



Opportunities for Student – Athletes at Innovation Academy

The purpose of this document is to outline the opportunities for Innovation Academy student athletes. Students of Innovation Academy, grades 9 – 12 will have opportunities to participate in athletics based on the following terms:

1. Innovation Academy will offer Football, Volleyball and Boys and Girls Bowling beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Cheerleading and Dance Squad will also be offered at Innovation Academy
2. All other sports will be offered through the athletic cooperative agreement with Springfield High School. This will avoid the challenges of providing shared facilities with other district schools/municipalities.
3. Before the last day of the school year, students from Innovation Academy who are interested in trying out for athletic teams through the athletic cooperative agreement shall declare which team(s) they are interested in trying out for.
 - Innovation Academy will provide the list of student names and the sport of interest to Springfield High School and include a listing of current grades.
 - Students from Innovation Academy, participating through the athletic cooperative agreement, are required to adhere to the Springfield High School sports' athletic requirements for students.
4. Multi-sport Athletes and Girls/Boys Basketball players may have limited opportunity to participate due to the difference in the Innovation Academy academic program for students. Multi-sport athletes may also be impacted when they attempt to participate in athletics in both semesters, for example a girls' soccer and softball player or a boys basketball and baseball player
 - Only one athletic block per year is offered due to the additional course work required for students enrolled at Innovation Academy.
 - Students will be reminded of this at the time of tryouts for basketball or if considering multiple sports. In the event a player is selected for basketball teams or for more than one sport at Springfield High School decisions may have to be made concerning future enrollment.
5. The current cooperative agreement set to expire after the 2026 – 2027 school year may be extended by mutual agreement of both schools and district administrators.
6. Innovation Academy will add Girls/Boys Soccer and marching band beginning the 2026-2027 school year.
7. Additional Sports may be added to the Innovation Academy with a minimum of two school years' notice and only after completing the approval process to include both school administrators and the Director of Schools.
8. Documents will be provided to students and parent/guardians during enrollment and prior to tryouts to explain and remind students of this notice.
9. No hardship appeal will be requested of the TSSAA legislative body to consider eligibility for students involved in this cooperative agreement for athletics between Innovation Academy and Springfield High School