

EAST
STROUDSBURG
AREA
SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS
TITLE: INTERSCHOLASTIC
ATHLETICS
ADOPTED: August 19, 2002
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December 19, 2005
July 17, 2006
November 20, 2006
June 25, 2007
August 19, 2013
1st READ: July, 2014

| 123. INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS | |
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| 1. Purpose | The Board recognizes the value of a program of interscholastic athletics as an integral part of the total school experience for all school district students and as a conduit for community involvement. |
| 2. Definition | For purposes of this policy, the program of interscholastic athletics shall include all activities relating to competitive or exhibition sport contests, games or events involving individual students or teams of students when such events occur between schools within this school district or outside this school district. |
| 3. Authority SC 1601-C et seq. Title 22 Sec. 4.27 34 CFR 106.41 Pol. 103 SC 511 Pol. 204, 209 | <p>It shall be the policy of the Board to offer opportunities for participation in interscholastic athletic programs to male and female students on as equal a basis as is practicable and without discrimination, in accordance with law and regulations.</p> <p>The Board shall approve a program of interscholastic athletics and require that all facilities utilized in that program, whether or not the property of this Board, properly safeguard both players and spectators and are kept free from hazardous conditions.</p> <p>The Board shall determine the standards of eligibility to be met by all students participating in an interscholastic program. Such standards shall require that each student, before participating in any interscholastic activity, be covered by student accident insurance; be in good physical condition; and be free of injury, as determined by the school district physician.</p> <p>The Board further adopts those eligibility standards set by the Constitution of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association.</p> |

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| <p>SC 511</p> | <p>The Board directs that no student may participate in the program of interscholastic athletics if s/he has not maintained a record of academic proficiency that satisfies guidelines set forth by the P.I.A.A. and is sufficient to insure that participation in interscholastic athletic activities will not interfere with his/her instructional program.</p> <p>The Board shall adopt an Athletic Handbook to govern student participation in Interscholastic Athletics. Each student must adhere to Board Policies and the Athletic Handbook governing student eligibility participation and discipline.</p> |
| <p>Pol. 137</p> <p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 12.1, 12.4</p> | <p>A charter or cyber charter school student may participate in the school district’s interscholastic athletic programs as long as the student is a resident of the school district, the charter or cyber charter school does not provide the same interscholastic athletic program, and the student fulfills all requirements for participation in the program required for school district students. The opportunity for such participation may be rescinded for good cause by the Superintendent or designee.</p> <p>A home education student may participate in the school district’s interscholastic athletics program as long as the student is a resident of the school district and the student fulfills all requirements for participation in the activity required for school district students. The privilege of participation in interscholastic athletics may be rescinded for good cause by the Superintendent or designee.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall annually prepare, approve and present to the Board for its consideration a program of interscholastic athletics, which shall include a complete schedule of events.</p> <p>She/He shall inform the Board of changes in that schedule as they occur.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall prepare rules for the conduct of students participating in interscholastic athletics. Such rules shall be in conformity with regulations of the State Board of Education, the P.I.A.A. and the school district.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall ensure that similar athletic programs are offered to both sexes in proportion to the school district’s enrollment.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall ensure that interscholastic athletics are open to all eligible students and that all students are fully informed of the opportunities available to them.</p> |
| | <p><u>Staff</u></p> |

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| <p>5. Guidelines</p> | <p>All teaching staff, support staff, and members of the community who meet the requirements of the job description and legal requirements shall be eligible to serve as an activity sponsor or athletic coach. The selection process shall be governed by the appropriate collective bargaining agreement with teaching staff receiving first consideration.</p> <p>Athletic coaches must be knowledgeable regarding training and conditioning and sports skills as evidenced by appropriate course work either completed or being taken, past experiences or responses to questions during interviews for a coaching position.</p> <p>Because of the extent of responsibilities in many areas of school operations, school district administrators shall be eligible to serve as volunteers to assist coaches, directors or advisors for any scholastic or intramural program or activities program; but, only after completion of their normal daily administrative duties.</p> <p>All appointments to extra-responsibility positions are for a one-year period only.</p> |
| | <p>Additionally, all student-athletes are expected to abide by the rules of conduct stated in the Code of Student Conduct <u>and the Athletic Handbook</u>.</p> <p>STUDENT ATHLETES WHO RECEIVE ANY TYPE OF SUSPENSION (IN-SCHOOL OR OUT OF SCHOOL) WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ATTENDING AND/OR PARTICIPATING IN AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES FOR THE DURATION OF THE SUSPENSION. HOWEVER, STUDENTS RECEIVING IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS) WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND ANY SCHEDULED AFTER SCHOOL DETENTION. NO STUDENT, DURING THE TIME OF OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION (OSS), MAY ATTEND OR PARTICIPATE IN ANY SCHOOL ACTIVITY.</p> <p>Any student whose period of suspension spans a weekend may not participate in weekend athletic contests, events or practices.</p> |
| <p>Pol. 218</p> | <p><u>Off-Campus Activities</u></p> <p>This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would violate the applicable student Code of Conduct if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student’s attendance at school or school-sponsored activities. 2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities. 3. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the |

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| | <p>operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, such as an agreement to complete a transaction outside of school that would violate the student Code of Conduct. 5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property. |
| | <p><u>Rules At Athletic Events</u></p> <p>As members of the Mountain Valley Conference <u>Eastern Pennsylvania Conference</u>, the schools of the school district are firmly committed to the belief that athletic competition is a vital part of our educational program. The Mountain Valley Conference <u>Eastern Pennsylvania Conference</u> expects its member schools to exhibit only the highest standards of sportsmanship. To this end, all member schools have agreed that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No alcoholic beverages or use thereof are permitted at any athletic contests. 2. Players, coaches, and fans are asked to refrain from the use of foul, abusive and/or abrasive language. 3. The throwing of objects onto the playing area is strictly prohibited. 4. Home and visiting spectators are asked to remain in designated areas. |
| | <p>In addition, the school district has specific guidelines for conduct at all sporting events as follows</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Profanity of any type directed at anyone will be cause for immediate removal from the playing area. This includes group cheers that are of a less-than-desirable nature. 2. Insults directed at either opponents or officials will also lead to expulsion from the playing area. 3. All fans are to keep off the gym floor during intermission. 4. No one will be allowed to leave the gym and return during a varsity contest. This will be allowed only before the game starts and during halftime. 5. Any kind of liquid refreshment must be consumed outside of the gym. 6. Anyone intoxicated or exhibiting behavior unbecoming a sport fan will be ejected from the playing area. |

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| | <p>7. It is expected that all fans will extend every possible courtesy to our opponent, for example, remaining silent while an opponent’s basketball player is attempting a foul shot.</p> <p>8. According to P.I.A.A. guidelines, noisemakers and signs are not allowed in a gym during any athletic contest.</p> <p>9. At any time that it becomes necessary due to lack of compliance with these rules by a large number of fans, the playing area will be cleared of spectators (without refund of admission price), and the contest will be concluded in closed session.</p> <p>10. Anyone who is ejected from the gym/playing area due to lack of compliance with any of these rules will not be granted a refund.</p> |
| | <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 511, 1601-C et seq.</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.27, 12.1, 12.4</p> <p>Discrimination in Athletics, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations – 34 CFR Sec. 106.41</p> <p>Board Policy 103, 137, 204, 209, 218</p> |