wind Chill Watch: RealFeel (wind chill) 19 degrees to 10 degrees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stay adequately hydrated.</li> <li>• Notify coaches of the threat of cold related illnesses.</li> <li>• Have students and coaches dress in layers of clothing.</li> <li>• Cover the head and neck to prevent heat loss.</li> </ul>
	Wind Chill Warning: RealFeel (wind chill) 9 degrees to -10 degrees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stay adequately hydrated.</li> <li>• Notify coaches of the threat of cold related illnesses.</li> <li>• Have students and coaches dress in layers of clothing.</li> <li>• Cover the head and neck to prevent heat loss.</li> <li>• Consider postponing practice to a time when the Feels like temp is much higher.</li> <li>• Consider reducing the amount of time for an outdoor practice session.</li> </ul>
<b>REQUIRED</b>	Wind Chill Alert: RealFeel (wind chill) -11 degrees or lower	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No outside activity, practice, or contest should be held.</li> </ul>

Special Note: Alpine Skiing will be exempt from this policy and will follow the regulations or the host ski center where the practice or event is being held.

Approved May 1, 2010  
Updated July 27, 2016

## **NIAGARA FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **Designated Shelter Sites**

In the event of thunder and/or lightning, or a weather alert, which may include high winds, hail, or an impending storm, coaches of outdoor teams should direct their athletes to a secure designated area until further notice. Coaches should make sure that all players are accounted for and remain with the team.

The following areas should use the **Field House** as a designated site:

- Main Stadium Play Field
- Outdoor Track
- JV Baseball
- Varsity Baseball
- Multi-purpose fields (Soccer and Lacrosse)
- Tennis Courts
- Nicoletti Field

The following areas should use **Nicoletti Concession Building** as a designated site:

- JV and Modified Softball
- Varsity Softball
- Flag Football

**Cross Country** should seek shelter in the **Field House (See map)** or in **Niagara Falls High School**, whichever is closer.

**Golfers** should seek shelter in a designated area **at Hyde Park Golf Course**.

**Modified Football** should seek shelter inside **LaSalle Prep School**.

- \* In the event that teams during an athletic contest are unable to get to their designated area, they should then seek shelter on the opposing team bus.
- \* Coaches should be aware at all times that outdoor field equipment including nets, goals, or screens may blow over or become airborne during a weather event and should take necessary action.

# NIAGARA FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Emergency Action Plan

### ***Order of Command***

- If school physician/team physician is present, he/she would be the medical authority for evaluation, recommendations, and direction.
- If school physician is not present, a member of the athletic training staff will take authority for evaluation, recommendations, and direction. The head coach is to be available to assist as needed.
- If there is no medical staff present, the head coach shall take command of the situation and designate who is to assist.

Coaches: Remember, only move the athlete when you are certain there are no head/neck injuries. If in doubt, **DO NOT MOVE** the athlete. Do not remove or unstrap helmet if head/neck injury (if necessary, remove facemask only).

### ***Medical Emergency Determination***

- If Cardiac related emergency, begin CPR and obtain AED immediately. (Refer to page 10 for locations of AED's)
- If non-cardiac related, obtain properly trained medical staff.

### ***Notifying EMS***

A second member of the medical staff or an assistant coach is to call 911:

- Stay calm at all times.
- Do not hang up until instructed by operator to do so.
- Provide the operator with:
  - Caller's name and title
  - Where the person is calling from - communicate the exact location of the situation. **BE SPECIFIC.** If indoors, give the specific room or area. If outdoors, give the specific athletic field (# on field) and its location. (See field map)
  - Nature of injury or situation.
  - First Aid already administered.
  - Approach route:
    - Indoors - Where to best enter the school/field house – Entrance & Door Number
    - Outdoors – Indicate the 3980 Pine Avenue entrance by Packard Court.
  - Advise that someone will be waiting outside the entrance to guide them to the area.
  - Obtain AED immediately while 911 is being contacted.
  - After calling 911 and the athlete is treated and transported:
    - Contact the Athletic Director, who will notify the Superintendent of Schools as well as the CEA or School Principal regarding the injured student.
    - The Superintendent will determine if it is necessary to inform members of the Board of Education, the District Public Relations Director, or any news media outlets.

