THOMPSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Athletic & Activities Handbook

A resource for students, parents, coaches, and administrators

Thompson School District • 800 South Taft Avenue • 970-613-5000 Update: 6/26

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pages
3. School Contacts
4. Athletic Philosophy/Expectations
7. Code of Ethics/Policies
10. TSD BoE Policies
11. Athletic Participation Fees
12. Coaching requirements
13. Extra Duty Pay Scale
14. Purchasing
14. Fundraising in TSD
15. Outside Accounts
15. Booster Info
16. Lettering Info
16. Social Media Info
17. Transportation Info
18. Pay for Event Help
19. Drone Info for filming
25. Athletic Code of Conduct
29. High School Academic Eligibility
32. Middle School Academic Eligibility
35. Athletic Team Cell Phone Policy
36. Guidance on Student Organizations & Board Policy JJA
38. CHSAA 8th Grade Letter
40. CHSAA/TSD School Placement Chart

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ATHLETIC & ACTIVITIES PHILOSOPHY

Athletics & activities are an important part of the Thompson School District's educational program. We believe in educational based athletics & activities and that they can play a key role in learning and developing the whole student. Participation in interscholastic athletics & activities as a part of the district's educational program is a privilege and not a right for students.

The Thompson School District supports the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) with their mission statement.
In pursuit of educational excellence, the Colorado High School Activities Association strives to create a positive and equitable environment in which all qualified student participants are challenged and inspired to meet their greatest potential.

To fulfill this mission, the Colorado High School Activities Association will: - Act as an integral component of the educational process

- Administrate, interpret, and seek compliance with the CHSAA Bylaws as needed to promote competitive equity within Colorado activities and athletics.
- Provide diverse and equitable opportunities for participation that encourages all qualified students to take part in the activity/athletic experience.
- Provide an environment that enhances personal development through sporting behavior, character education, teamwork, leadership, and citizenship while increasing values that partner with the standards of the State of Colorado.
- Recognize the outstanding accomplishments of Colorado athletes, teams, coaches, and administrators through our academic and activity awards program.

Involvement in interscholastic activities is a privilege. All member schools and their school communities are expected to adhere to the CHSAA standards for the enhancement of interscholastic activities in Colorado

Purpose

The purpose of this handbook is to provide and develop guidelines and expectations for open and honest lines of communication among parents, athletes, coaches, teachers, and administrators. The aim of these guidelines is to help ensure that student athletes have the best possible experience in their respective athletic & activity program.

Sportsmanship: Thompson School District is committed to bringing sportsmanship as a top priority in all our school communities. The sportsmanship standards we hold for coaches, student athletes, spirit groups and spectators will bring about healthy rivalries and competition in the educational environment.

EXPECTATIONS OF COACHES & SPONSORS

- Exemplify high moral character, behavior and leadership.
- Be a positive role model for all concerned.
- Respect the judgment of contest officials. Abide by the rules of the contest and display no negative behavior.
- Discipline those on the team who do not abide by sportsmanship standards.
- Treats own players/students and opponents with respect.
- Inspires in the activity a love for the activity and the desire to compete fairly.
- Knows he/she is a teacher and understands the athletic & activities arena is an extension of the classroom.

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT PARTICIPANTS

- Accept seriously the responsibility and privilege of representing your school and community.
- Treat opponents with respect.
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
- Plays hard but plays within the rules.
- Exercises self-control at all times, setting an example for others to follow.
- Respects officials and accepts their decisions without gesture or argument.

EXPECTATIONS OF SPIRIT GROUPS

- Stimulate desired crowd response using only positive cheers and praise without antagonizing or demeaning opponents.
- Treat opposing teams, spirit groups and fans with respect.
- Know rules and strategies of the contest in order to cheer at proper times.
- Maintain enthusiasm and composure, and always serve as role models.

EXPECTATIONS OF SPECTATORS

- Realize your attendance at athletic events is to support the teams involved.
- Should know and understand the rules of the contest.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of sports officials.
- Appreciate the skills of all players participating.
- Appreciates a good play no matter who makes it.
- Shows compassion for an injured player; applauds positive performances, does not heckle, jeer or distract players, and does not use profane and obnoxious language and behavior.
- Respects property of others and the authority of those who administer the competition.
- Censures those whose behavior is unbecoming.
- Cheers positively for their team, does not chant at, or get into exchanges with opposing fans.
- Leaves the venue respectfully and accepts the outcome of the game.

CODE OF ETHICS FOR SPECTATORS AND PARTICIPANTS

To provide an atmosphere where students develop positive work habits, fundamental skills, and personal values for a healthy long-life learning experience through participation in athletics, activities, and academics. All involved people serve as role models and representatives of R2-J to all other people. In addition, the following policy is in effect for all persons attending school activities:

Public Conduct on School Property or at School Activities

The school district hosts or participates in many curricular and extracurricular activities attended by parents and the general public. These include, for example but not by way of limitation, interscholastic athletic contests, proms and other social events, dramatic or musical performances, field trips, fundraisers and meetings for parents, patrons and the public and are referred to herein as events. Events occur on school district property as well as at locations or on property (such as school vehicles) leased or licensed to the school district for a particular purpose, all such property being referred to herein as a school owned or controlled property. Groups and members of the public also use school owned or controlled property under the district's facilities use policy.
All persons using or appearing at events conducted upon school district owned or controlled property will observe, at a minimum, those standards of behavior and conduct expected of school district staff and students. Specifically, whether they appear as users, participants or observers of an event, such persons shall not:

1. Obstruct, disrupt or interfere with teaching, research, service, administration, control, discipline, coaching, officiating or progress of an event.
2. Physically abuse or threaten (verbal or physical) any persons with physical harm on school district owned or controlled property.
3. Damage or threaten to damage property of the school district or property leased or licensed in connection with an event.
4. Force or make unauthorized entry to school district owned or controlled property.
5. Use, possess, distribute or sell drugs, other controlled substances, alcohol or other contraband on school district owned or controlled property or within 1,000 feet of the perimeter of a school site. (Persons known to be under the influence of liquor shall not be permitted to enter school district owned or controlled property.)

6. Possess a concealed or dangerous weapon, as defined in state law or board policy, on school district owned or controlled property unless one of the following conditions exist:
    - The person is a law enforcement officer authorized to carry or possess a weapon at such time and place.
    - The person is presenting an authorized public demonstration for a school or an organized class.
    - The person is carrying out duties for the school district which require the use of a weapon.
    - The person is participating in an authorized extracurricular activity or team involving the use of firearms/prop weapons.

7. Use profanity or verbally abusive language, with exception to:
    - Any school play or performance with a PG-13 rating shall be approved by the school administration.
    - Parents/guardians must sign a waiver for students to take part in a PG-13 performance.
    - PG-13 performances should be advertised on marketing material and in the playbill/program. Mature language and situations should be disclosed.
8. Engage in any conduct constituting a breach of any federal, state or city law or duly adopted policy and/or regulation of the board.

