



Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 Programs
Title	Interscholastic Athletics
Number	123
Status	Active
Legal	<a href="#">1. 24 P.S. 1601-C et seq</a> <a href="#">2. 22 PA Code 4.27</a> <a href="#">3. 34 CFR 106.41</a> 4. Pol. 103 5. Pol. 103.1 <a href="#">6. 24 P.S. 511</a> 7. Pol. 204 8. Pol. 218 <a href="#">10. 24 P.S. 5333</a> 11. Pol. 123.1 12. Pol. 123.2 <a href="#">13. 22 PA Code 12.1</a> <a href="#">14. 22 PA Code 12.4</a> <a href="#">15. 24 P.S. 1603-C</a> <a href="#">16. 24 P.S. 5323</a> <a href="#">24 P.S. 5321 et seq</a> <a href="#">24 P.S. 5331 et seq</a>
Adopted	September 19, 2013

### **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.

### **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.[\[1\]\[2\]\[3\]\[4\]\[5\]](#)

The Board shall approve annually 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.[\[6\]](#)

The Board shall take proactive steps to assess student interest in expansion of its interscholastic athletic program offerings. Requests for the addition of new programs or teams must be submitted in writing to the Director of Athletics utilizing a form created by the district for such purpose. The administration will review the request and make a recommendation to the Board within thirty (30) days as to whether such program or team should be granted probationary approval for review purposes. If granted probationary approval by the Board, the new team or program shall operate as a probationary intramural program or team at club or organization cost for a period of two (2) years. Six (6) months prior to the conclusion of the two-year probationary period, the club or organization shall be notified of the opportunity to submit a formal request to the Board for full varsity or junior varsity status.

The Board's decision shall be made prior to the end of the two-year probationary period, allowing for continuity of the program. The Board's decision shall be final. If approved by the Board, the district shall provide full financial support for the new activity or team.

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.[\[6\]](#)

The Board further adopts those eligibility standards set by the Constitution of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association.

The Board directs that no student may participate in interscholastic athletics who has not:[\[6\]](#)

1. Met the requirements for academic eligibility.
2. Attended school regularly.[\[7\]](#)
3. Been in attendance on the day of the athletic event or practice for the hours required.
4. Returned all school athletic equipment previously used.

### Off-Campus Activities

This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would otherwise violate the Student Code of Conduct if any of the following circumstances exist:[\[8\]](#)

1. The conduct occurs during the time the student is traveling to and from school or traveling to and from school-sponsored activities, whether or not via school district furnished transportation.
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, for example, a transaction conducted outside of school pursuant to an agreement made in school, that would violate the Student Code of Conduct if conducted in school.
5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.
6. There is otherwise a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.

### **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 following:[\[10\]](#)[\[11\]](#)[\[12\]](#)[\[16\]](#)

1. Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury Information Sheet.
2. Sudden Cardiac Arrest Symptoms and Warning Signs 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 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. 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 athletics are open to all eligible students and that all students are fully informed of the opportunities available to them.[\[13\]](#)[\[14\]](#)

### **Sunday Policy**

The Board believes that Sundays provide time and opportunities for activities outside of the school environment and for a time when students should have one (1) day in the week set aside for nonschool-related activities, rest or recreation and be free from school functions. The Board prohibits the conduct of activities on Sundays of school-related functions during the school year except as follows:

1. Events, competitions or activities that require participation in order to advance to the next level of competition.
2. Any school-related organization may choose one (1) Sunday for an activity such as a trip, convention, conference or seminar per year that is related to the organization's purpose.

### **Guidelines**

## Male/Female Athletic Opportunities Report

By October 15 of each year, on the designated disclosure form, the Superintendent or designee shall report to the PA Department of Education the interscholastic athletic opportunities and treatment for male and female secondary school students for the preceding school year.[\[15\]](#)

By November 1 of each year, the completed disclosure form shall be made available for public inspection during regular business hours and posted on the district's website.[\[15\]](#)

The availability of the completed disclosure form shall be announced by posting a notice on school bulletin boards, in the school newspaper, on any electronic mailing list or list serve, and by any other reasonable means.[\[15\]](#)

Last Modified by Jessica Root on May 22, 2015