

AUGUST 2024

FCS ATHLETICS

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE DESK OF THE AD



Dear Fulton County Schools Community,

As we embark on a new academic year, I am filled with immense pride and excitement to continue serving as your Director of Athletics. Reflecting on the past year, I am thrilled to celebrate the incredible achievements of our student-athletes, coaches, and entire athletic community.

The 2023-2024 school year was nothing short of extraordinary, with Fulton County Schools securing an impressive 21 team GHSA State Championships. This remarkable accomplishment is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and unwavering spirit of our athletes and coaches. Each championship represents countless hours of practice, perseverance, and a commitment to excellence that extends beyond the playing field.

As we look ahead to the 2024-2025 school year, our focus remains on fostering an environment where our student-athletes can thrive both academically and athletically. We are committed to providing the resources, support, and opportunities necessary for our teams to continue reaching new heights.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our coaches, athletic staff, parents, and community members for their unwavering support. Your encouragement and involvement are vital to the success of our programs, and we could not achieve these milestones without you.

To our student-athletes, I encourage you to embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Continue to strive for excellence, both on and off the field, and remember that your hard work, dedication and sportmanship are the foundation of our success. Let's make the 2024-2025 school year another unforgettable chapter in the history of Fulton County Schools Athletics. Together, we will continue to build a legacy of excellence and pride. Go Fulton County Schools!

Warm Regards,

Mr. Lamarr Glenn
Director of Athletics
Fulton County Schools

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In compliance with federal law, Fulton County Schools administers all educational programs, employment activities and admissions without discrimination against any person on the basis of gender, race, color, religion, national origin, age or disability.

RANK ONE: ATHLETE REGISTRATION PLATFORM



Parents and students...

Rank One is the official platform for athletics registration. This is an easy-to-use electronic registration platform that all high schools and middle schools will utilize going forward.

Rank One – [Click Here](#)

Preparticipation Physical Forms – [Click Here](#)

Student Accident Insurance - [Click Here](#)



FALL SPORTS PRACTICES BEGIN!

Today is the first official day for Fall Sports practices to begin! Please see Fall Sports and start dates below.



- Football – July 29, 2024
- Cheerleading/Game Day – July 29, 2024
- Softball (Fast Pitch) – July 29, 2024
- Volleyball – July 29, 2024
- Cross Country – July 29, 2024
- One Act & Literary – July 29, 2024
- Riflery – July 29, 2024
- Flag Football – September 9, 2024
- Esport (Fall Preseason) – September 10, 2024



FULTON COUNTY SCHOOLS PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY

**BE CLEAR
ON GAME DAY SAFETY**

Approved



Not Permitted



*All bags are subject to search.



**FCS
TICKET
PRICES
INCREASE
& CLEAR
BAG
POLICY**

Due to the increase in officials and security costs, there will be an increase in the game day ticket prices starting this Fall. Gate receipts from the sale of athletic tickets are used to fund the school's athletic program. Fulton County Schools is completely cashless at all athletic events. All tickets can be purchased using GoFan at www.gofan.co. Clear bag policy is in effect at all Fulton County Athletic Events.

VARSITY:

Adults	\$10.00
Students (at the gate)	\$10.00
Students Pre-Sale Only	\$8.00
Sub-Varsity Adults	\$8.00

FOOTBALL GATE POLICIES: The only amount collected at the gate for a varsity football game is \$10.00. If a student does not buy the ticket in a pre-sale at \$8.00, they will have to pay \$10.00 at the gate. Children 5 and under will be free, everyone else pays \$10.00.

BASKETBALL: Ticket prices for any program including Varsity games will be \$8.00. Sub-Varsity ONLY events will be \$6.00.

BASKETBALL GATE POLICIES: Unless it is a region tournament, where the region sets the price, \$8.00 is the maximum amount charged for GHSA basketball games in FCS.

VOLLEYBALL, WRESTLING, SOCCER, BASEBALL, LACROSSE, GYMNASTICS, SWIMMING, CROSS COUNTRY, TRACK AND FIELD, SOFTBALL AND OTHER SPORTS WHEN CHARGES ARE APPROPRIATE:

Adults \$6.00



NOTE: Gate receipts from the sale of tickets to athletic events are used to fund the school's total athletic program. Fulton County Employee ID badges allow for that employee only to enter the gate.

