

ALLENTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: INTERSCHOLASTIC
ATHLETICS

ADOPTED: 3/25/99

REVISED:

<p>1. Purpose SC 511</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">123. INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS</p> <p>The Board recognizes the value of a program of interscholastic athletics as an integral part of the total school experience for all students of the district and it acknowledges its value within the community. The interscholastic athletic mission of the Allentown School District is to provide a high quality, competitive interscholastic athletic program for its students. In striving to meet this mission, the district's interscholastic athletic program will provide instruction to as many students as can be accommodated under its policies. It will maintain and formulate policies which uphold the educational values of interscholastic athletics and cultivate the high ideals of sportsmanship.</p> <p>The goals of the district's interscholastic athletic program include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide instruction by outstanding coaches. 2. To promote personal responsibility, sportsmanship, and good conduct in the student-athlete. 3. To encourage high aspirations and positive self-image of the student-athlete. 4. To develop organizational skills which may be used throughout the life of the student-athlete. 5. To establish physical conditioning programs which promote self-discipline. 6. To develop the "team concept" as an important model for future life endeavors. 7. To seek ways to increase student participation in athletic programs. 8. To enhance and increase communication and interaction between the middle school and high school interscholastic athletic programs. 9. To promote school and community pride.
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<p>2. Definition</p> <p>3. Authority Title IX Title 22 Sec. 5.217</p>	<p>10. To seek to assist the student-athlete in securing the benefit of scholarship opportunities derived from exceptional athletic achievement.</p> <p>11. To achieve our goals by using financial and human resources efficiently and effectively.</p> <p>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 occur between separate schools within this district or with any schools outside this district.</p> <p>The Board shall offer opportunities for participation in athletic programs to male and female students on as equal a basis as is practicable and in accordance with federal and state regulations.</p> <p>The Board shall approve annually a program of interscholastic athletics.</p> <p>As applicable at the high school and middle school levels, Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (P.I.A.A.) bylaws, rules and regulations shall be followed. They include standards for students' academic eligibility, student attendance requirements, length of student athletic eligibility, acceptability of transfer students, length of sport seasons, physical examinations for participants, athletic courtesy, and sportsmanlike conduct. On at least an annual basis, the Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and Operations shall review the P.I.A.A. Constitution and Bylaws, and s/he shall apprise the Board of P.I.A.A. requirements which do not conform to the district's mission, vision, and goals.</p> <p>Each student desiring to participate in an interscholastic sport shall undergo a physical examination or reexamination by a school district physician or by another licensed physician prior to the commencement of practice for each sport season. Examinations shall be provided by the district to accommodate students participating in fall, winter, and spring sports. The physical examination shall include examination by a school district student must be evaluated as in good physical condition. A pupil who suffers from the severe diseases of or absence of a paired organ, including an eye, ear, kidney, testicle, or lung, shall not be permitted to participate in any contact sport which involves a risk of injury or loss of such remaining organ.</p> <p>Participants in all district approved interscholastic sports shall be covered by an accident insurance program approved by the Board. This coverage is not intended to replace the coverage provided by parents/guardians through individual or group insurance plans.</p>
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All district policies regulating student conduct, including the school's discipline code, shall be applicable during all times of interscholastic athletic activity.

Student-athletes shall care for and be responsible for all equipment and uniform components issued to them.

A home-schooled student shall not be permitted to participate in interscholastic athletics or any other extracurricular activity.

Athletic Courtesy

The principal of each school is responsible for the interscholastic athletic relations of the school. S/He may delegate some of these powers, but such delegation shall not relieve the principal of the ultimate responsibility.

Athletics should foster clean sportsmanship. It is the privilege and duty of every person connected with athletics to exemplify those principles in her/his own actions and to advocate them before others:

1. The rules of the game are to be regarded as mutual agreements. No advantages are to be sought over others except those in which the game is understood to show superiority.
2. Officials and opponents are to be regarded as honest in intention. In games when opponents conduct themselves in an unbecoming manner and officials are manifestly dishonest or incompetent, future relationships with both should be avoided.
3. Any spectator who continually evidences poor sportsmanship may be excluded from attending contests.
4. The conduct of a school's administration, faculty, coaches, team members, students and team followers must be sportsmanlike and may not result in actions which are detrimental to the individual, school, and public welfare.

The official uniformed squad of cheerleaders is designated as the group authorized to lead the team followers (fans) in sportsmanlike cheering. Such organized cheers are to be supportive of their team. Cheers which disparage the opposition team, fans, officials, or school must be eliminated. Team followers (fans), coaches, and school officials are not permitted to incite the student and adult followers to cheers nor to assist the cheerleaders in the leading of cheers.

<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p>The district further subscribes to the principles, purposes, philosophy, and intent of the rules, regulations, and bylaws promulgated by the PIAA as they relate specifically to athletic courtesy and sportsmanlike behavior.</p> <p>Prior to the commencement of a sport season, the Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and Operations shall prepare a schedule of interscholastic athletic events for the district's interscholastic sports.</p>
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