Persons determined by the superintendent, the superintendent's designee or the principal of a host school to be in violation of this policy may be instructed to leave the school district owned or controlled property. Where repeated violations occur or where a person threatens or appears likely to violate this policy in the future, the superintendent or his/her designee or the host principal may ban or restrict the person's access to events and to the use of school district owned or controlled property. The host principal's authority, however, shall extend only to events and owned or controlled property of his/her school.

State and league rules require the principal or their designee to enforce this policy at any venue where the school's team/group is participating. This would include other school sites or events sponsored by CHSAA at public facilities.

In appropriate cases, persons violating this policy may be referred to law enforcement authorities for criminal prosecution.

Parent Expectations for Middle and High School Athletics

Athletics are an extension of the educational experience, helping students grow not only as athletes, but as teammates, leaders, and responsible young adults. As a parent or guardian, your involvement and behavior significantly shape the culture of our athletic programs. We ask you to support the following expectations to help us create a positive, safe, and educational environment for all student-athletes. Participation in interscholastic athletics & activities as a part of the district's educational program is a privilege and not a right.

Support the Purpose of Educational-Based Athletics

- Promote life lessons learned through sport, such as commitment, resilience, teamwork, and integrity.
- Understand that playing time and roles are based on team needs, coach decisions, and student effort — this is not your club team.

Model Respectful Behavior: Attendance is a privilege, not a right

- Show respect to coaches, officials, players, opponents, and other spectators at all times.
- Avoid negative comments or actions during games, especially toward opposing teams, coaches, and referees.
- Let coaches coach — refrain from shouting instructions or criticisms during practices or contests —Don't embarrass your child Proper Communication
- Encourage your students to advocate for themselves and speak directly with coaches.
- 24 hours rule: Wait after a game before addressing concerns with the coaching staff.
- Follow the proper chain of communication: player → coach → athletic director → principal

Use Social Media Responsibly

- Avoid posting negative, inflammatory, or disrespectful comments about players, coaches, officials, teams, or schools.
- Remind your student that social media is a public platform and that what is shared reflects on them, their team, and the school.
- Any social media behavior that violates district policy, targets individuals, or disrupts the team culture may result in disciplinary consequences for students or limitations on parent participation.

Failure to uphold these expectations may result in removal from contests and access to future events. Our goal is to support the mission and vision of education-based athletics and your partnership is essential to that mission.

THOMPSON SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD POLICIES

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH EMPLOYEE TO READ AND BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE CONTENTS OF THIS HANDBOOK AND BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICIES AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE AND ON THE INTRANET AT WWW.TSD.ORG

- ADB: Educational Equity
- AC: Non-Discrimination/Equal Opportunity
  …to ensure that harassment does not occur at any district school, on any district property, at any district or school-sanctioned activity or event, or off school property when such conduct has a nexus to the school, or any district curricular or non-curricular activity or event. Harassing conduct may take many forms, including, but not limited to: Verbal acts and name-calling
  Graphic depictions and written statements, which may include use of cell phones or the internet
  Other conduct that may be physically threatening, harmful or humiliating
- JB: Equal Educational Opportunities
- JBB: Sexual Harassment
- JLF & JLF-R: Reporting Child Abuse
- GBEB: Staff Conduct (and Responsibilities)
  Requires District Staff to Report Child Abuse, Report Discrimination or harassment on the basis of sex.
- GBEE: Staff Use of the Internet and Electronic Communications

THIS HANDBOOK IS DESIGNED TO ACQUAINT YOU WITH THE DISTRICT AND PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION ABOUT WORKING HERE. THE HANDBOOK IS NOT ALL INCLUSIVE, BUT IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE YOU WITH A SUMMARY OF SOME OF THE DISTRICT'S GUIDELINES. THIS EDITION REPLACES ALL PREVIOUSLY ISSUED EDITIONS.

NO EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK CAN ANTICIPATE EVERY CIRCUMSTANCE OR QUESTION. AFTER READING THE HANDBOOK, IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS PLEASE TALK WITH YOUR IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR. ALSO, THE NEED MAY ARISE TO CHANGE THE GUIDELINES DESCRIBED IN THE HANDBOOK. EXCEPT FOR THE AT-WILL NATURE OF THE EMPLOYMENT, THE DISTRICT THEREFORE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO INTERPRET THEM OR TO CHANGE THEM WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

ATHLETIC FEES

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC FEE – *PAYMENT TYPES ACCEPTED ARE CASH, CHECK OR INFINITE CAMPUS PAYMENT (ONLINE PAYMENT)*

- $175 – Thompson School District High School Enrolled Per Sport ($400 family maximum per family per school year)
- $225 – Non-TSD High School Enrolled Per Sport ($500 family maximum)
- $150 football equipment fee for all first-time participants. The football equipment fee does NOT count toward the family maximum.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC FEE – *PAYMENT TYPES ACCEPTED ARE CASH, CHECK OR INFINITE CAMPUS PAYMENT (ONLINE PAYMENT)*

- $75 middle school enrolled ($175 family maximum)
- $100 middle school non-enrolled ($225 family maximum)

<u>High School & Middle School</u>

- Students on the free/reduced lunch program may request a waiver from this fee.
- Any other students having financial hardship may see the athletic director to discuss a waiver of the fee.

Refund policy per Board Policy: JQ-R
Participants who are cut or quit an activity up to 10 practice or school days from the first practice will be reimbursed the full amount. Requests for reimbursement must be to the athletic office no later than 15 calendar days after the first practice. Participants who are members through 10 school or practice days will not be reimbursed if they choose to drop out of a program.

Athletic Registration: Students wishing to participate in athletics should register at their school of attendance. All secondary students must register to participate in Arbiter from their school's athletic website. Please connect with your school's athletic office if you have any questions on the registration process.
If the student isn't currently a TSD enrolled student, please connect with the district athletic office for school placement as many factors come into play. You will also need to register with the district office for athletics & activities only: https://www.tsd.org/enrollment/registration/athletics-only-registration

COACHING IN TSD

Head Coaching Jobs: All Head Coaching jobs will be posted for a minimum of five business days.

High School Coaches

Checklist for Paid Coach:

- Complete TSD payroll packet
- Complete CHSAA 1st year Coaches Course & Application (Only 1st year)
- CPR/1st Aid/AED Certification (usually valid 2 years)
- Concussion Certification (usually valid 1 year)
- CHSAA Approved Mental Health Certification (2-year certification)
- CHSAA Rules Test (Valid 1 school year)
- Mandatory Reporter (Valid 1 school year)

Middle School Coaches Checklist for Paid Coach:

- Complete TSD payroll packet
- CPR/1st Aid/AED Certification (usually valid 2 years)
- Concussion Certification (usually valid 1 year)
- Mandatory Reporter (Valid 1 school year)

Checklist for Volunteer Coaches:

- Complete Online registration at: Become a Volunteer Athletic Coach
- Register to volunteer: Select "Volunteer Athletic Coach" under Volunteer Affiliations. Indicate the school and sport you are coaching in the box on page 4 of the registration.
- Sign the volunteer coaching agreement issued by the school:
    - Volunteer Coaching Agreement
    - This needs to be done every year
- Concussion Certification (usually valid 1 year)
- CHSAA Rules Test (Valid 1 school year/High School only)
- Mandatory Reporter (Valid 1 school year)

Coaches will not be able to attend formal practice until all of the requirements have been met.