PARKING FEES AT GAMES: Many Fulton County high school booster organizations conduct fund raising by charging for vehicle parking at football games and other sports. These funds are used to support the school's athletic program through the booster organization. Parking is usually from \$2.00 to \$5.00 per vehicle depending on the fund-raising activity set by the booster organization as authorized by the school's principal.

*There will be a free lot available at each event.



GHSA ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- 1.53 Students must accumulate units towards graduation according to the following criteria:
- (a) First-year students (entering 9th grade) are eligible academically. Second semester first-year students must have passed courses carrying at least 2.5 units the previous semester in order to participate.
 - (b) Second-year students must have accumulated five (5) total units in the first year AND passed courses carrying at least 2.5 units in the previous semester.
 - (c) Third-year students must have accumulated eleven (11) units in the first and second years, AND passed courses carrying at least 2.5 units in the previous semester.
 - (d) Fourth-year students must have accumulated seventeen (17) units in the first three years, AND passed courses carrying at least 2.5 units in the previous semester.
 - (e) Students may accumulate the required units for participation during the school year and eligibility will be reinstated at the beginning of the next semester.

FCS GUIDELINES FOR 8TH GRADE ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION

Fulton County Schools will be following GHSA Bylaw 1.45 which allows 8th grade students to participate on sub varsity teams at their zoned feeder high school. See Fulton County Schools statement below.

*Effective immediately, eighth-grade students are eligible to participate in high school sub-varsity teams at their zoned feeder high school if the middle school does not offer the sport through extra murals. Approval is needed from both the receiving coach and the student's parent or guardian. * (Extra mural sports offered at Middle Schools: Tennis, Gymnastics, Track, Volleyball, Basketball, and Soccer)

GHSA BYLAW – 8TH GRADE PARTICIPATION

1.45 Eighth grade students may participate on a sub-varsity team of a high school provided they attend a feeder school of that high school.

(a) Students in grade 8 are never eligible for a varsity event in any activity.

(b) Eighth grade students who play on a high school team must meet all middle school requirements as put forth by the State Department of Education.

(c) An eighth-grade student who is declared ineligible at a middle school or retained for academic reasons, is ineligible for participation on a sub-varsity high school team.

(d) Eighth grade students participating on a sub-varsity team may only participate in 70% of the number of games allotted to the varsity team in that sport. Eighth grade students may not participate in more sub-varsity and middle school contests combined than the number the GHSA allows for varsity competition in that respective sport.

(e) Students below the eighth grade are not eligible to participate on any high school team.

(f) Students enrolled in grade 8 in a middle school or junior high school which is a feeder school to the member high school may participate in Spring football practice.

(g) Students enrolled in grade 8 in a middle school or junior high school which is a feeder school to the member high school may try out for cheerleader at the high school. Eighth grade students at a non-feeder school that has no system high school may participate in cheerleader tryouts at the member high school serving the student's area of residence. Such a student must be pre-enrolled at that member high school, and once pre-enrolled, the student has established eligibility at that high school.

(h) Eighth grade students who attend a feeder school for one member high school may NOT participate in any sport or activity practice at a different member high school.

(i) All eighth grade students should be reported on Eligibility Form D(link), available on the GHSA web site.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

GHSA BYLAW – 8TH GRADE PARTICIPATION

All students must be regularly enrolled in his or her assigned school and must be academically eligible in order to try out for an extramural activity. Only academically eligible 8th grade students are allowed to participate in sub-varsity tryouts, practices, exhibitions, or games. Academic eligibility is determined on the first day of the semester and is based on students having passed five of six courses the previous semester.

Five passing grades are calculated as follows:

Each core subject counts as 1 grade (language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, and reading/foreign language). Connection courses count as a half grade each, and must use the following formula: the health and physical education connection segment counts as one grade combination and the exploratory segment counts as one grade combination. A passing semester grade in the exploratory segment or the health and physical education segment is accomplished by earning an average of 70 or above when averaging the combination of two nine-week grades during the semester. A student must pass 4 core and 1 full connection segment in order to be academically eligible for participation.