- A determination will be made as to who contacts the parent/guardian, if they are not already present. Phone numbers can be found on J-20 card.  
(Remember that most athletes of the school are minors and the wishes of the parents must be respected as long as it does not jeopardize the medical stability of the athlete, ex. where to transport the athlete.)

### ***Emergency Transportation***

- The medical staff member present in charge of the situation will ride with the injured party to hospital or find an appropriate substitution, such as the head coach or assistant coach.
- Non-EMS transportation
  - Contact parents immediately and notify them of situation (Phone number as listed on the J-20 form)
  - Notify Athletic Director immediately and inform him/her of the situation.
- EMS activated transportation
  - Contact parents immediately and notify them of situation (Phone number as listed on the J-20 form)
  - Notify Athletic Director immediately and inform him/her of the situation.

### ***Following the Situation***

- The Athletic Director will make a determination, with input from the Niagara Frontier League Executive Director and District officials, if the contest in question should continue, be postponed, or cancelled.
- All parties involved should assemble, if possible, to debrief and discuss the incident to make sure all protocols were followed.
- Fill out accident report as soon as possible so that the nurse practitioner, school nurse, and Athletic Department are informed of situation.
- If AED was used, complete all paperwork and copy all personnel as per District AED Plan.



## **Emergency Equipment**

All necessary emergency equipment will be at the site and readily accessible. Personnel will be familiar with the function and operation of each type of emergency equipment. The equipment will be checked on a regular basis to ensure it is in good condition and is ready for use.

**Coaches must take note of the closest AED to their practice and game locations.**

## **Away Contests**

When playing an away contest or practicing off-site the hosting Coach/AD/Athletic Trainer/Facility Manager must discuss emergency protocols with the head coach prior to the contest/practice. Survey the surrounding area and check field conditions, identify emergency equipment locations and take note of bus parking spot.

In the event of an emergency the following protocol shall be followed:

1. Immediate care of injured or ill student-athlete and deployment of emergency equipment.
2. Activation of Emergency Medical Services (EMS).
  - a. Call 911.
  - b. Scene control: limit scene to first aid providers and move bystanders away from area.
3. Designate an adult (assistant coach, athletic trainer) to travel with student-athlete to the medical facility.
4. Provide for supervision of remaining athletes.
5. Contact Athletic Director.

## **Bus Accident**

In the event of a bus accident the following protocol shall be followed:

1. Prior to leaving for the contest/practice: Take attendance; make note of where students are sitting and review the location of emergency exits.
2. Immediate care of injured or ill student-athlete(s).
3. Activation of emergency medical services (EMS).
  - a. Call 911.
  - b. Have students remain in seats until EMS personnel arrive (if possible). If the bus must be evacuated, designate a location and direct all athletes there. Retake attendance once all have evacuated.
4. Contact Athletic Director.

## **Non-Medical Emergencies**

For non-medical emergencies (fire, bomb threats, violent or criminal behavior, etc.) refer to the District or School Emergency Action Plan and follow instructions.

