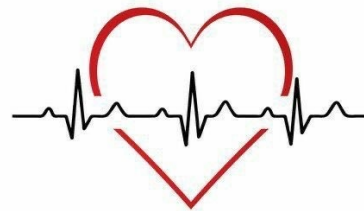


# CARDIAC EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN



Elizah Keller  
Forest Hill High School  
December 17, 2024



# JPS Board Policy: EBBAG

- ★ The policy states, “Each school shall have a cardiac emergency response plan on file in the principal’s office. The cardiac emergency response plan will address the appropriate use of school personnel to respond to incidents involving an individual experiencing sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency while on school grounds. This plan shall also account for incidents involving an individual experiencing sudden cardiac arrest or a similar life-threatening emergency while attending or participating in an athletic practice while on school grounds. The cardiac emergency response plan must be shared with local emergency response service providers.”
- ★ “Appropriate school staff will be trained in first-aid, CPR, and AED use that follow evidence-based guidelines set forth by the American Heart Association or another nationally recognized, evidence-based standard. Staff that are to be trained include, but is not limited to, licensed coaches, school nurses, and athletic trainers. Practice drills shall be held annually in accordance with the plan.”



# Pros & Cons of the JPS Board Policy:

## Pros:

- The policy highlights student safety and ensures that the schools are well prepared to respond quickly and effectively to sudden cardiac arrest or other life-threatening emergencies.
- When the school staff or district responds with good intentions, the immunity clause protects them from civil lawsuits.
- The policy mandates an AED's strategic placement and maintenance, ensuring life-saving devices are ready and accessible in critical situations.

## Cons:

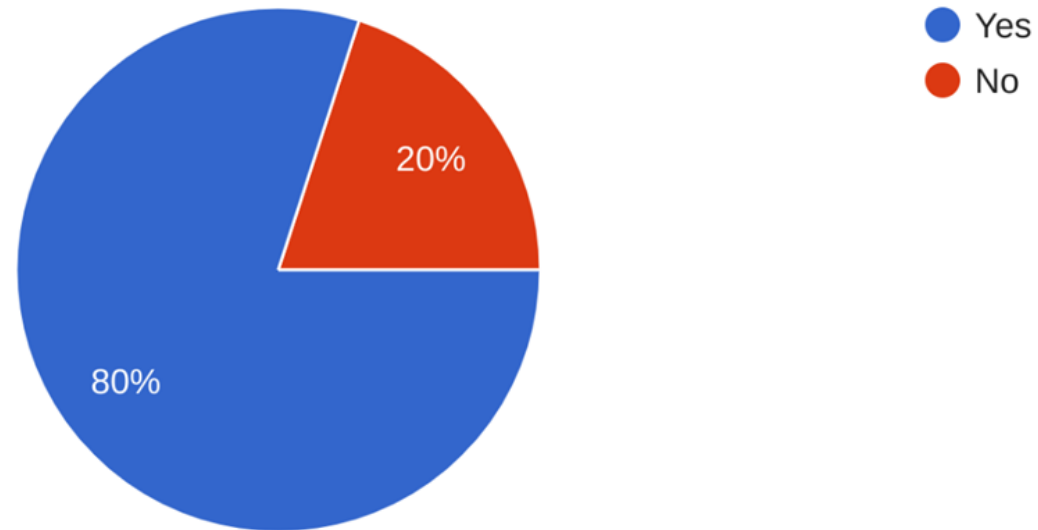
- Ensuring that all required staff, such as teachers, coaches, nurses, and trainers, are sufficiently trained in CPR/AED use. This mandate may require hiring or allocating staff members to those standards, which could be difficult for our district.
- We currently do not have access to an AED in all parts of our building at the University of South Jackson. We currently have an AED in the front office, in the welcome center, and in the gym. It would be beneficial to have access in the JROTC building and upstairs on the 2nd floor of our main building for faster access in case of an emergency.



# Survey Results:

Should all staff be trained in CPR and AED use?

15 responses



# Survey Results: Student Voices

## Why:

- When a sudden cardiac arrest or other medical emergencies happen, having all staff trained in CPR and AED use will ensure that someone will respond quickly in emergency situations, especially if nurses or athletic trainers are unavailable.
- In larger schools, key nurses or athletic trainers might not always be available. Having multiple people trained in CPR and AED use will increase the number of people who respond quickly.

