

## **Interscholastic Sports**

The interscholastic athletic program of this district shall be considered as an extracurricular part of the total school program. It is neither required nor part of the basic instructional program.

The purposes of athletic programs in the secondary schools shall be:

1. To provide a wide basis of participation in both team and individual sports in interscholastic competition.
2. To develop a strong program of competitive sports:
  - a. By encouraging and developing talented athletes in all sports and providing sufficient opportunity, especially at the junior high/middle school level, for students to develop individual ability.
  - b. By encouraging the development of team spirit among all members of the team and their coaches.
  - c. By developing good attitudes or pride, sportsmanship and ethical behavior in students, participants and spectators.
  - d. By developing and maintaining a good relationship between athletic teams and the student body, faculty, administration and community.
  - e. By teaching fundamentals and techniques of each sport in a progressive sequence as appropriate for students at higher grade levels.
  - f. By providing student athletes with an awareness of potential opportunities as afforded them through competitive athletics.

In keeping with the above goals, the district shall seek to fund girls' sports on an equal opportunity basis with boys' sports and shall permit and encourage coeducational teams when the particular sport is determined suitable as a coeducational activity.

The district shall encourage students, faculty and the community to recognize the value of athletics in relation to the total school program.

### **Athletic associations and leagues**

Membership of a district school in an interscholastic athletic association or league shall be subject to the superintendent's approval. The superintendent shall review

the constitution and bylaws of such organization and its regulations for member teams before granting approval.

Customarily the principals of member schools or their designees are voting members of athletic organizations. It should be understood that such administrators serve as representatives of the district. Therefore, before voting on a change of bylaws or regulations that will in any way affect the schools or athletic teams of this district, this district's representatives to athletic organizations shall advise the superintendent of the proposed change and seek and follow his or her directions for voting.

### **Addition of a sport**

It shall be the responsibility of the high school and junior high school principals to assess the interscholastic offerings on a periodic basis. Before a new sport or activity is added, the following steps shall be followed:

1. Student interest shall be formally surveyed.
2. A summary of the sports/activities shall be ranked from high to low, indicating the number interested in participating.
3. The principal shall make a recommendation to the superintendent based on the following criteria:
  - a. interest
  - b. conflict with existing sports or programs
  - c. availability of facilities and conflicts with existing program
  - d. availability of qualified coaches
  - e. potential impact to the budget.

Adopted by the Board: 1998

Revised by the Board: December, 2005

