

Instruction**Interscholastic/Intramural Athletics**

Philosophy

The board of education believes students will benefit from opportunities to grow physically, intellectually and emotionally through interscholastic and intramural activities. The board will provide students interscholastic competition in a variety of sports, both traditional and non-traditional. It is also recognized that a well-organized and well-conducted athletic program has a significant effect on the morale of a student body and is an important factor in promoting positive school-community relations.

Procedure

District participation in interscholastic athletics shall be subject to approval by the board of education. This shall include approval of membership in any leagues, associations, or conferences, of rules for student participation, and of annual sports schedules.

Qualified personnel shall be provided for coaching and supervision. Appointment of athletic staff is the responsibility of the athletic director with approval by the building principal. Any additions or reductions in staffing are approved through the budget process.

Every possible effort shall be made to offer equitable opportunities for both sexes in both traditional and non-traditional sports. As interest in new programs develops, groups will be asked to follow an established approval process for the adoption of new sports. This process will consider the feasibility of the petitioned activity based on criteria which will include student interest, the impact of the new program on the school, community, and budget implications, and Title IX compliance along with other factors. The final decision regarding establishment of new sports teams and continuation of existing sports teams will be made by the Board in its sole discretion upon advice of the Superintendent and the Athletic Director.

Interscholastic Sports

Students shall be allowed to participate in these teams based on parent permission, school academic guidelines and medical approval by an appropriately licensed physician using a common medical examination form. For sports falling under CIAC jurisdiction, participation will also be established using CIAC guidelines. Qualified personnel shall be provided for coaching and supervising all sports teams. When CIAC rules permit it, the Board reserves the right to establish criteria for participation in addition to those imposed under CIAC guidelines.

Instruction

Interscholastic/Intramural Athletics (cont.)

All students participating in interscholastic sports will follow all school rules during participation in activities. Coaches may impose additional disciplinary action in addition to school penalties.

Intramural Activities

The establishment of intramural activities will be at the discretion of the building principal and will be conducted through the Wellness Department in consultation with the building principal and the athletic director.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
 10-194 Qualifications for coaches of intramural and interscholastic
 athletics
 Stralton v St. Joseph's High School, Bridgeport Superior Court
 June 4, 2986 (12 CLT 26) 9/87

Policy adopted: September 17, 1990
Policy revised: November 13, 2006
Policy reviewed: July 1, 2009