

# Dedham Public Schools



## AED Program

# AN ACT REQUIRING AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS IN SCHOOLS.

*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to require forthwith automated external defibrillators in schools, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:*

SECTION 1. Chapter 71 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 54B the following section:-

Section 54C. (a) Each school district, vocational district, charter school, approved private day or residential school and collaborative school shall provide and maintain at least 1 automated external defibrillator, AED, on site at each school facility where instruction is provided. Each school shall have on staff a person who is an AED provider having current certification in a training course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and in the use of an AED in accordance with the standards established by the American Heart Association or the American National Red Cross. The school administration shall ensure that an AED and AED provider is readily available at any school-sponsored athletic event.

(b) If a school system is unable to comply with the requirements of this section, the superintendent of the school district, the administration of a private day or residential school or the board of trustees of a charter school, shall request a hardship waiver from the department of elementary and secondary education. The department of elementary and secondary education, in consultation with the department of public health, shall make available to public schools a list of grants and other funding sources that a public school may access to facilitate the purchase of AEDs.

(c) An AED provider on staff by a school subject to this section who, in good faith, attempts to render emergency care, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation or defibrillation, and does so without compensation, shall not be liable for acts or omissions, other than gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct, resulting from the attempt to render such emergency care.

(d) The department of elementary and secondary education, in consultation with the department of public health, shall establish regulations and guidelines for the implementation, training, support and supervision of this section.

SECTION 2. The department of elementary and secondary education shall promulgate regulations required by subsection (d) of section 54C of chapter 71 of the General Laws not later than June 30, 2017.

SECTION 3. Section 1 shall take effect July 1, 2018.

# Medical Emergency Response Plan

As part of the required Medical Emergency Response Plan submitted annually to the state, each school must include the number and location of their AEDs and indicate staff members trained in CPR/AED.

# Dedham High School - AED #1



Maria  
Antonuccio  
Main Lobby

# Dedham High School AED #2

Jennifer Atkins  
Gym Lobby



# Dedham Middle School



Kristie McManus, Cafeteria



# Greenlodge Elementary

Geri Kelly  
Hallway  
Outside of Gym





# Riverdale Elementary

Judy Byrne  
Gym Lobby



# Oakdale Elementary

Sue Healy  
Gym Lobby



# Avery Elementary



Sheila Bennett, Main Lobby

# Curran Early Childhood Education Center

Carol Laurino, Hallway Outside of Gym



# Athletics



Meghan McColgan, Athletic Trainer

## School Nurse, Defibrillator Helps Save Teacher's Life

March 25, 2003

DEDHAM, Mass. -- A substitute teacher at Dedham High School suffered cardiac arrest last week as he prepared to begin a tutoring session.

NewsCenter 5's Heather Unruh reported that it was an ordinary day at Dedham High that became extraordinary, when substitute teacher Joe Grasso suffered cardiac arrest. Nurse Gail Kelley found him on his side.

"(He was) clearly not breathing. We rolled him over and he had no pulse," Kelley said.

Kelley started CPR while the principal grabbed the school's new portable defibrillator. Within minutes, she had shocked his heart back to normal rhythm.

"By the time he left here, his coloring was back, he was answering questions," Kelley said.

"I passed out and then I woke up. I don't remember anything else," Grasso said.

Grasso, 52, may not remember Kelley's heroics, but he knows he nearly suffered the same fate as his brother who died of a heart attack last month.

"If it happened at home, if it happened on the way to school, if it happened at another school -- I might not be here now," Grasso said. "I was at the right place at the right time."

Doctors said that defibrillators are safe and easy to use. You attach electrodes, and the machine tells you if a shock is needed.

**"There is no question that this saved Mr. Grasso's life. If he had been in a situation where it was not available in a timely fashion as it was at Dedham High School, we wouldn't be celebrating his health -- we'd be memorializing his life,"** Brigham and Women's Hospital Dr. Charles Pozner said.

"It felt good putting it on the wall, but you hope you never have to use it. And yet we used it. It did absolutely exactly what it was supposed to do, and it saved his life," Kelley said.

# Beyond the Law

Since 2007, all Dedham High School seniors are trained in CPR/AED as a graduation requirement.

More than 1,700 students have graduated from Dedham High School with the skills necessary to save lives.