## Athletic Venues and AED Locations .

### NIAGARA FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

630 66th Street

Niagara Falls, NY 14304

#### Campus Athletics Venue Information

Venue	Site	Primary AED	Secondary AED
JV Softball	NFHS	With Athletic Coach	With Athletic Trainer
Varsity Softball	NFHS	With Athletic Coach	With Athletic Trainer
Tennis Courts	NFHS	With Athletic Coach	With Athletic Trainer
Varsity Baseball	NFHS	With Athletic Coach	With Athletic Trainer
JV Baseball	NFHS	With Athletic Coach	With Athletic Trainer
JV/Varsity Bowling	Bowl O Drome	With Athletic Coach	NA
JV Lacrosse	NFHS	With Athletic Coach	With Athletic Trainer
Varsity Lacrosse	NFHS	With Athletic Coach	With Athletic Trainer
Main Stadium	NFHS	With Athletic Coach	With Athletic Trainer
Multi-Purpose Fields	NFHS	With Athletic Coach	With Athletic Trainer
HS Gymnasium	NFHS	Concession stand	With Athletic Trainer
HS Natatorium	NFHS	Concession stand	With Athletic Trainer
Modified Football	LPS	With Athletic Coach	With Athletic Trainer
Varsity/JV Girls Basketball	NFHS	Concession stand	With Athletic Trainer
Modified Girls Basketball	LPS	LPS/GPS Hallway	NA
Varsity/JV Boys Basketball	NFHS	With Athletic Coach	With Athletic Trainer
Modified Boys Basketball	LPS	LPS/GPS Hallway	NA
Cheerleading	NFHS	With Athletic Coach/Field house	With Athletic Trainer

Mod Baseball/Softball	NFHS	With Athletic Coach	With Athletic Trainer
Indoor Track	NFHS	Concession stand	With Athletic Trainer
Golf	Hyde Park Golf Course	With Athletic Coach	Hyde Park Golf Course

### **EMS and Fire Department Planning**

Inform AMR and the Niagara Falls City Fire Department of the dates/times of home athletic contests at the beginning of each season by the Athletic Director.

## **NIAGARA FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **Emergency Contact Numbers**

#### **DISTRICT MEDICAL STAFF**

##### Medical Director:

Dr. Philip Sauvageau (716) 298-3000

##### Athletic Trainers:

Tony Surace, M.Ed., ATC (716) 803-5943

Sara Minton, MS, ATC (501) 288-4204

#### **SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**

##### Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Mark Laurie

##### Director of Security

Mr. Bryan DalPorto (716) 628-3221

##### Niagara Falls High School - Chief Educational Administrator

Mrs. Cheryl Vilardo (716) 286-7950

##### LaSalle Preparatory Principal

Mrs. Kathy Urban (716) 278-5881

##### Gaskill Preparatory Principal

Mr. Derek Zimmerman (716) 278-5820

##### Athletic Director

Mr. Joseph Contento (716) 286-0795

(716) 799-2693 (c)

##### Athletic Department Secretary

Robin Kayser (716) 286-0794

## **Site Addresses**

Main Niagara Falls High School entrance: 4455 Porter Road, Niagara Falls, NY 14305

NFCSD Athletic Complex: 3980 Pine Avenue, Niagara Falls, NY 14301

LaSalle Preparatory School: 7436 Buffalo, Avenue, Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Gaskill Preparatory School: 910 Hyde Park Boulevard, Niagara Falls, NY 14301

