

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

I. Philosophy

- A. The Board of Education of the Waterville Central School District believes the Interscholastic Athletic Program is supplemental to the mission of the district.
- B. Interscholastic Athletics are an important aspect of the district's educational offering since participation provides students with the opportunity to develop skills and traits related to teamwork, perseverance, social-emotional growth, control, physical strength, and good sportsmanship.
- C. Student participation is a privilege that carries responsibilities to the school, to the activity, to the student body, to the community and to the students themselves.

II. The Interscholastic Athletic Program will:

- A. Provide opportunities for communication on a regular basis between coaches, players and parents at all levels.
- B. Provide, when possible Modified, JV and Varsity programs:
 1. Modified participation will occur on an equal basis when there is a JV program prior to Varsity competition. If the Modified is a feeder program to the Varsity program, players who will be moved on to Varsity the following year may receive more playing time while all other players will participate on an equal basis.
 2. The JV program is a feeder program to Varsity competition. All players will participate, but playing time will be determined by the coach. Factors influencing the coach's determination on playing time may include:
 - ❖ academic effort and achievement
 - ❖ practice attendance
 - ❖ participation and effort
 3. Varsity athletics is a skill based program. While a coach will attempt to have all players participate, there is not a guarantee that every player will play during all games. Coaches are expected to maintain skills based criteria when determining playing time at the Varsity level. Coaches may also utilize other criteria in determining playing time. Coaches are

POLICY

STUDENTS

7301

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

expected to communicate and delineate student duties and responsibilities as a team member if they will be used to make a determination on playing time.

4. Providing off-season opportunities for students on an informational level.
 5. Expect district staff to model appropriate conduct for players, spectators and community members.
 - a. Code of Conduct for coaches, players, parents and spectators will be included in preseason information.
 - b. Sportsmanship and courtesy statements will be included in preseason information. When possible, statements will be announced before games and/or included in athletics programs.
 - c. Instill in players and coaches a sense of commitment to the particular sport while maintaining flexibility in program activities.
- III. While the Board of Education takes great pride in winning, it does not condone "winning at any cost" and discourages any and all pressures which may negatively impact sportsmanship and/or the mental health and physical welfare of players.
- IV. The Board of Education will make every effort to support the interscholastic athletic program with satisfactory facilities, equipment and staff to maximize athletic participation.

Waterville Central School District

Adopted: 06/16/79

Revised: 11/25/97, 08/28/01, 06/13/17, 08/28/18