Placement on the TSD Extra Duty Salary Schedule per MOU

Article 14 – EXTRA DUTY SALARIES

Experience Credit: 14-1-1. Any person moving from an assistant coach/sponsor position to a head position in the same sport or activity or any middle school coach/sponsor moving to a high school position in the same sport or activity shall receive one year of credit for every two years of experience in the former position. In the same manner, coaching experience outside TSD can be awarded up to ten years for placement on the extra duty schedule. 1 or 2 years – Step 1 3 or 4 years – Step 2 5 or 6 years – Step 3 7 or 8 years – Step 4 9 or 10 years – Step 5

- 14-1-2. Any person moving from a head/coach/sponsor position to an assistant position in the same sport or activity or any high school coach/sponsor moving to a middle school position in the same sport or activity shall receive one year of credit for each year of experience in the former position.

14-2. Compensation for Post-Season Activities

14-2-1. Coaches, marching band directors, and Knowledge Bowl sponsors whose teams/bands participate in post-season athletic contests or the state band competition beyond the regular season or league/district tournaments (state qualifying tournaments) shall receive a percentage of the regular season salary (one week's extra-duty salary) for each week that a team is involved in state competition. For individual sports, a school must qualify at least one participant into the state tournament for the coaches to receive one extra week's pay. In team sports, any that qualify for a postseason tournament will receive one or more additional week's pay. The length of the regular season will be determined by TSD athletics manager, using the starting and ending dates of the formal seasons, as determined by the CHSAA.

Knowledge Bowl sponsors whose teams qualify for the state Knowledge Bowl in May will receive extra compensation limited to two additional weeks of pay based on the sponsor's current placement on the salary schedule.

TSD Extra Duty Pay Scale: https://www.tsd.org/departments/hr/salaryschedules

Purchasing
As a coach, before you make any purchases, please contact your school's bookkeeper. They will instruct you on how they prefer the process.

Quotes: Make sure you get three bids on single items over $1,500 or a total order over $3,000. If you are purchasing a single item over $5,000, reach out to purchasing and see if you need to go through a formal RFP process.

Uniform Replacement: If your AD has uniform replacement money for you, these must be purchased using a District PO. These orders must go through the District Athletic Office.

Travel Trips: Make sure you have a copy of the districts tax exempt form and be sure to collect itemized receipts.

If you have any questions in the purchasing process, please contact:

Shawn Muscott
Shawn.muscott@tsd.org
(970) 613-5030

Fundraising in TSD
All fundraisers need to be approved by your building administration and then the district. If your team/club is interested in conducting a fundraiser, please turn the following form into you Athletic/Activities Director.
Fundraisers should not include gambling or door to door sales. Fundraising Form A: https://staff.tsd.org/forms/field-trips

Per-diem for State Events: As part of the district's commitment to our student-athletes during state-sponsored travel, the approved per diem meal rates have been increased. The district per diem rates are $10 for breakfast, $12 for lunch, and $14 for dinner. These rates are intended to provide reasonable meal coverage for students participating in approved athletic travel and competitions.

Because the updated per diem rates are designed to adequately cover meal expenses, fundraising dollars from team or activity accounts may no longer be used to supplement meals for which students are already receiving district per diem funds. Fundraised dollars may still be used for other approved team-related expenses consistent with district and activity fund guidelines, but they may not be used to provide additional meal reimbursements, upgrades, or supplemental food purchases during meals already covered by per diem.

Outside Accounts: Under no circumstances are coaches/sponsors allowed to open an account at a banking institution to manage fund-raised dollars. Operating an outside account could result in dismissal from the coach/sponsor position.

Booster Clubs: Each member school is responsible for the activities of its booster clubs and any violations and penalties that result from lack of oversight.

1640.1: Each coach/director shall be under contract to the school district in which he/she/they coaches/ directs, and may be employed solely as a coach/director. Coaches/Directors shall not receive any pay or other remuneration for coaching/directing, other than the stipulated contract salary or pay scale agreed to by the Board of Education.

1640.11 SOURCE OF SALARIES — All salaries or remuneration for the fulfillment of the school district coaching/director contract must come as direct payment from the employing school district or private school governing body. Acceptance of additional pay or any other remuneration either in money or merchandise from any organization or group outside of the school itself is a violation of this regulation. Recognized outside groups such as "booster" groups may make a donation to the school's or district's general activities fund, but may not specify any monies be utilized for the payment of salaries for Advisor A, Coach B, etc. This regulation, on the other hand, does not prevent school employees from receiving gifts or awards of no intrinsic value.

Q1: Can an outside group (i.e., Booster Club) help fund a specific school/ athletic program?
A1: Yes.

Q2: Can a Booster Club pay a coach directly for his/her/their coach's salary?
A2: No, funds must be given to the school administration for distribution.

1640.12 BOOSTER CLUBS – Booster clubs, athletic/activity foundations, or similar named outside organizations may be formed for the purpose of providing additional financial assistance to specific teams or general athletic/activity programs.

Any benefits provided by the outside organizations, which can include monetary contributions, facility improvements, equipment, transportation, awards, additional team support, etc., are subject to applicable State/Federal Regulations. All booster clubs or similar donations to sport specific teams or general athletic/ activity funds by outside organizations must be approved by school and/or district administration.

1640.13 OTHER PAYMENTS – Personal contributions can be made to the school's athletic department for consideration of all student-athlete's needs. Donations or payments made by school personnel to an outside agency on behalf of individual school players or teams is deemed to be an illegal inducement and is prohibited.

When setting up an account for a booster club, you have two options. You can set one up within the school (preferred) or an outside account and get registered as a 501(c)(3).

A 501(c)(3) group still must follow all CHSAA Bylaws & TSD policies and have oversight from the school athletic director. A 501(c)(3) group should not have coaches/sponsors listed as part of their board and they should not have direct access to funds/bank accounts.

TSD Gift Acceptance Guide

TSD Board Policy KCD: Public Gifts and donations

Lettering Policy: Earning a High School Athletic letter is something special that is a site-based decision. All athletic programs should have their lettering policy on file within their school athletic office. This should also be covered at all pre-season parent meetings.

Social Media Policy: Use as a tool, not a toy. Teams are encouraged to have a social media policy that teaches our students how to properly navigate and use social media for positive things. Good social media policies cover the following
Posting: Is it positive, is it necessary?
Avoid bad language, insensitive posts, and late-night posts. Do not post negative things about teammates, coaches, opponents, and officials.