Hyde Park Golf Course: 4343 Porter Road, Niagara Falls, NY 14305

Hyde Park Ice Pavilion: 911 Robbins Drive, Niagara Falls, NY 14301

## **Medical Facilities**

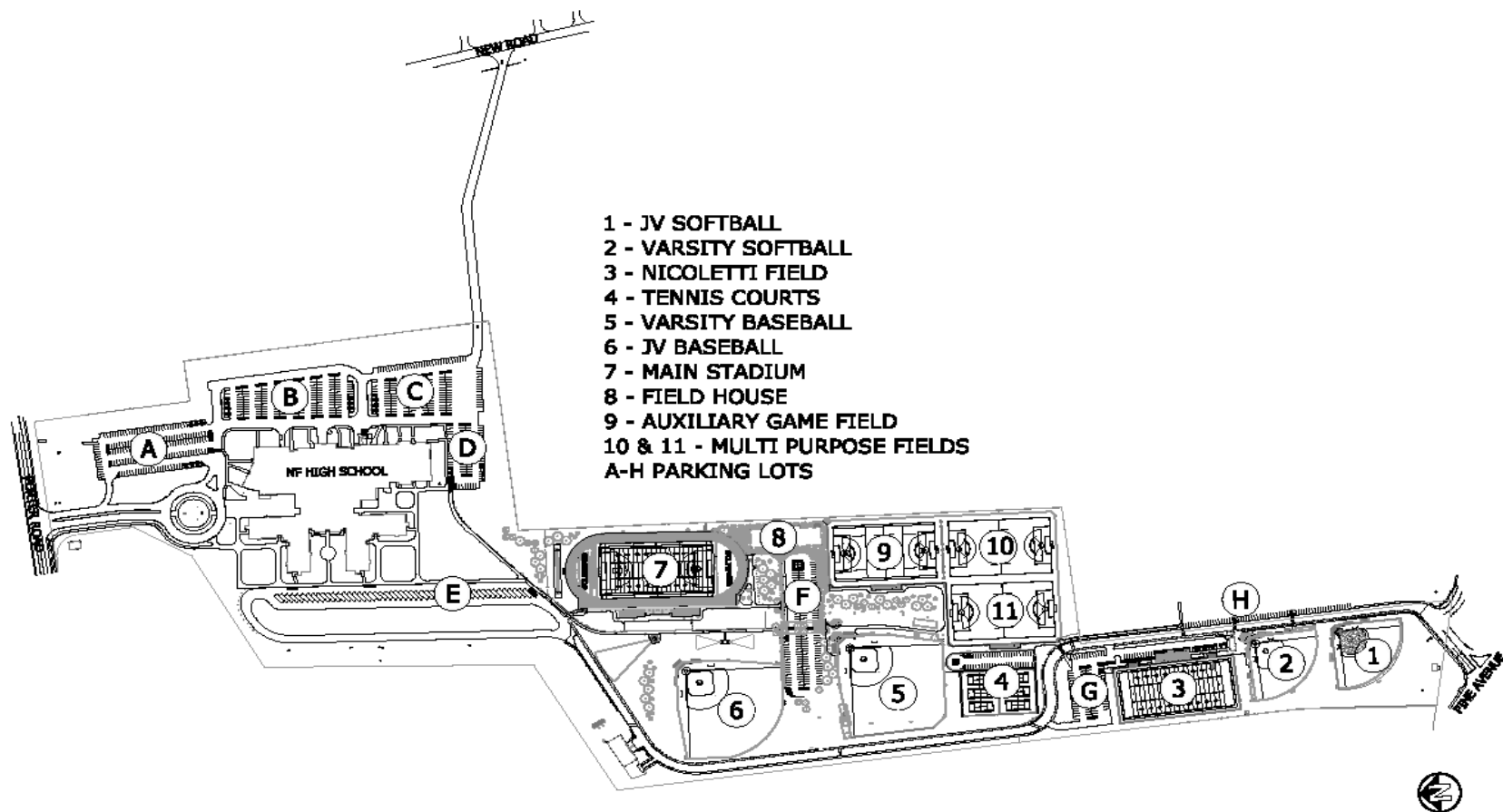
**Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center:** 621 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14301

Phone number: Main line: 716-278-4000

ER main line: 716-278-4394

**John R. Oishei Children's Hospital:** 818 Ellicott Street, Buffalo, NY 14203

Phone number: 716-323-2000



*Art Calandrelli Stadium (#7)*

## Field House Indoors



*Field House Indoors:* You can enter the field house through door 1 to access the main arena and locker rooms of the field house.

**Primary AED is in the main arena of the field house to the LEFT of the bleachers or there is a 2<sup>nd</sup> AED in the mezzanine of the restrooms in the field house through door 2.**

## Field House Training Room

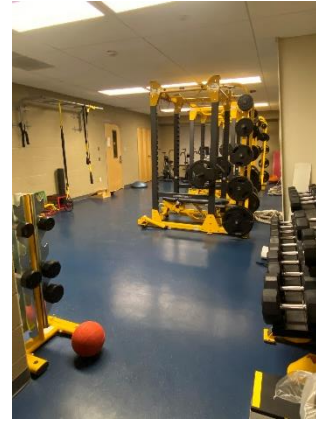


*Field House Training Room:* You can enter the field house through doors 1 and 2 or the back door of the field house to access the athletic training room in the field house which is in the back north corner of the building.

