

ATHLETIC COMPETITION

The Governing Board recognizes that the athletic program constitutes an important component of a student's educational program. Athletics provides participants with an opportunity to promote physical well-being, enhanced self-confidence, build school spirit and promote a positive school climate, while learning values such as teamwork and sportsmanship. The athletic program shall be designed to meet students' interests and abilities and be varied in scope to attract wide participation.

I. Sportsmanship

The Board of Trustees supports the ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play and commits the district to providing an environment which promotes these ideals. The Board expects athletes, coaches, spectators and others to demonstrate good sportsmanship during all athletic competition. Students and staff are responsible for maintaining sportsmanlike behavior at all times and shall be subject to disciplinary action for improper conduct.

II. Equivalent Opportunity

The Governing Board encourages all interested students to participate in the athletic program and try out for teams. The district's interscholastic athletic program and activities shall be free from discriminatory practices in accordance with state and federal law. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that equivalent opportunities for both genders are provided.

III. California Interscholastic Federation

A. The Governing Board maintains membership in the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) and requires that interscholastic athletic activities be conducted according to Board and CIF rules, regulations and policies. The superintendent or designee shall have responsibility for the district's interscholastic athletic program, while the principal or designee at each participating school shall be responsible for site-level decisions, as appropriate.

B. The Governing Board shall annually designate the District Athletic Director and a Principal to serve as a representative and alternate, respectively, to the CIF Southern Section. Appointees shall represent the district in performing all duties required by the CIF.

IV. Student Eligibility

Participation in the district interscholastic athletic program is limited to those students who maintain minimum progress toward completing district graduation requirements, maintain the required grade point average established by the Board of Trustees for participation in interscholastic athletics and other extra-curricular activities, and meet other district and CIF eligibility requirements as stated in Board Policy 6145.2 Scholastic Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities and Interscholastic Athletics.

V. Health and Safety

The Governing Board desires to give student health and safety the highest consideration in planning and conducting activities. Universal precautions shall be observed when injuries occur.

Students shall have a medical clearance before participating in the interscholastic athletic program. For the 2001-2002 school year and thereafter, all medical clearances for interscholastic athletics shall be provided by a medical doctor. Chiropractic physicals will no longer be acceptable as medical clearances for interscholastic athletics.

Care shall be taken to ensure that all athletic training and competition is conducted in a manner which will not overtax the physical capabilities of the participants. When appropriate, protective equipment shall be provided and used to prevent or minimize injuries.

VI. Supervision

All athletic teams shall be supervised by qualified coaches to ensure that student athletes receive appropriate instruction and guidance related to safety, health, training and preparation for competition. Athletic events shall be officiated by qualified personnel.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

200-261 Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex

17580-17581 Football equipment

33353-33353.5 California Interscholastic Federation; implementation of policies, insurance program

33354 CDE authority over interscholastic athletics

35160.5 District policies; rules and regulations

35161 Powers and duties generally

35179 Interscholastic athletics

48930-48938 Student organizations

49020-49023 Athletic programs; legislative intent, equal opportunity, apportionment, prohibited sex discrimination

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4900-4962 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs receiving state financial assistance

5531 Supervision of extracurricular activities of pupils

5590-5596 Employment of non-certificated coaches

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1681-1688 Discrimination based on sex or blindness, Title IX

ATHLETIC COMPETITION- BP 6145.4 (CONT.)

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COURT DECISIONS

Hartzell v. Connell, (1984) 35 Cal. 3d 899

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

A Board member's Guide to CIF and Interscholastic Sports

CIF PUBLICATIONS

California Interscholastic Federation Constitution and Bylaws, 1996-97

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

Rules of Bleeding Players

(6/87 3/93) 10/97

Adopted: 8/22/01

Revised: 4/30/03

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I. Sportsmanship

1. In conjunction with the Board of Trustees, District and Site Administration and site staff members, codes of conduct shall be established for all individuals participating in athletics and for those in attendance at athletic events.
2. All athletic coaches and students shall sign and adhere to the California Interscholastic Federation Coach's and Student Code of Ethics.
3. In September of each school year the District Athletic Director will host an annual sportsmanship workshop with coaches and selected athletes. The workshop will reinforce ethics, sportsmanship, competition, and citizenship as it relates to Pursuing Victory With Honor.
4. Principals and school site athletic administrators shall implement "Pursuing Victory With Honor" and the sixteen (16) principles it encompasses.

II. Equivalent Opportunity

The principal or designee shall ensure that equal opportunities will exist for use of school facilities, vehicles, practice times, etc. in accordance with Title IX Regulations.

III. California Interscholastic Federation

A. All district schools will be members of the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF).

- 1) The District Athletic Director will serve as California Interscholastic Federation representative in accordance with Board Policy 6145.3.
- 2) Site Athletic Directors and Assistant Principals responsible for athletics shall meet monthly with the District Athletic Director to set agenda items for all league meetings.

IV. Student Eligibility

1. The principal or designee shall be responsible for monitoring the academic eligibility status of each student athlete as outlined in Board Policy 6145.2.
2. No student shall participate in athletic contests or practices until clearance has been authorized in writing by the principal or designee.
3. A copy of the clearance form shall be on file with each school site and a copy sent to the district Athletic Director.
4. Coaches shall retain a copy of the clearance form at all times.

V. Health and Safety

1. No student shall practice or in any way participate in any sport without a medical clearance from a medical doctor, proof of insurance, and parent consent.
2. Any school-sponsored physical examinations shall be conducted by a medical doctor.
3. Injured students under doctor's care may not again participate until a written consent release from a doctor is obtained by the school athletic director. A copy of the release will be kept on file by the school athletic director.

VI. Supervision

1. Beginning June 1999, all designated coaches are to be trained in the coaching principles established by the American Sports Education Program (ASEP), in accordance with Ed. Code 35179.1.
2. The principal or designee shall be responsible for the clearance of each coach or volunteer that has contact with students.
3. No person shall begin their coaching assignment until they have been cleared to do so by the District Athletic Director. Clearance to participate as a coach shall include but not limited to:
 - Live Scan clearance from the Department of Justice.
 - Medical verification, free of tuberculosis and other contagious diseases
 - Valid American Red Cross First Aid & CPR card, OR
Certification by the National Athletic Trainer's Association.
 - Valid Water Safety Training for Coaches Card for Water Polo and Swimming coaches.
 - AACCA Certification for Cheerleader Advisors
 - Completion of American Sports Education Training Program.

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