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

- Please put in your bus/trip request working with your building athletic secretary.
- Leave times are requested but transportation will ultimately determine depart time.
- Must have a paid coach on every bus that is traveling to a contest. Volunteers can't be the only chaperone supervising a bus (per TSD volunteer policy).
- Coaches should have an accurate list with every student & coach who is on the bus. There should also be updates to that list on the return trip if changes occur in riders.
- A good practice is to exchange cell phone information between driver and coach.
- Children of coaches, sponsors or parent volunteers, who are not directly involved in the field trip or activity, may not ride with or accompany the adult employee or volunteer to the event.
- Cell phones or other personal electronic devices may not be used at any time while operating a district vehicle. Use of a cell phone in any capacity, or use of non-approved devices (such as earbuds, headphones, smartwatches, etc.) for non-emergency or non-approved purposes while operating a district vehicle is strictly prohibited.
- If a phone must be used, the vehicle must first be safely parked. Please note that texting is not allowed at any time while the vehicle is in use. Additionally, personal phone use is strongly discouraged when supervising or supporting students.
- Any parking or traffic violations, including those issued through photo enforcement or speed cameras, are the financial responsibility of the employee when operating a district-owned vehicle.

Becoming certified to drive a district small vehicle or activity bus:
Must attend training through transportation. You can get the certification dates from your athletic director. You must attend a class, written test, and driving test.
Recertification: This must be done every school year with a written test.

Transportation: (970) 613-5185

Forms that need to be completed before your team/group travels: Please work with your Athletic Secretaries to complete a pre-season travel transportation request.

Overnight Requests: Form F https://staff.tsd.org/forms/field-trips
- Out of State Travel: Use Form F, Form G, Form I
- Review: Rooming Best Practices

High School Athletics Pay Rates

The following information should be used as a guide to pay around athletics.

Game/Contest Manager: $50
CPR Certification: $75 base fee + $15 per coach certified, class size of 4 - 12 participants

Football
Gate: $35
Chains: $35
Box: $35
Announcer: $35

Gymnastics
Gate: $25 ($50 for invitational)
Scorer: $35 ($75 for invitational)

Soccer / Softball / Swimming / Baseball
Gate: $35

Volleyball/Basketball
Gate: $25, 2 games $35, 3 games $40
Table: $15 per match, add $5 if announcing as well
Announcer: $25

Wrestling
Gate: $25
Table: $30, add $5 if announcing as well
Announcer: $25

All payments are initiated and paid for by the school site. CPR will be paid for by the District Athletic Department.

Updated: 1/2023

UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM (UAS) USE ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

In an effort to maintain the safety, security and privacy of students, staff and visitors, Thompson School District has determined that the operation of Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) is prohibited by any persons on or over district property during school hours, at district sponsored events, and when other people are present, other than as specified in this policy.

All operators of UAS on District property are responsible for knowing and complying with all Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations, Federal and State laws, and County and local ordinances or rules related to operations of UAS. UAS operators shall comply with the FAA's "Know Before You Fly" safety recommendations, including but not limited to, preflight equipment inspection, flying below 400 feet elevation, operating aircraft within visual line of sight, and operating the UAS in a reasonable and controlled manner with awareness of people, manned aircraft, and obstacles. Visit http://knowbeforeyoufly.org/ for more information.

I. Eligible Uses:
   A. Staff and students may use UAS for educational purposes with advance approval by the Principal, Risk Manager, and Safety and Security. Use must comply with Section
      336 of the FAA guidelines. The procedures listed below must be met prior to approval. All District UAS programs must submit an annual program summary to Risk Management.
   B. Approved guest pilots may operate UAS to assist with District educational programs.
   C. Non-District sponsored use of UAS for commercial or special events, including events hosted by clubs or organizations, is allowed only with an approved Facility Use contract. All requests are subject to the Facility Use policy KF and the accompanying procedures and guidelines. Compliance with Part 107 of the FAA Regulations is required.
   D. An individual hobbyist may operate UAS only outside of school hours, District events, and when no approved Facility Use contracts are in effect. Hobbyists are responsible for complying with the guidelines of this procedure.
   E. Emergency government operations are allowed with approval of Safety and Security. Such operations are exempt from the requirements listed in part II.B. listed below.

II. Procedures:

A. District Use:

District UAS programs must submit the annual Program Summary to Risk Management before operations.

a. Guest pilots must sign the "Rules for Approved UAS Use" form.
b. Guest pilots providing assistance to District educational programs must carry liability insurance.
c. Students operating an UAS are not covered under the District's liability insurance policy. All students operating an UAS as part of a District class, program, or club must provide proof of membership in the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) and liability coverage through AMA.
d. Commercial UAS operations for District purposes require a completed "Request for UAS Operations" form approved by the Principal, Risk Manager, and Safety and Security; a signed copy of the "Rules for Approved UAS Use"; and a current certificate of liability insurance with limits of not less than $2,000,000 and with the District identified as an additional insured.

B. Non-District Sponsored Events:

a. The following forms must be submitted to the Facility Use Department:
   i. A "Request for Community Use of School Facilities" form;
   ii. A "Request for UAS Operations" form;
   iii. A signed "Rules for Approved UAS Use" form;
   iv. A current certificate of liability insurance with a minimum of $2,000,000 in general liability coverage with Thompson School District 800 South Taft Avenue Loveland, CO 80537 listed as the certificate holder and specifically noted as an additional insured;
   v. Proof of FAA Regulations Part 107 Certification.
b. All requests are subject to Policy KF and its accompanying procedures and guidelines.
c. Approval of the Administrator of the host facility, the Risk Manager, and Safety and Security is required prior to UAS operations.

III. Rules:

A. UAS operators must maintain line of sight at all times during operation and are prohibited from flying UAS over playing surfaces, seating/spectator areas when people are present, and parking areas when people and/or vehicles are present. B. Spotters are required for all UAS flights.
C. All UAS operations within five miles of an airport must contact the airport in advance of use. Refer to the free AirMap App or www.airmap.com to identify restricted ranges and obtain airfield telephone numbers.

D. UAS operators and their employers (as applicable) are responsible for ensuring operators are trained and proficient in the use of the UAS they will operate. UAS operators must be aware of the risks that include, but are not limited to, personal injury and property damage caused by the UAS as a result of weather, operator error or judgement, or failure of device systems and equipment.
E. When recording or transmitting visual images, UAS operators must at all times avoid areas reasonably considered private in accordance with social norms. These areas include, but are not limited to, building interiors, private residences, restrooms, and locker rooms.
F. During any CHSAA sanctioned event, any transmission, internet stream, photo, image, film, videotape, audio tape, play-by-play depiction or description of the event is prohibited without written consent of CHSAA. All "Real-time," or tape delayed audio, video or textual transmission of play-by-play is exclusive property of the CHSAA and is prohibited for use on-site or off-site without written consent from CHSAA. CHSAA requires that drone usage should remain on the offensive side of the ball and a minimum of 15 yards behind the deepest offensive back, a minimum vertical height of 40 feet above the playing surface and remain motionless during live action. G. All UAS operations must comply with local noise ordinances.
H. UAS operations must be limited so that at least 25% of battery life remains at the conclusion of the flight.
I. UAS operations must be cancelled if adverse weather or environmental conditions prevent safe operation of the UAS.
J. Operating an UAS in an area of emergency operations is prohibited.
K. Operating an UAS in a reckless manner is prohibited.
L. The District is not responsible for any damage that may occur to the UAS while on District property.
M. During a District sponsored event, the event administrator shall refuse admission to any individual or group intending to use an UAS without authorization. The administrator is authorized to suspend play, remove and confiscate an UAS in prohibited areas or when the UAS is being used in an unsafe manner, even if the UAS operation had prior authorization.
N. Third party operation of an UAS during events on an approved Facility Use contract will not be permitted without the contract user's permission. All requirements in Section II. B. of this document shall apply.
O. Previously approved use may be revoked at any time if a District event administrator has good reason to believe the safety, security, and/or privacy of students, staff, or visitors is at risk.
P. Failure to follow these rules and procedures may result in current UAS operation authorization being revoked, removal from District facilities, and may result in denial of future admission to District property.

