

West Contra Costa USD | BP 6145.2 Instruction

Athletic Competition

The Governing Board recognizes that the athletic program constitutes an integral component of the educational program and helps to build a positive school climate. The athletic program also promotes the physical, social and emotional well-being of participating students, and provides them with an opportunity to learn beneficial character development skills. The athletic program shall be designed to meet students' interests and abilities and be varied in scope to attract wide participation.

Nondiscrimination and Equivalent opportunities in the Athletic Program

The district's athletic program shall be free from discrimination and discriminatory practices in accordance with state and federal law. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that equivalent opportunities are provided for both genders.

Any complaint regarding the district's athletic program shall be filed in accordance with BP/AR 1312.3 - Uniform Complaint Procedures.

Sportsmanship

The Board supports the ideals of good sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play, and expects student athletes, coaches, spectators and others to demonstrate these principles during all athletic competitions.

In preparing for and participating in athletic competitions, students and staff shall abide by the core principles of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship, as adopted by the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) in its publication "Pursuing Victory with Honor."

Students and staff may be subject to disciplinary action for improper conduct.

California Interscholastic Federation

The Board maintains membership in CIF and requires that interscholastic athletic activities be conducted in accordance with Board policy, administrative regulation and CIF rules. The Superintendent or designee shall have responsibility for the district interscholastic athletic program while the principal or designee at each participating school shall be responsible for the site-level decisions as appropriate.

The Superintendent shall annually designate an employee from each high school to serve as a representative to the local CIF league. Appointees shall represent the district in performing all duties required by the CIF league. In making this selection, consideration will be given to the

employee's understanding of the district's goals for interscholastic and extracurricular activities, knowledge of the athletic programs, and awareness of the implications of league decisions for the school and the district, and individual interpersonal communication and leadership skills.

Student Eligibility

Eligibility requirements for participation in the district's interscholastic athletic program are the same as those set by the district for participation in extracurricular and co-curricular activities.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that students participating in CIF league athletics satisfy any additional CIF eligibility requirements.

Health and Safety

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

Students shall have a medical clearance before participating in the interscholastic athletic program. Care shall be taken to ensure that all athletic trainings and competitions are conducted in a manner that will not overtax the physical capabilities of the participants. When appropriate, protective equipment shall be used to prevent or minimize injuries.

Coaches and appropriate district employees shall take every possible precaution to ensure that athletic equipment is kept in safe and serviceable condition.

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

200-262.4 Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of sex

270-271 Athletes' Bill of Rights

17580-17581 Football equipment

32221.5 Required insurance for athletic activities

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

48900 Grounds for suspension and expulsion

48930-48938 Student organizations

49020-49023 Athletic programs; legislative intent, equal opportunity

49030-49034 Performance-enhancing substances

60850-60859 High school exit examination

PENAL CODE

245.6 Hazing

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4900-4965 Nondiscrimination in elementary and secondary education programs

5531 Supervision of extracurricular activities of students

5590-5596 Employment of noncertificated coaches

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

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

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

106.31-106.42 Discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs or activities prohibited

COURT DECISIONS

Kahn v. East Side Union High School District, (2004) 31 Cal.4th 990t

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

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

A School Board Member's Guide to CIF and Interscholastic Sports, 1997

CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION PUBLICATIONS

A Guide to Equity (Equity Handbook)

Pursuing Victory with Honor, 1999

California Interscholastic Federation Constitution and Bylaws, 1996-97

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, Equal Opportunity and Access:
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/di/eo>

California Interscholastic Federation: <http://www.cifstate.org>

National Federation of State High School Associations: <http://www.nfhs.org>

National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment: <http://www.nocsae.org>

Policy WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: June 6, 2007 Richmond, California