Additional Guidelines

- Students must participate in sub-varsity teams at their home zoned high school only. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Eighth grade athletes must have a certificate of an annual physical examination on file at the school prior to participating in any athletic try-outs, practices, voluntary workouts, or games that indicate the students are physically approved for participation. Physical examinations will be good for twelve (12) months from the date of the exam. Eighth grade athletes are subject to all other GHSA requirements regarding annual physical examinations and associated forms. (See GHSA Bylaws 1.40).

- The family will complete all Rank One forms to be eligible for all GHSA sanctioned sports. That includes a current GHSA sports physical, current medical insurance, and all other forms provided in Rank One.
- All eighth-grade participants must be submitted to Georgia High School Association via Form D prior to the start of season.
- At no time can a current high school student (grade 9-11) be cut from a sub-varsity team to keep an eighth-grade student on a sub-varsity team.
- Eighth grade students will not be allowed to participate with a sport(s) that has a specific roster size that is adequately filled by the high school student population.

- Member schools shall prohibit participation in interscholastic activities by any student who was retained in the eighth grade for competitive purposes. The governing body of each school system shall develop a written policy showing that the system does not allow retention for competitive purposes (bylaw 2.41).
- Fulton County Schools will not provide transportation to and/or from the students zoned middle school to the high school for practice, contests, or events.
- Transportation will be provided as part of the normal athletic procedure for sanctioned contests, assuming the departure time coincides with the student being able to get to the high school before the scheduled departure time.
- Georgia High School Associations (GHSAs) allows a reduced number of contests for eighth grade students. Contests would include regular season scheduled games scheduled by the high school. Eighth grade students will not be allowed to dress for or compete in any GHSAs sanctioned playoffs. GHSAs allow 60% of the allowed # of contests.
- Eighth grade students will not be allowed early dismissal for athletic competitions.
- For Spring football practices, no student in the eighth grade may participate in more than ten (10) days of Spring Practice and may participate for no more than one (1) school's Spring football practice. (See GHSAs Bylaws, Athletics, Section 7, Part H).
- Eighth grade athletes assigned to an alternative school or on out-of-school suspension for disciplinary reasons, or adjudicated to YDC, lose their eligibility to participate. Suspension is considered to have ended when the student is physically readmitted to the classroom. (See GHSAs Bylaws 1.56).

Sportsmanship (Fan Behavior)

Sportsmanship is a key aspect of the Fulton County Schools Athletics and is highly emphasized in Georgia high school athletics. FCS promotes and expects high standards of sportsmanship from all participants, including athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators.

GHSAs Sportsmanship Statement:

"The GHSAs and its member schools have made a commitment to promote good sportsmanship by student/athletes, coaches, and spectators at all GHSAs sanctioned events. Profanity, degrading remarks, and intimidating actions directed at officials, competitors, or other spectators will not be tolerated, and are grounds for removal from the event site. Spectators are not allowed to enter the competition area prior to, during, or after the conclusion of the contest. Violators are subject to removal from the venue. Thank you for your cooperation in the promotion of good sportsmanship at today's event."

FOOTBALL MEDIA DAY 2024



On July 26, 2024, all 16 Fulton County High School Football teams were in attendance for FCS Football Media Day at the College Football Hall of Fame. Each head coach and key players from each school shared their insights and outlook on the upcoming season. We are looking for to another exciting Football season!



2024 FOOTBALL FALL SCRIMMAGE SCHEDULE...

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT		SCHOOL
8/2/2024	7:30PM	Woodstock	@	Centennial
8/7/2024	7:30PM	Riverwood	@	Midtown
8/8/2024	7:00PM	Mays	@	Westlake
8/8/2024	7:30PM	Chamblee	@	Northview
8/8/2024	7:30PM	Chattahoochee	@	Duluth
8/8/2024	7:30PM	Langston Hughes	@	Buford
8/9/2024	7:00PM	Druid Hills	@	Banneker
8/9/2024	7:30PM	Newton	@	Milton
8/9/2024	7:30PM	North Springs	@	South Forsyth
8/9/2024	7:30PM	North Paulding	@	Creekside
8/9/2024	7:30PM	Forest Park	@	Tri-Cities
8/9/2024	7:30PM	Lambert	@	Roswell
8/9/2024	7:30PM	Johns Creek	@	Denmark
8/9/2024	7:30PM	Cambridge	@	Carrollton

*Home games are in bold

FCS Athletics on Social Media – be sure to follow us!