## Why Not:

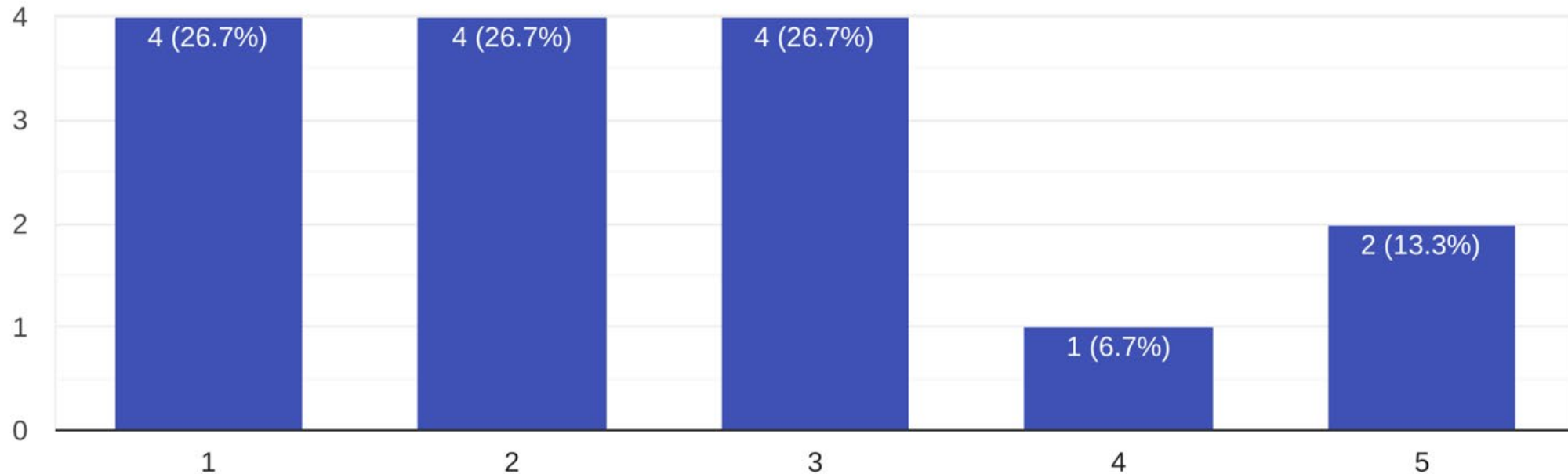
- Some students might not feel comfortable with certain staff touching them even in times of emergencies. This is because of relationships.
- Since all staff members don't interact with students directly daily, during emergency situations, trained staff members may not be present.



# How prepared do you feel to respond to a cardiac event?

How prepared do you feel to respond to a cardiac event?

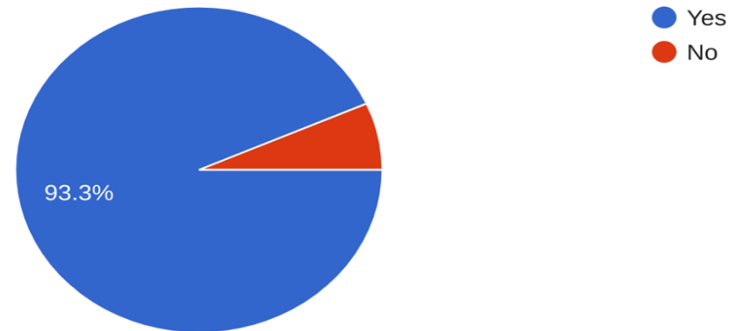
15 responses



# Survey Results:

Should CPR and AED use be embedded in each PE course?

15 responses



## Yes:

- Embedding CPR and AED use in PE courses will offer students hands-on opportunities to learn essential life-saving skills in school.
- By embedding CPR and AED use into PE courses, students will feel confident when faced with a cardiac emergency and respond quickly and effectively.

## No:

- Some students won't be as equally engaged in learning CPR and AED techniques.
- It should be offered as an extracurricular activity or as an elective course for students who are interested.



# Recommended Policy Revisions:

- ★ CPR and AED training should be added as an elective course for students who take PE/ Health courses. This approach will ensure that students who are interested in CPR/ AED training will be prepared for cardiac emergencies. These classes will be more flexible to cover in-depth health-related topics, including first-aid, emergency response, and other life-saving skills. This will also ensure that the PE/ Health curriculum aligns with the state's standards. Additionally, the instructors of these courses should also be certified in CPR/ AED.
- ★ Staff members who have direct interactions with athletes (i.e., all sports, band, and cheerleading) and those who stay after school for non-athletic extracurricular activities at least 2 days out of the week (e.g., after-school detention, boot camp, debate team, newspaper, etc.) should receive basic training in CPR/AED use and be added to the Emergency Response Team.







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# Thank You For Your Time!

# Are There Any Questions?

