



Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 Programs
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Purpose

The Board recognizes the value of a program of interscholastic athletics as an integral part of the total school experience for all district students and as a conduit for community involvement. The program fosters the growth of school loyalty within the student body as a whole and stimulates community interest. The game activities and practice sessions provide opportunities to teach the values of competition, sportsmanship, and teamwork.

Interscholastic athletics are extracurricular activities, and Board Policy 122 (Extracurricular Activities) shall also apply to all students participating in interscholastic athletics.[1]

Definition

For purposes of this policy, the program of **interscholastic athletics** shall include all activities relating to competitive or exhibition sport contests, games or events involving individual students or teams of students when such events occur between schools within this district or outside this district.

Authority

It shall be the policy of the Board to offer opportunities for participation in interscholastic athletic programs to male and female students on as equal a basis as is practicable and in accordance with law and regulations.[2][3]

The Board shall approve a program of interscholastic athletics and require that all facilities utilized in that program, whether or not the property of this Board, properly safeguard both

players and spectators and are kept free from hazardous conditions.[\[4\]](#)

The Board shall determine the standards of eligibility to be met by all students participating in an interscholastic program. Such standards shall require that each student, before participating in any interscholastic activity, be covered by student accident insurance; be in good physical condition; and be free of injury, as determined by the district physician.

The Board further adopts those eligibility standards set by the Constitution of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association.

The Board directs that no student may participate in interscholastic athletics who has not:[\[4\]](#)

1. Maintained a record of academic proficiency sufficient to ensure that participation in interscholastic athletic activities will not interfere with academic achievement.
2. Attended school regularly.[\[5\]](#)
3. Been in attendance on the day of the athletic event or practice.
4. Returned all school athletic equipment previously used.
5. Complied with the requirements of the Code of Conduct for Interscholastic Athletics, the district's Code of Conduct, and all applicable Board policies and administrative regulations related to student discipline and participation in interscholastic athletics.

Off-Campus Activities

This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would violate the Code of Student Conduct if any of the following circumstances exist:[\[6\]](#)

1. There is a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.
2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.
3. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school.
4. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, such as an agreement to complete a transaction outside of school that would violate the Code of Student Conduct.
5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.
6. The conduct occurs during the time the student is traveling to and from school or traveling to and from school-sponsored activities, regardless of whether such transportation is District-owned, arranged or sponsored.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall annually prepare, approve and present to the Board for its consideration a program of interscholastic athletics, which shall include a complete schedule of events. The Superintendent or designee may make changes to the schedule as necessary for the

efficient and proper operations of the athletics program. Updated schedules shall be available on the Athletic Department's website.

The Superintendent or designee shall prepare rules for the conduct of students participating in interscholastic athletics. Such rules shall be in conformity with regulations of the State Board of Education, the P.I.A.A. and the school district.

The Superintendent shall ensure that similar athletic programs are offered to both sexes in proportion to the district's enrollment.

Guidelines

Attendance and Participation

All student athletes must adhere to the attendance requirements set forth in Board Policy 122 (Extracurricular Activities) as well as the P.I.A.A. attendance and participation requirements. Failure to adhere to such requirements shall result in temporary or permanent prohibition from participation.[1]

Suspension From Interscholastic Athletics

Any student in the district reported of violating the Board policy on drug and alcohol abuse will be required to participate in a hearing to determine privilege eligibility in extracurricular and interscholastic athletics. The building principal shall serve as the hearing officer with appropriate representation from central administration followed by a report to the Board.

Release Form

Participation by any student in interscholastic athletics shall be conditioned upon the execution by that student and his/her parent/guardian of a release form prepared by the district, which shall be circulated to all students prior to participation.