

5280 INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

The Board of Education recognizes the value of an interscholastic program as an integral part of the total school experience to the students of the district in grades 7 through 12. Through a program of interscholastic athletics, the Board offers students the opportunity to exercise and test their athletic abilities in a context greater and more varied than that which can be offered by the school or school district alone, and an opportunity for career and educational development as well.

For purposes of this policy, the program of interscholastic athletics shall include all activities relating to competitive sport contests, games or events or sport exhibitions, involving individual students or teams of students of this district when such events occurs between separate schools within this district or with any schools outside this district.

The Board shall approve annually the program of interscholastic athletics and shall 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.

Eligibility

Student eligibility for participation on interscholastic teams shall include:

1. authorization by the school physician;
2. written consent of parent or guardian;
3. endorsement by the school Principal based upon the established rules and various league and State Education Department regulations; and
4. a requirement of student athletes to carry a minimum of four subjects including physical education and to maintain a satisfactory grade in performance, effort and conduct.

In the event that a student receives from the school physician a recommendation not to participate in athletics, notification shall be sent to the parent. If the parent then wishes to do so, he/she may have the student examined by a family physician. If the family physician certifies affirmatively to the physical fitness of the student to participate in athletics, the youngster may be permitted to play but the variance of opinion should be noted on the consent slip signed by the parent. The district reserves the right to refuse admission to an interscholastic athletic program to any student on the basis of a physical examination.

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Travel to Away Games

Student athletes will be transported to away contests only by school authorized vehicles. The district provides for the use of district transportation for inter-district practices, scrimmages and games. Parents shall be provided with a schedule of all away games and shall be informed of the

transportation arrangements for games. Parent permission to participate in interscholastic travel will be in the form of an Interscholastic Athletics Seasonal Transportation form, which must be returned to the coach. At no time should students be driving themselves to or from practices or contests in their personal vehicles. A student-athlete may ride home from an interscholastic athletic event with his/her parent/guardian with the approval of the Athletic Director, provided that the parent/guardian signed a transportation release form provided by the coach. Permission for a student-athlete to leave with any other individual will not be given. In special cases, parents/guardians may request to provide transportation to a contest for their child only. In such cases, the request must be made in writing in advance to the Athletic Director.

Overnight Athletic Trips

Overnight Athletic Trips include local or out-of-state trips which require that students obtain overnight accommodations. All overnight trips will require the approval of the Board of Education. Requests for overnight interscholastic trip approval must be presented on the regular Trip Approval form. All information must be completed and procedures followed.

If the need for overnight travel is contingent upon the outcome of athletic contests and the time span for trip approval too short to obtain Board of Education approval, the Superintendent may authorize the trip in the interim, providing that the trip approval is ratified by the Board at a subsequent meeting.

In accordance with existing Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, the Board shall permit students in grades 10-12 to receive credit towards high school graduation equivalent to physical education for participation in interscholastic athletics. Such credit will, in addition to other requirements, be contingent upon proven cardiovascular and physical fitness and competency in lifetime or carryover sports. Standards for such fitness and competency shall be developed by the administration.

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The Superintendent shall prepare regulations for implementing the Interscholastic Athletics policy.

Ref:

8 NYCRR §135.4

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New Adoption Date: March 25, 2009