Rules for Approved UAS Use on Thompson School District Property

Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) operation on District Property requires the following:

- The UAS must be registered with the FAA and the pilot agrees to comply with all FAA Regulations.
- The UAS operator must be a trained pilot, agrees to keep the UAS within line of site at all times, and agrees to use spotters.
- The UAS operator will not fly over people or vehicles.
- The operator will not fly the UAS while under the influence of any substance.
- UAS operations will not interfere with any manned flight operation.
- UAS operations will not take place during adverse weather conditions.
- Compliance is required with all Federal and State laws, City and County ordinances, and any local noise ordinances.
- The operator will not fly the UAS where operations would violate the reasonable expectations of privacy.
- The operator attests that the UAS is in good condition and he or she has performed safety checks and taken precautions to ensure safe operations of the UAS.
- The operator acknowledges that all non-hobby use of an UAS requires FAA authorization.
- The UAS will not collect any data that contains personally identifiable information.
- The UAS will not collect or transmit any data during CHSAA sanctioned events without CHSAA's written authorization in advance. Per CHSAA, drone usage shall remain on the offensive side of the ball; a minimum of 15 years behind the deepest offensive back; a minimum vertical height of 40 feet above playing surface; and remain motionless during live action.
- Non-District use of an UAS (other than by an individual hobbyist) requires advance approval of a TSD Facility Use Contract and must comply with all requirements therein.
- The UAS operator acknowledges that TSD provides no insurance for any damage to privately owned UAS.
- The UAS operator acknowledges that TSD provides no liability insurance for non-employees or students.
- The UAS operator agrees that any fines, penalties, and/or damages are the responsibility of the individual at fault.
- Independent contractors of UAS agree to indemnify and hold harmless TSD, its officers, employees, students, volunteers, or agents for any loss, costs, damage, injury, liability, or third party action stemming from UAS operation.
- The UAS operator agrees to have his or her insurance company waive all rights of subrogation that the company may have against TSD, its officers, employees, students, volunteers, or agents.

By signing below, I agree to the terms expressed in this document.

_____ _____

Signature Date

_____ _____

Printed Name Business Name (if applicable)

Request for UAS Operations

Use: □School class/club □ Commercial (for school) □ Commercial (for profit) □ Event

Name of person completing request: _____

TSD School /Department: _____

Company Name & Address: _____

Contact person telephone number: _____

Description of activity: (Include rationale)

Date(s) of Operation: _____

Location of Operation: _____

UAS Owner: □ TSD School/Dept: _____ □ Other: _____

UAS description: (Model, FAA registration number)

Associated equipment: (Sensors, Cameras, Gimbals, Ground Control System)

Weight: _____ **Maximum Speed:** _____

Range/Endurance: _____ **Autonomous □ or Piloted □**

If communication is lost during flight, can it return to base on its own/go into hover mode? □ yes □ no

Other system fail safe equipment and/or safety procedures:

Describe landing/recovery process:

List Pilots:	**Staff**	**Student**	**AMA Member**	**FAA Certified**
_____	☐	☐	☐	☐
_____	☐	☐	☐	☐
_____	☐	☐	☐	☐
_____	☐	☐	☐	☐
_____	☐	☐	☐	☐
_____	☐	☐	☐	☐

Attach: Proof of Liability Insurance □ Part 107 Certification □ Signed guidelines agreement □

THOMPSON SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETIC TRAINING/CONDUCT RULES

The purpose of Training/Conduct Rules is four-fold:

1. To provide for clarity, consistency and fairness in the application of participation, health and conduct rules for athletes.

2. To ensure regular participation in practices, training sessions and competition, so that an organized program of learning and physical conditioning may be followed.

3. To promote health practices which are beneficial to the individual, and which allow the athlete to operate at maximum physical potential.

4. To promote conduct that will reflect credit upon the school, enhance team and individual morale, and provide practice in behavior patterns which encourage the development of desirable character traits.

Training/Conduct Rules are for the benefit of the individual and the team. Students who make a decision to participate in athletics must also decide to make a personal commitment to abide by the rules and procedures governing athletic competition, including training rules. The most effective result of such rules comes about due to self-imposition of the rules by athletes, because they realize that achievement is the result of personal effort, desire, and the willingness to give up some short-term pleasures for long-term results.

Failure to follow district athletic policies shall constitute grounds for suspension from practices, suspension from participation in interscholastic competition or other appropriate penalties when such conduct occurs on school grounds or during any school sponsored event, or at any time on or off school grounds. The training rules will be in effect year-round. Once signed, students entering Thompson School District as 6th or 9th graders, enter with a clean slate at that level with regards to eligibility and these training rules. Once this document is signed, it is effective until the athlete's graduation. A transfer student who would be ineligible in any other school may not become eligible for competition at any level by transferring. The period of ineligibility is determined by the school at which the ineligibility occurred.

<u>The training rules are in effect both in-season and out-of-season.</u>
Suspensions are cumulative for the school year, yet imposition of the penalty may, if need be, continue into the next school year. When suspension occurs, the student-athlete will be notified by the Building AD. The Building AD will also notify the family in writing (email). A student and/or his parent/guardian may appeal by writing to the principal within five school days of decision.

Family to Building AD → Building Principal → TSD Director of Activities & Athletics → Executive Director of Secondary Education

II. EXPECTATIONS:

As identified in this handout, coaches, parents, and athletes have expectations which pertain to participation in a sport. Concerns with these expectations should be addressed utilizing the communication process identified and proper solutions sought to remedy the situation.

TRAINING RULES DISCIPLINE GRID

LEVEL I REQUIREMENTS:	
Fees paid by start of first official practice Current physical: Last 365 days Signed consent forms Insurance information Athlete must be registered in Arbiter Must be eligible by CHSAA, school and team standards	Ineligible to practice or compete until completed

MUST MAINTAIN ELIGIBILITY DURING THE SEASON THROUGH PERIODIC ELIGIBILITY CHECKS.

