POLICY - INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

The Board recognizes the value of a program of interscholastic athletics as an integral part of the total school experience to all students of the District and to the community. All interscholastic activities and events shall be in compliance with the rules and regulations of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA).

The program of interscholastic athletics shall include all activities relating to competitive sport contests, games or events, or sports exhibitions involving individual students or teams of students of this District when such events occur between separate schools within this District or with any schools outside this District.

All facilities and equipment utilized in the interscholastic athletic program, whether or not the property of the District, shall be inspected on a regular basis. Participants will be issued equipment that has been properly maintained and fitted.

An athletic coach must be properly trained and qualified for an assignment as described in the coach's job description. A syllabus which outlines the skills, techniques and safety measures associated with a coaching assignment will be distributed to each coach. In-service training opportunities will be afforded each coach so that he/she is trained to attend to the health care needs of participants. Coaches shall not accept a gift or favor from vendors or prospective vendors or other firms or individuals who have had or hope to have transactions with the District in accordance with Policy 7324. All other gifts to a coach or other compensation that exceed \$100 in a season shall be approved by the Board of Directors. This section shall not apply to gifts that are considered de minimus – have little value (under \$100) and are intrinsic in nature.

Non-prescribed medication including such items as analgesic balms, vitamins, or salt tablets must be approved by the Superintendent or designee before they may be available for use by coaches and/or athletic trainers. After a list of athletic training medications has been approved, the coach and/or trainer must secure authorization from the parent and the student's doctor before the medications may be used during the athletic season. If such release is not on file, the non-prescribed medications may not be used. This provision does not preclude the coach and/or trainer from using approved first aid items.

The Board recognizes that certain risks are associated with participation in interscholastic sports. While the District will strive to prevent injuries and accidents to students, each student and/or that student's parent or guardian will be required to sign a "Warning and Agreement to Obey Instructions" statement which indicates that the parents and students are informed of the risks normally

associated with participation in such activities for injuries resulting from such participation. Each participant shall be required to furnish evidence of physical fitness prior to becoming a member of an interscholastic team. A participant shall be free of injury and shall have fully recovered from illness before participating in any event.

Each student participating in interscholastic athletic activities is required to have or obtain medical insurance for expenses incurred as a result of injuries sustained while participating in the extracurricular activity. Students shall provide evidence of coverage with a minimum limit of \$25,000 in medical expenses or shall obtain such coverage through the insurance plan offered to all students participating in activities in the District. No student will be denied the ability to participate solely because the student's family, by reason of low income, is unable to pay the entire amount of the premium for such insurance. The Superintendent or his or her designee may approve partial or full waiver of premiums to permit all students to obtain the required medical insurance.

The Superintendent shall annually prepare, approve and present to the Board for its consideration a program of interscholastic athletics for the school year. The Superintendent shall prepare rules for the conduct of student athletes including, but not limited to, use of alcoholic beverages; use of tobacco; use or possession of drugs, narcotics or hallucinatory agents not prescribed by a physician; unsportsmanlike conduct; absence from practice; gambling; or any infraction of civil law. Rules and corrective actions related to rule violations shall be distributed to each participant and his/her parent prior to the beginning of an athletic season.

Cross Reference:	Policy 3416	Medication at School
Legal Reference:	RCW 28A.600.200	Interschool Athletic and Other Extra Curricular Activities for Students, Regulation of— Delegation, Conditions
	28A.400.350	Liability, life, health, health care, accident, disability, and salary insurance authorized-Premiums
	69.41.330 69.41.340	Public Warnings-School districts Student athletics

Adopted:	June 16, 1986	North Thurston School District Board of Directors
Amended:	June 20, 1988 August 15, 1988 August 17, 1992 January 5, 2009	North Thurston Public Schools Board of Directors