123. INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. Authority
Title 22
Sec. 4.27
Pol. 103
SC 511

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.

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.

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 Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) and/or the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) as a minimal requirement.

The Board directs that no student may participate in interscholastic athletics who has not:

1. Met the requirements for academic eligibility.
2. Complied with the requirements of the Athletic Handbook.
3. Complied with the requirements of the Code of Conduct for Interscholastic Athletics and Board policies and administrative regulations related to student discipline.
4. Attended school regularly.
5. Been in attendance on the day of the athletic event or practice for the hours required.
6. Returned all school athletic equipment previously used.
7. Adhered to applicable discipline standards.

Each school year, prior to participation in an interscholastic athletic activity, every student athlete and his/her parent/guardian shall sign and return the acknowledgement of receipt and review of the Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury Information Sheet.

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.

S/He shall inform the Board of changes in that schedule as they occur.

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.

The Superintendent shall ensure that interscholastic athletic try-outs are open to all eligible students and that all students are fully informed of the opportunities available to them.

Participation in interscholastic athletic activities is a privilege that may be revoked as part of a disciplinary action.

District guidelines concerning the organization, administration and supervision of
interscholastic athletics shall be set forth in the Handbook for the Interscholastic Athletic Program.

The building principal, through the Superintendent, shall submit recommendations for revisions and/or modifications to the handbook, when necessary.

**School Colors**

The Pantone colors of royal blue (PMS 287) and gold (PMS 109) are designated as the school colors of the district. For any use of school colors, official specifications should be obtained from the District.

All appropriate supplies and uniforms purchased by the Board, or accepted as gifts from individuals or organizations, shall conform to Board policy.

The Board recognizes that exact match of color from year to year may not be possible; however, administrators are to assure orders and gifts are as compatible as possible.

The Superintendent may develop administrative procedures to implement this policy.

**References:**

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 511

**Safety in Youth Sports Act – 24P.S Sec. 5321 et seq.**

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.27, 12.1, 12.4

Discrimination in Athletics, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations – 34 CFR Sec.

Board Policy – 103, 103.1, 123.1, 204, 218