**Primary AED is in the main arena of the field house to the LEFT of the bleachers or there is a 2<sup>nd</sup> AED in the mezzanine of the restrooms in the field house.**



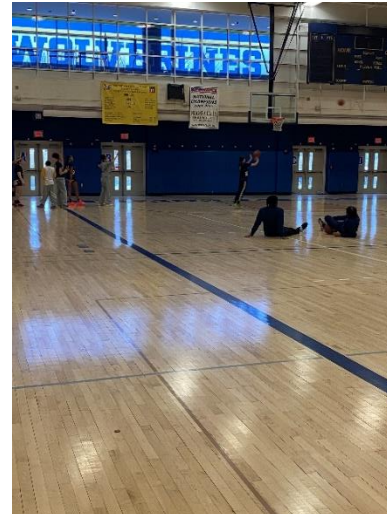
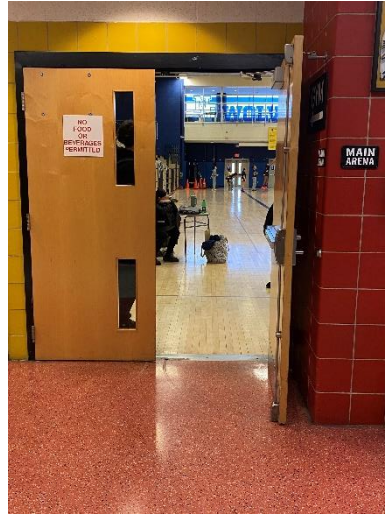
## Field House Weight Room



*Field House Weight Room:* Enter the back of Niagara Falls High School and park in main lot next to the field house. Proceed to either door 1 or 2.

**Primary AED is in the main arena of the field house to the LEFT of the bleachers or there is a 2<sup>nd</sup> AED in the mezzanine of the restrooms in the field house.**

# Niagara Falls High School Main Gym



**Main Gym:** Park in side lot by door #3 which is located at the loading dock at Niagara Falls High School. Proceed down main hallway through door #3 and follow signs on wall and turn Left down hallway. Halfway down the hallway on the left will be the main gym entrance. Doors A, B, C, and D are on the South side of the main gym and are for fan exits/emergency vehicle arrival if needed.

**Primary AED is located on the wall in the foyer. Secondary AED is located outside nurses' office on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.**

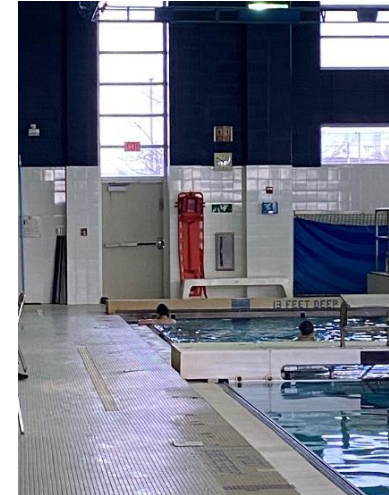
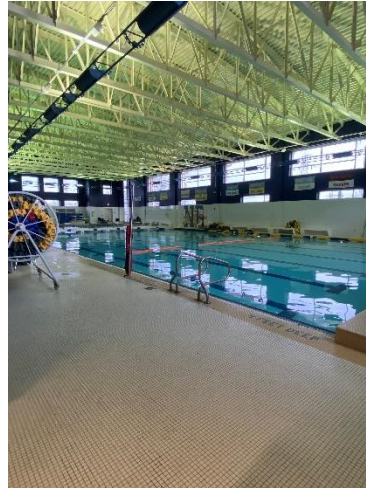
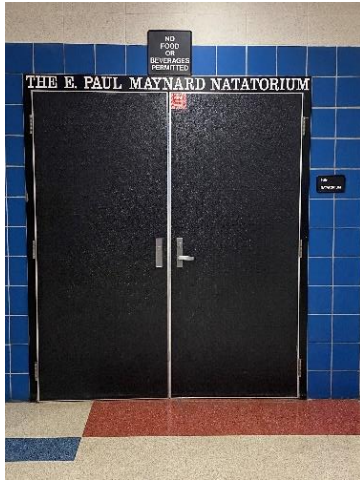
# Niagara Falls High School Auxiliary Gym



*Auxiliary Gym:* Park in side lot by door #3 which is located at the loading dock at Niagara Falls High School. Proceed down main hallway through door #3 and follow signs on wall and turn Left down hallway. Halfway down the hallway on the right will be the auxiliary gym entrance.