LEVEL II VIOLATIONS: TRAINING AND CONDUCT RULES	
Enforced by coach	**Consequences are at the coach/Athletic Director discretion**
Violation	**All Violations Per School Year**
Violation of transportation rules	Suspended from next competition, demotion, or team imposed penalty at coach/Athletic Director discretion*
Profanity	Suspended from next competition, demotion, or team imposed penalty at coach/Athletic Director discretion*
Code of conduct/team specific rule violation (including school referrals, suspensions, and social media violations)	Suspended from next competition, demotion, or team imposed penalty at coach/Athletic Director discretion*
Habitual truancy or violation of school rule (including academic dishonesty)	Suspended from next competition, demotion, or team imposed penalty at coach/Athletic Director discretion*
Breaking of minor Colorado Law	Suspended from next competition, demotion, or team imposed penalty at coach/Athletic Director discretion*
Bad sportsmanship	Suspended from next competition, demotion, or team imposed penalty at coach/Athletic Director discretion*
Violation of health practices adopted by team	Suspended from next competition, demotion, or team imposed penalty at coach/Athletic Director discretion*

Enforced by Coach/Athletic Administration	
The student hasn't properly checked out of the previous sport. The student hasn't returned all equipment, uniforms or has damaged or lost gear.	The student will not be able to compete in the next season until all equipment/uniforms are turned in. Fines must be paid prior to competition.
Students enrolled in the district must be in attendance at school for the entire school day in order to participate in any school-sponsored activity that is conducted on that day.	In cases of emergency or extenuating circumstances, the principal or designee may grant an exception to this limitation.

*INFRACTIONS CAN RESULT IN ADDITIONAL AND MORE SEVERE ACTIONS

LEVEL III VIOLATIONS: HEALTH AND CONDUCT

Violation	1st per level (6-8 or 9-12)	2nd per level (6-8 or 9-12)	3rd per level (6-8 or 9-12)	4th per level (6-8 or 9-12)
Possession or use of: Alcohol Drugs Tobacco or Nicotine products Any form of Inhaled Vapors	20% suspension from scheduled contests OR 10% plus Counseling	50% suspension from scheduled contests	Suspension from athletics for one calendar year from the date of the offense	Suspension is permanent
Vandalism Theft Assault Hazing Harassment Possession of Weapons Gang Activity	20% suspension from scheduled contests OR 10% plus Counseling	50% suspension from scheduled contests	Suspension from athletics for one calendar year from the date of the offense	Suspension is permanent

Level III violations will be enforced by building administration and coach

Suspensions will occur in all sports played within the next 12 months following the violation. This includes violations that take place on weekends, summers, vacations, & holidays. This includes if the student is on or off district property.

If a student self-reports a violation to a school administrator prior to being called into the office for questioning about an alleged incident, the following penalties will apply to a FIRST OFFENSE only: The 20% penalty will be reduced

to a 10% penalty for games missed and a counseling session maybe scheduled. If counseling session is scheduled the athlete must confirm with the building athletic director. This counseling should be held promptly, but the athlete may return to play prior to completion of the counseling. If counseling is not completed, the athlete may not letter in the sport and will not be eligible for another sport until the terms of the punishment have been met. The athlete may still choose the 20% penalty in lieu of the counseling session.

Community service and/or counseling pertaining to the offense will be mandatory on any second offense. The athlete may be assigned up to 15 hours of community service by the building athletic director.

Reinstatement to the team following a suspension is not automatic. Athletes must request a review of their cases by the building athletic director and coach if they wish to be reinstated. Suspensions may be continued indefinitely if willingness to conform to athletic rules is not indicated, or if the individual's attitude could present a detriment to the team or athletic program. Suspensions are to be served in consecutive contests figured as a percentage of the regular season schedule. Suspensions should be served as soon as the student is considered otherwise eligible for competition. While suspended with a Level III 1st or 2nd violation suspension the student is still expected to participate in practices and attend games. A Level III, 3rd or 4th violation the student will not be allowed to participate in practices or attend games.

Scrimmage & Foundation games: CHSAA Bylaw 2320.15: All participants in interscholastic scrimmages must be eligible in accordance with "General Eligibility" of the Administrative and General Bylaws, and must be eligible in all other ways.
If a student is serving a training rules violation, they will not be eligible to participate in a scrimmage/foundation game.

Keep a copy of the training/conduct rules for your reference.

This document is supported by TSD Board Policy: JJIB

Updated: 7/2026

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY PARTICIPATION IS A PRIVILEGE

Participation in interscholastic activities as a part of a school's educational program is a privilege and not a right. Students wishing to participate are required to meet standards of personal behavior and academic performance which are related to school purposes. In this regard, the CHSAA and its member schools may exercise the fullest discretion permitted under law.

GENERAL HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

As well as the information below, grades will be monitored on a weekly basis throughout the season. If a student is enrolled in online or college courses (concurrent enrollment), those will also factor into eligibility.

A student enrolled in a high school shall be eligible to represent that school in CHSAA- sanctioned interscholastic activities if the student meets the following specific requirements:

(a) The student is a bona fide undergraduate member of the high school in which he/she is enrolled.

EXCEPTION 1: Home based and other students who meet statutory requirements shall be eligible. Statutory requirements state that a student in a home-based education program must be registered with the school district of participation a minimum of 14 days prior to being considered a homeschooled student. Students who do not meet statutory requirements shall be considered ineligible for interscholastic competition, but may practice (provided he/she is registered with the school district).

EXCEPTION 2: A student who registers at the beginning of the school year in a non- public home-based educational program may participate in the activities program at a public or private school. In the case of a private school, the student must be accepted for inclusion in the school program by the school and meet any criteria set by that private school.

(b) In the judgment of the principal of the student's school he/she is representative of the school's ideals in matters of citizenship, conduct and sportsmanship.

(c) PLAN A -- During the period of participation, the student must be enrolled in courses which offer, in aggregate, a minimum of 2.5 Academic units of credit as defined by the school's accrediting agency (or school district) per semester

and must not be failing more than the equivalent of one-half Academic unit of credit.

EXCEPTION - Students who are seniors in their second semester, and are enrolled full time – in at least 4 – 3 college credit approved academic courses, and who do not need additional courses to graduate will be considered full time students and will not need to enroll in additional elective credits to be eligible for participation during that semester.

OR PLAN B -- During the period of participation, the student must be enrolled in courses which offer, in aggregate, a minimum of 2.5 Academic units of credit per semester and must pass a minimum of the equivalent of
2.5 Academic units of credit.

OR

PLAN C -- ALTERNATIVE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS – A school with an alternative academic program may request the formation of an alternative academic eligibility standard approved prior to implementation. The eligibility standard for alternative academic programs must be approved by the Commissioner.

NOTE: Factors which may cause the need for approval of said eligibility standard would include, but not be limited to, instructional systems where time of credit completion is variable, systems where no credit is awarded, etc. Concepts to be included in the alternative eligibility programs include the notion that participation is a privilege, students earn the right to participate by meeting acceptable academic expectations, that students must show acceptable academic progress during the immediate past and at the time of participation.

(Schools must notify the Commissioner, in writing, by September 15 of each year if they wish to change their previously declared option.)

