

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

The Governor Wentworth Regional School Board recognizes the value of athletic participation to the development of well-rounded students. Significant evidence exists to show that students who participate in extracurricular activities often perform better academically than those who do not. The School Board promotes athletic participation in the belief that successful athletic programs promote individual and team potential by helping to develop high standards of competence, character, civility, and citizenship for student-athletes. The School Board recognizes that in addition to promoting the physical and social well-being of participating students, athletic programs offered can be a potent factor in both establishing a positive school climate and nurturing strong community-school bonds.

It is the Board's policy, therefore, to provide opportunities for interscholastic athletic competition in a variety of sports as budgetary considerations allow. Such opportunities should encourage participation by as many students as reasonably possible and should be carried on with the best interests of the participants as the first consideration.

All school/district-sponsored athletic programs shall require the approval of the School Board, and shall be administered by the Athletic Director, subject to the supervision of the Superintendent. Different programs that the Board may from time-to-time approve can include fully sponsored school teams, club teams, and/or intramural teams. Competitions offered as part of otherwise approved instructional programs do not require specific Board approval.

Qualified personnel should be provided for coaching and supervising all athletic programs.

Participation in interscholastic athletics is subject to the rules adopted by the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association, other similar sponsoring organizations or leagues, other Board policies (e.g., **JJA, JJIC, JJJ**, etc.), and any rules adopted by the Superintendent, the Athletic Director, the Principal, or a team coach.

Legal References:

RSA 193:41 School Athletics

Approved: 3/19/01

Reaffirmed: 9/08/08, 6/01/09

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