

Instruction

Interscholastic/Intramural Athletics

The Amity Regional School District No. 5 (ARSD) Board of Education believes individual students will benefit from opportunities to grow physically and intellectually through experiences that provide the opportunity for self-discipline and team efforts made possible through competitive interscholastic and intramural sports activities.

District participation in interscholastic athletics and esports will be subject to approval by the Board. This shall include approval of membership in any leagues, associations, or conferences.

It is the Board's policy to provide students interscholastic athletic competition in a variety of sports. Students will be allowed to participate in individual sports on the basis of their physical condition and desire. Qualified personnel shall be provided for coaching and supervising individual sports.

Students with disabilities, possessing the required level of skill or ability to participate in a competitive program or activity, shall be afforded an equal opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities, which include club, intramural, or interscholastic athletics. The District shall make reasonable modifications and provide those aids and services that are necessary to afford a “qualified” disabled student the opportunity to participate in extracurricular athletics, unless it results in a fundamental alteration to the District's program. The District will consider whether safe participation by a disabled student can be assured through reasonable modifications or the provision of aids and services.

The District may create additional opportunities for students with disabilities who cannot participate in the existing extracurricular athletics program, even with reasonable modifications or aids and services, in order to afford such students an equal opportunity to receive the benefits of extracurricular athletics.

Each student who chooses to participate in an interscholastic athletic program is required to have on file, in the office of the Athletic Director, a Permission to Participate form which is signed by the parent or legal guardian. This Permission to Participate will be in effect for each student for each sports season.

No student may start practice for any athletic team until he or she has been examined and approved by a medical doctor. Completed physical examination forms, or copies of, must be on file in the Health Office of the high school or middle school prior to the first tryout/practice session. Physicals cannot expire during the season. The ARSD will annually post the dates for eligible physicals. Physical examinations performed by a student’s parent who is a medical professional will not be accepted.

The purpose of school athletics is both educational and recreational. Participation should be without unreasonable interference with other obligations in the school, community, and home.

It is recognized that a well organized and well conducted athletic program is a potent factor in the morale of a student body and an important phase of good community-school relations.

Every possible effort will be made to offer equal opportunities for both sexes in sports and activities.

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Sunday Play of Postponed Games

The Amity Board of Education endorses the concept of allowing Sunday play of interscholastic games under any of the following conditions:

1. The postponement of Saturday interscholastic games due to severely adverse weather conditions;
2. The postponement of previously scheduled Saturday interscholastic games which fall on religious holy days; and
3. The scheduling of interscholastic games to avoid playing on religious holy days.

No Sunday game will start before 1:30 p.m. The scheduling of Sunday games will conform to the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Association (CIAC) rules.

In an effort to appeal to students who may not be captivated by the District's existing athletic extracurricular activities, the Board approves the establishment of teams to be involved in esports competition at the high school level. Such involvement shall be sanctioned by the CIAC.

Students involved in an esports activity shall meet the requirements of academic eligibility established in Board policy and the CIAC. The Board requires each esports team to have a coach to be onsite during all matches.

(cf. [5141](#) – Student Health Services)

(cf. [5145](#) – Section 504: Civil and Legal Rights and Responsibilities)

(cf. 6141.1 – Co-Curricular Eligibility)

(cf. [6145](#) – Extra Class Activities)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-149](#) Qualifications for coaches of intramural and interscholastic athletics.

Stratton, PPA v. St. Joseph's High School, Bridgeport Superior Court, June 4, 1986
(12 CT 26)9/87.

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, “Dear Colleague Letter,” 113 LRP
3326 (OCR 1/25/13)