

BARNSTEAD SCHOOL DISTRICT Interscholastic Athletics

The School Board believes individual students will benefit through opportunities to grow physically and intellectually through their experience in self-discipline and their contribution to team effort made possible through competitive interschool and intramural team and individual sports activities.

It is the Board's policy to provide interscholastic athletic competition in a variety of sports. Students shall be allowed to participate in school sponsored sports on the basis of their physical condition and desire. Qualified personnel should be provided for coaching and supervising such programs. In addition, it is the policy of the Board to provide intramural athletic activities as an outgrowth of class instruction in physical education and commensurate with the grade level of the students involved.

The purpose of school athletics is both educational and recreational. The athletic program should encourage participation by as many boys and girls as possible and should be carried on with the best interests of the participants as the first consideration. This should be done without unreasonable interference with other obligations in the school community.

It is recognized that a well-organized and well-conducted athletic program is a potent factor in the morale of a school student body and an important phase of good community-school relations. Too great an emphasis on winning contests or too consistent a record of losing them are both harmful to the development of good attitudes among students and the public.

Policy Conditions

1. No student may start practice for any athletic team until he or she has been examined and approved by a medical doctor and until written consent has been obtained from the parent or guardian.
2. The athletic program is an integral part of the school curriculum and comes under the authority of the principal to the same degree as to all other phases of the curriculum.
3. Those teachers and coaches having direct responsibility for the conduct of the athletic program of the school are required to conform in all ways to the general education program as laid down by the Board and administration, including such matters as schedules, financial expenditures, relationships with other schools, and health and safety regulations, and approved standard of behavior as role models for students.
4. Expenditures for the athletic program are incorporated as part of the general budget of the Board. Coaches of each sport will submit their budgetary needs to

the athletic director for the next school year, and the latter will present the total athletic budget request to the principal for approval and inclusion in the general budget. No expenditures for athletic purposes may be made in excess of those approved in the budget without approval of the Superintendent.

5. District participation in interscholastic athletics shall be subject to approval by the Board. This shall include approval of membership in any leagues, associations, or conferences, of rules for student participation and of annual sports schedules.
6. Insurance against accident or injury shall be provided by the parents for students engaging in interscholastic athletics.

(Adopted: 08/13/85)

(Reviewed: 03/02/93)