[](http://www.olatheschools.com/)

The following information is in response to the Kansas Open Records Act request from Lisa McCormick, WDAF Producer.

1. **The make and model of football helmets owned and used by the Olathe Public Schools:**

The four high schools and nine middle schools predominantly use Riddell helmets. We do own and use a few Shutt and Zenith helmets for athletes with larger head sizes to accommodate their need.

1. **The Olathe Public Schools policy and/or procedure regarding how often it replaces the football helmets it owns and uses:**

Riddell recommends that a helmet only be used for no more than ten years. USD 233 adheres to this recommendation. Replacement helmets are purchased every year to supplant aging equipment. A Riddell representative discards helmets that are not suitable for use.

1. **The name of the company hired to recondition the helmets used and owned by the Olathe Public Schools:**

Riddell is used to recondition and recertify USD 233 football helmets. The 20-step process is explained in the following link - <http://team.riddell.com/reconditioning-and-recertification/>

1. **The name of the person or company responsible for fitting the helmets used by football players in the Olathe Public Schools:**

The football coaching staff fits student athletes for their helmet. Coaches have been trained by our helmet provider or follow the written guidelines provided by Riddell. These guidelines are reviewed annually.

1. **The Olathe Public Schools policy on prevention and treatment of concussions:**

*Prevention* – a proactive approach is taken regarding the prevention of concussions, including parent/player education, safe contact instruction from coach to player, and ImPACT testing is made available to all athletes at no cost. See attachment for more details. All head football coaches are required to pass a National Federation Rules Exam which has multiple questions regarding the prevention and treatment of concussions.

*Treatment* – the school district has four full-time certified athletic trainers who are well versed in concussion management. The trainers and coaches communicate with emergency personnel, physicians, and parents regarding a concussion treatment and care. Olathe Public Schools has a ‘return to practice’ procedure to ensure the student athlete doesn’t return prematurely.

Olathe USD 233 requires parents and athletes to read and sign the following document entitled *Concussion and Head Injury Information Release Form*. This form was prepared by the Kansas State High School Activities Association. To view open attachment or click on <http://www.kshsaa.org/Public/PDF/Parent-Student%20Signoff2014-15.pdf>.

1. **The Olathe Public Schools policy on head-to-head blocking or tackling in football:**

There is no written board policy on block or tackling in football. All schools adhere to the National Federation of Interscholastic Sports expectations regarding safety in all aspects of football, including tackling and blocking. The rules exam also quizzes coaches regarding proper techniques for blocking and tackling.