

Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 Programs
Title	Interscholastic Athletics
Code	123
Status	Active
Adopted	May 20, 1991
Last Revised	September 21, 2009
Last Reviewed	September 17, 2012

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.

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 without discrimination, in accordance with law and regulations.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)[\[4\]](#)

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.[\[5\]](#)

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 free of injury; and undergo a physical examination by a licensed physician and baseline assessment for at risk preseason activities.[\[5\]](#)

The Board further adopts those eligibility standards set by the Constitution of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association and the Berks County High School Athletic Association.

The Board directs that no student may participate in interscholastic athletics who has not: [\[5\]](#)

1. Met the requirements for academic eligibility.

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

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:[7]

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.

Delegation of Responsibility

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.[8][9][10]

The Superintendent or designee shall disseminate 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. the B.C.I.A.A. and the school district.

The Superintendent shall ensure that interscholastic athletics are open to all eligible students and that all students are fully informed of the opportunities available to them.[11][12]

Legal

1. 24 P.S. 1601-C et seq
2. 22 PA Code 4.27
3. 34 CFR 106.41
4. Pol. 103
5. 24 P.S. 511
6. Pol. 204
7. Pol. 218
8. 24 P.S. 5323
9. 24 P.S. 5333
10. Pol. 123.1
11. 22 PA Code 12.1
12. 22 PA Code 12.4
- 24 P.S. 5321 et seq
- 24 P.S. 5331 et seq