**Primary AED is located on the wall of concession stand in first floor foyer. The secondary AED is on the wall outside first floor nurses' office.**

# Niagara Falls High School Pool



**Pool:** Park in side lot by door #3 which is located at the loading dock at Niagara Falls High School. Proceed down main hallway through door #3 and follow signs on wall and turn Left down hallway and head South down trophy case hallway to pool doors and enter pool natatorium entry way. Spine boards are located on the East and West side walls by exit doors of the pool. Pool side access doors can be used if needed for emergency access if needed in the pool area for EMS.

**Primary AED is located on the wall/beam in the main ticket booth area/concession stand in AED cabinet. This is outside the pool area.**

## Niagara Falls High School Track



Niagara Falls High School Track: Park in side lot by door #3 which is located at the loading dock at Niagara Falls High School. Proceed down main hallway through door #3 and follow signs on wall and turn right to find elevator on close right or turn left down hallway to find staircase on the right all the way down the hall. Walk down hallways of indoor track to access all the way around track.

**AED located in Athletic Training room (Room 251) or AED on wall of Concession stand in first floor foyer.**



# Lasalle Prep Football Field

Main Entrance



Locker Rooms



Gym Entrance



*Lasalle Prep (LPS) Football Field:* Located at 7436 Buffalo Avenue with the football field parking lot entrance being off of 76<sup>th</sup> Street for an ambulance to access the football field. The football field is behind the school. There is a main gate of the field located directly off of the parking lot and the locker rooms are in the basement of the main school building down the stairs to access the locker room. The main gym for LPS is at the back entrance of the school and following the hallway to the main gym.

**Primary AED would be with the coach or AT on the field for practice and/or games**

# Hyde Park Golf Course



Hyde Park Golf Course: Course is located at 4343 Porter Road, Niagara Falls, NY which is located at the northwest side of Niagara Falls High School where the NFHS Golf team practices and hosts home matches.

**Primary AED is with the NFHS Golf coach and is carried on the golf cart with the coach during practices and matches.**

# Hyde Park Ice Pavilion

Rink 1



Main Entrance



*Hyde Park Ice Pavilion:* Located at 911 Robbins Drive, Niagara Falls, NY, 14301. Enter Hyde Park ice pavilion parking lot off Robbins Drive and enter the main entrance of Ice arena and go to either Rink 1 or 2 inside of building. Go to the main door of each rink to access ice.

**Primary AED with Athletic Trainer. Secondary AED is located inside main doors of Rink posted on steel beam inside rink 1.**



# Niagara Falls High School Training Room



Niagara Falls High School Training Room: Park on side lot by door #3 which is located at the loading dock at Niagara Falls High School. Proceed down main hallway through door #3 and follow signs on wall and turn right to find elevator on close right. Take elevator to 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and turn Left with exiting elevator and proceed to room 251 on your left.

# Niagara Falls High School Weight Rooms



Niagara Falls High School Weight Room: Park in side lot by door #3 which is located at the loading dock at Niagara Falls High School. Proceed down main hallway through door #3 and follow signs on wall and turn right to find elevator on close right. Go to floor 2 and turn left out the elevator and then walk approx 20 feet turning left again down another hallway. Your destination will be on the left for the main weight room.

## Niagara Falls High School Door #3



Niagara Falls High School Door #3: Door #3 at NFHS is considered the designated door after school and weekends for EMS to enter for any Athletic event being hosted at the high school. EMS uses this door to access any venue within the high school that is hosting an athletic practice and/or event. Door #3 is located on the East side of the building next to the main loading dock of the high school.