Academic eligibility shall be determined by a periodic check of the student's grade in progress from the beginning of the grading period for each class, as determined by the policy of the student's school, to the close of the certification day for the interscholastic activity in question. In all cases, the periods of eligibility and ineligibility must be equal and at no time may the two groups become eligible on the same day. The school must declare when periodic eligibility will be checked (weekly, bi-monthly, monthly or at the quarter).

Academic Q & A

Q1: A student at a school which checks eligibility every two weeks is declared ineligible at the two-week check. If the student meets the academic standard after a week of ineligibility, may he regain eligibility?

A1: No. Because the school checks eligibility only every two weeks, the period of ineligibility must be two weeks.

(d) He/She must also have been eligible in accordance with paragraph "c" above at the close of his/her last prior semester of attendance.

1. During the preceding (18-week grading period) semester of attendance, the student must comply with the following:

In Plan A, the student must not have failed more than the equivalent of one half Academic units of credit as defined by the school, accrediting agency or school district.

In Plan B, the student must have passed a minimum of 2.5 Academic units of credit during the previous semester.

For purposes of eligibility, a semester is considered to begin on the first pupil contact day as defined by the Department of Education, following the completion of the preceding semester. Further, a student will be considered as in attendance if he/she has been enrolled for 15 days or has competed interscholastically at any time during that semester.

TSD Policy on Credit Recovery Classes and CHSAA Athletics:
Because TSD Credit Recovery classes count toward full time student status (Per-pupil funding) and students are scheduled into these classes, these classes will count toward a student's academic units of credits carried. Because credit recovery classes are used in figuring a student's total number of academic units of credits carried, periodic grade checks must be done consistent with a school's normal periodic grade check. Periodic grade checks can be reported as Pass or Fail based on student attendance or progress in the course.

Middle School Eligibility

TSD Academic Eligibility: Students can not have an academic eligibility score under the work habits umbrella lower than a 2.0 in any 2 classes in the same week. Students are responsible to check their grades & communicate with their teachers. Athletic directors will give an eligibility list to the head coach at the start of each week. If students do not meet these guidelines they are not eligible to compete in competition that week. Students will have a warning week of academic eligibility the first week of competition or scrimmages. Schools and teams/coaches may have a stricter standard.

Article VI – Eligibility of Participants

To represent a school in any interscholastic competition a pupil must be eligible under the following rules:

A. Enrollment

1. The students must be regularly enrolled in the school they will represent. They shall be eligible immediately upon enrollment.

2. Students who transfer due to a bona-fide family move will immediately be eligible once enrolled in the school in whose attendance area they now live.

A student who transfers schools within the League mid-season and wishes to continue participating in the current season must fill out an NCAC Hardship Transfer Form (Appendix, pg. 29) and deliver it to the Athletic Director of the receiving school for review by the League.

B. Medical (Sports Only)

Students must comply with medical recommendations as stated in the guidelines of each district.

C. Participation

1. It is the intent of this policy to protect the rights and physical wellbeing of the participants.

2. Any student whose 15th birthday falls prior to August 1, of the current academic year shall be ineligible for competition.

3. A student is only eligible for middle school athletics for three (3) school years. After the third year of participation, a student has used up their eligibility.

Exceptions: Exceptions to the above requirements may be made in cases involving hardships. In such cases, evidence must be presented in writing

and voted on at a league meeting where each school is represented. Hardship defined - CHSAA 1730.11 -- A hardship is an unforeseeable, unavoidable AND uncorrectable act, condition or event which causes the imposition of severe and non-athletic burden upon the student or his/her family.

4. Social and Academic Eligibility

a. Each school shall have a written policy regarding eligibility based on citizenship and academic performance.

5. Mental or Physical Well-Being

The coach or sponsor will be responsible for determining the mental or physical well-being of students participating during contests.

6. Practices

a. Student Practice Requirement - Each student competing in an interscholastic sports program must have had a minimum practice period in that sport of FIVE days (exclusive of Sundays) before representing his/her school in an interscholastic contest or scrimmage. (Receiving school must have written verification on file if transfer of schools is involved.)

7. Eligibility Lists

a. Member schools need not provide eligibility lists to the league.
b. Member schools pull eligibility weekly.
c. Each season is given a warning week of eligibility.

8. Disqualification from Contest

Any player/coach/spectator who has been disqualified from a game, contest, or tournament for committing any unsportsmanlike act shall be disqualified for the remainder of that game, contest, or tournament.

In addition, the player, coach or spectator shall be ineligible for the next game or tournament of the same level.

a. He/she may not take part in any other games or tournaments at any level during this time.
b. If the school draws a bye, the student will miss the next scheduled game or tournament.

c. This information shall be communicated from the host AD to the next hosting AD.

9. Competition in same sport outside the school program during the season is discouraged by the league, but not prohibited.

10. All athletes will compete in only their respective grade level. This applies only to volleyball and basketball seasons. (Exceptions must be approved by league AD's)

11. Private school students who do not have a sport available to them at that school and home-schooled students may participate in that sport at the league school in their residence area as determined by district.

Athletic Team Cell Phone Policy

TSD believes personal technology devices may be useful tools for students in the educational environment and can play a vital communication role during emergency situations. However, use of personal technology devices in school situations must be regulated to ensure that the use of such devices does not disrupt or interfere with the educational process or athletic operations. Therefore, students may only use PTDs on district property, on a district vehicle or at a district or school-sponsored activity or event in accordance with this policy.

For purposes of this policy, "personal technology device" (PTD) includes any privately-owned portable technology device, including but not limited to cell phones, pagers, tablets, laptops, cameras, audio and/or video recorders and players, and all other hand-held electronic communication and data storage devices.

Students may use PTDs as a designated tool for learning if authorized by the student's coach or advisor. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the PTD is turned off or placed in silent mode during unauthorized times.

Student use of PTDs with cameras and/or video recording capabilities is prohibited in locker rooms, bathrooms, or any other location where such use could violate another person's reasonable expectation of privacy.

Students shall not use PTDs to engage in, promote, or facilitate any other conduct that violates the student code of conduct, team/athletic handbook, other Board policies or regulations, or state or federal law.

Violation of this policy may result in disciplinary measures and/or temporary confiscation of the PTD. Confiscated devices shall be returned to the student only after a conference with the parent/guardian, student and school/coaching personnel. If the building principal or designee believes a student's possession or use of a PTD may involve a violation of the law, the building principal or designee may also refer the matter to law enforcement.

The district shall not be responsible for loss, theft or destruction of PTDs brought onto school or district property or while the student is attending district or school-sponsored activities or events.

Reminders

- Phones should never be used in private locker spaces.
- Filming practice for coaching or analysis must be pre-approved and not capture private team areas.
- If in doubt—ask a coach before recording or sharing any content.

District technology policies (Board Policy JS / Student Responsible Use Policy) TSD Policy JS

Guidance on Student Organizations & Board Policy JJA

This guidance document is designed to equip administrators and sponsors with a clear framework and consistent procedures for supporting and overseeing student organizations. Organizations need to operate safely, equitably, and in full compliance with district policies and educational standards.

