

FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Book	Policy Manual
Section	100 Programs
Title	Interscholastic Athletics
Code	123
Status	Active
Adopted	May 10, 2010
Last Revised	November 9, 2020

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.

The program shall be organized to impact learning, skills, attitudes and ideals that a sound athletics program should and can provide for the participant.

The program fosters the growth of school loyalty within the student body as a whole and stimulates community interest.

The game activities and practice sessions provide opportunities to teach the values of competition, sportsmanship, and teamwork.

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 district may join the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (P.I.A.A.) and the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (W.P.I.A.L.). The students may participate in any and all sports sanctioned by these organizations and any other sport approved by the Board.

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 district 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. Complied with the requirements of the Athletic Handbook.
3. Complied with the requirements of the Code of Conduct for Interscholastic Athletics and Board policies and administrative regulations related to student discipline.
4. Attended school regularly.[\[7\]](#)
5. 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 violate the Discipline Code if:[\[8\]](#)

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 that materially and substantially disrupts the 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.
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 Discipline Code.
5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.

Delegation of Responsibility

Each school year, prior to participation in an interscholastic athletic activity, every student athlete and his/her parent/guardian shall sign and return the acknowledgement of receipt and review of the Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury Information Sheet and the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Symptoms and Warning Signs Information Sheets.[\[9\]](#)[\[10\]](#)[\[11\]](#)[\[12\]](#)

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]

The organization and operation of the district athletic program shall be incorporated into the Student Athletic Handbook.

The Athletic Coaching Handbook shall be the guidance document for coaches of interscholastic athletics.

Athletic Insurance

The school district shall provide insurance for all who participate in varsity interscholastic athletics in grades 7-12 as well as band and cheerleading.

Sports Medicine

The Sports Medicine Program is available to the school district in accordance with the agreement between the school district and Saint Margaret Memorial Hospital Sports Medicine Center.

An emergency medical technician will be present for seventh, eighth, ninth and junior varsity home football games. Emergency medical technicians and an ambulance will be present at varsity home football games. A trainer will be available to meet athletic/training and first-aid needs of boys and girls involved in Fall sports at the high school level. The trainer will be available for all Fall home sports events.

Financial Records – Athletic Director

The Athletic Director shall maintain financial records, including a reconciliation of ticket sales with funds received for all athletic events. The financial records of the Athletic Director shall be audited by the Board-appointed auditor on an annual basis.[16]

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. 123.3
13. [22 PA Code 12.1](#)
14. [22 PA Code 12.4](#)
15. [24 P.S. 1603-C](#)
16. Pol. 619
- [24 P.S. 5321 et seq](#)