

Book Policy Manual

Section 100 Programs

Title Interscholastic Athletics

Code 123

Status Active

Legal 1. 22 PA Code 4.27  
2. 24 P.S. 1601-C et seq  
3. 34 CFR 106.41  
4. Pol. 103  
5. Pol. 103.1  
6. 24 P.S. 511  
7. Pol. 204  
8. Pol. 218  
9. 24 P.S. 5323  
10. 24 P.S. 1425  
11. Pol. 123.1  
12. Pol. 123.2  
13. 22 PA Code 12.1  
14. 22 PA Code 12.4  
15. 24 P.S. 1603-C  
24 P.S. 5321 et seq

Adopted February 22, 2021

### **Purpose**

The Board recognizes the value of a program of interscholastic athletics as an integral part of the total school experience for all district students and as a conduit for community involvement.

### **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 district or outside this district.

## **Authority**

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. [\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)[\[4\]](#)[\[5\]](#)

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. [\[6\]](#)

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 free of injury; and undergo a physical examination by a licensed physician. [\[6\]](#)

The Board further adopts those eligibility standards set by the Constitution of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association.

The Board directs that no student may participate in interscholastic athletics who has not: [\[6\]](#)

1. Met the requirements for academic eligibility.
2. Attended school regularly. [\[7\]](#)
3. Been in attendance on the day of the athletic event or practice for the hours required.
4. Returned all school athletic equipment previously used.

## **Off-Campus Activities**

This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would otherwise violate the Code of Student Conduct if any of the following circumstances exist: [\[8\]](#)

1. The conduct occurs during the time the student is traveling to and from school or traveling to and from school-sponsored activities, whether or not via school district furnished transportation.

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. The student materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school or the student's conduct constitutes a direct threat, unless the conduct or expression is otherwise protected by law.
4. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, for example, a transaction conducted outside of school pursuant to an agreement made in school, that would violate the Code of Student Conduct if conducted in school.
5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.
6. There is otherwise a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

Each school year, prior to participation in an interscholastic athletic activity, every student athlete and their parent/guardian shall sign and return the acknowledgement of receipt and review of the following: [\[9\]](#)[\[10\]](#)[\[11\]](#)[\[12\]](#)

1. Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury Information Sheet. (PIAA C.I.P.P.E. form section 1-6, 10)
2. Sudden Cardiac Arrest Symptoms and Warning Signs Information Sheet. (Allegheny Health Network Consent to treat and release)

The Superintendent or designee 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.

The Superintendent shall inform the Board of changes in that schedule as they occur.

The Superintendent or designee shall disseminate 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.

The Superintendent shall ensure that similar athletic programs are offered to both sexes in proportion to the district's enrollment.

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. [\[13\]](#)[\[14\]](#)

## **Guidelines**

### Male/Female Athletic Opportunities Report

By October 15 of each year, on the designated disclosure form, the Superintendent or designee shall report to the PA Department of Education the interscholastic athletic opportunities and treatment for male and female secondary school students for the preceding school year. [\[15\]](#)

By November 1 of each year, the completed disclosure form shall be made available for public inspection during regular business hours and posted on the district's website. [\[15\]](#)

The availability of the completed disclosure form shall be announced by posting a notice on school bulletin boards, in the school newspaper, on any electronic mailing list or list serve, and by any other reasonable means. [\[15\]](#)

## **Coaching**

The district shall not permit the parent(s)/guardian(s) of any high school student-athlete to serve as a high school coach, in any capacity, for a sport in which their child participates.

The following exceptions may occur:

1. The parent/guardian is an employee of the district.
2. The parent/guardian has distinguished him/herself with years of service as a high school, college, or professional coach in their respective sport prior to the coaching of their child at the high school.
3. The parent/guardian is the only qualified or most qualified applicant for the position in question and the district Athletic Director determines that the parent/guardian would be the best selection under all the circumstances.

All disputes relative to this policy shall be referred to the Athletic Director.

Replaces the following policies:

Policy 5108 - Coaching in the Extracurricular Program adopted May 27, 2003  
and revised April 26, 2011

Policy 6016 - Athletic Uniforms adopted August 11, 1986

Policy 7010 - Scheduling of School Sponsored Activities adopted February  
13, 1984