Read & Review TSD Board Policy JJA with Sponsor Highlights to touch on:

- Students must request permission for a meeting of a student-sponsored group: New Club Application
- Requests to conduct a student club must originate from a student or group of students.
- Employees, parents and any other persons who are not students enrolled in the school shall be prohibited from directing, controlling, conducting or regularly attending the meetings of such organizations.
- An employee shall serve as a monitor for purposes of general supervision. This is voluntary, and the staff member should not be compensated.
- All student organizations shall have the right to meet on school premises during non-instructional time. This includes before school, during lunch, and after school.
- No fundraising or donations for student sponsored clubs

Student Advertising, Posters, Branding, and Communication: Student-sponsored organizations are encouraged to publicize their meetings and positive events using student-made posters, announcements, and flyers.

- Nothing in this policy shall be used to imply that the district or school is sponsoring a curriculum or noncurriculum related student-sponsored organization. Student clubs should be marketed/advertised as such.
- If student organizations are allowed at events such as club rush or 8th grade nights, these groups must be clearly differentiated between a district/school sponsored group and a student sponsored group
- No use of school logos or school mascots
- Mandatory Pre-Approval: All promotional materials (posters, social media posts, intercom announcements) must be approved by a building administrator *before* being posted or distributed. This ensures all communication is appropriate, inclusive, and aligns with school values.
- Posting Locations: Must be building administrator approved and all student organizations should be given the same access as other student clubs/groups.

Middle School Organizations: For middle school students, active parental consent is a key component of safety and liability management.

- Mandatory for Participation: Due to their age, all middle school students participating in *any* extra-curricular organization must have a signed parent/guardian permission slip on file *before* their first official activity.
- General vs. Specific Slips:
    - General Slip: A single, annual permission slip is sufficient to cover participation in routine, on-campus, regularly scheduled meetings (e.g., "Chess club, Tuesdays 3-4 pm in Room 102").
    - Specific Slip: A separate, detailed permission slip must be used for any special events, including off-campus travel, activities with unique risks, or events held outside regular hours or locations.
- What to Include: All permission slips must clearly state:
    - The name and purpose of the organization/event.
    - The name of the Staff Monitor
    - The schedule (dates, times) and location(s) of activities.
    - A brief description of what students will be doing.
    - A clear parent/guardian signature line and emergency contact information.
- Secure Record Keeping: The staff monitor must maintain a secure binder or digital file of all collected permission slips and have access to it during all club activities.

Greetings from the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA)

Our mission is to govern participation and competition in an equitable, safe, and sportsmanlike manner so that the experience of the student-athlete, school community, and all relative support systems are education-centered and truly an extension of the classroom.

CHSAA is a voluntary member organization made up of 373 public and private schools that serve over 225,000 students who participate in more than 33 sanctioned athletic and activity programs. Our Association is governed by a Constitution and Bylaws—guiding documents that are continually evaluated, edited, and voted upon by a Board of Directors and a Legislative Council, both of which are made up of elected or appointed representatives from our member schools, local school boards, the Colorado State Legislature, and various other educational and business entities from across the state. The Commissioner and all CHSAA administrators are accountable to the Board of Directors and the membership and are ultimately responsible for applying and upholding the membership's bylaws and constitutional procedures.

The Purpose and Value of Educationally Based Athletics and Activities

High school athletics and activities are much more than games, performances, or competitions—they are extensions of the classroom that teach lessons no textbook can fully capture. Participation in these programs helps students build resilience, manage adversity, lead and serve others, and learn the importance of respect, teamwork, and accountability.

When we describe CHSAA programs as **educationally based** , we mean that every experience—whether on the field, stage, court, or classroom—is intentionally designed to support a student's growth as both a learner and a person. Winning and competition are highly valued parts of the experience, but they are not the ultimate purpose of participation. Rather, our purpose is to help students develop the habits and character traits that prepare them for success in school, career, and life.

Research consistently shows that students involved in educationally based activities have higher grade point averages, attend school more regularly, feel more connected to their peers and community, engage in fewer risky behaviors, and report stronger overall well-being. These programs create belonging, build confidence, and connect students to caring adults who help guide their journey through adolescence.

Important Information About High School Participation

The CHSAA administrative team would like to provide some insights and information that can assist you as your student enters the exciting world of high school activities and athletics. Participation in co-curricular programs is one of the best ways your student can get involved, be connected, and develop critical life skills that will serve them well into adulthood.

Colorado is a “choice” state when it comes to enrolling in high school. What does that mean for athletics? An 8th grader can pursue enrollment in any high school with no athletic penalties upon first entry. Please note that some school districts have specific enrollment policies that may restrict your son’s/daughter’s attendance in those districts. Contact the school district’s registrar’s office or athletic/activity director for more detailed information.

Your student’s initial choice of high school is an important one and will be based on multiple factors, the most important of which should be academic programming. Please note that once your son/daughter practices, tries out, scrimmages, and/or competes at your high school of choice, they have then established their **eligibility** at that high school. Should your student decide to transfer to a different high school, CHSAA bylaws could restrict participation at the varsity level based on the circumstances of the transfer.

Staying Connected

We encourage you to contact your future high school’s athletic or activity director, who can provide specific and detailed information regarding participation requirements and procedures.

On behalf of our 373-member school association, Board of Directors, and the entire CHSAA staff, we look forward to supporting your child’s experience with participation in CHSAA athletics and activities.

Sincerely,



Michael Krueger, Ed.S., CMAA
Commissioner, Colorado High School Activities Association

High School Athletics School of Choice Placement Chart

Under State Statute: The district shall assign a multi-sport/activity student to a school where he/she can compete in all his/her activities, rather than playing for more than one school during a year.

Qualifier	School of Choice	School of Eligibility
Resident attending a charter/private school in TSD boundaries	Yes - only 9th grade	Home attendance area school if 10th grade or higher. If the program isn't offered, it can become a school of choice.
Non-resident attending charter/private/online school in TSD boundaries	Yes	If the charter/private school doesn't offer the program, must attend the school that offers the most activities the student wishes to participate.
Resident attending a charter/private/online school outside of TSD boundaries	Yes - only 9th grade	Home attendance area school if 10th grade or higher. If program isn't offered, can become a school of choice.
Non-resident attending charter/private school outside of TSD boundaries	No	Must attend school where they are a resident or school of the district they are attending per state statute.
Resident attending Ferguson High School or Thompson Online School	Yes - only 9th grade	Home attendance area school if 10th grade or higher. If program isn't offered, can become a school of choice.
Non-resident attending Ferguson High School or Thompson Online School	Yes	If FHS or TOL doesn't offer the program, must participate at the school that offers the most activities the student wishes to participate.
Home Based Education	Yes	Must participate at the school that offers the most activities the student wishes to participate. Must be registered with TSD 14 days prior to competition.

Once a school of participation has been determined, any change in that school of participation shall follow CHSAA transfer rules.

This document is on file with the CHSAA office as the Thompson School Districts policy for placing students competing under state law. CHSAA Bylaw 5150.

All appeals will be made to the Director of Activities & Athletics. Updated 8/2025