

Farmingdale Union Free School District

50 Van Cott Avenue
Farmingdale NY, 11735

THE GOAL OF THE FARMINGDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS TO ESTABLISH OURSELVES AS A HIGH ACHIEVING SCHOOL DISTRICT AS EVIDENCED BY HIGH LEVELS OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE IN ALL AREAS.

Board of Education Regular Meeting
March 1, 2017

EXECUTIVE SESSION, 6:30 P.M. – A. TERRY WEATHERS BOARD ROOM

It is anticipated that upon a majority vote of the total membership of the Board, a motion to meet in Executive Session to discuss specific litigation, collective bargaining, and personnel issues in accordance with Open Meetings Law will be considered. Following the Executive Session the Board will reconvene in the Howitt East Cafeteria at approximately 8 p.m.

Board of Education Recognition Ceremony, 7:30 P.M. **Howitt Auditorium**

Public Meeting, 8:00 P.M.

Howitt East Cafeteria

The Board of Education is interested in encouraging all members of the public to share their ideas, comments and questions. Public participation opportunities will be available at the beginning and end of this meeting and, as stated in board policy, no person shall speak for more than three minutes and each period of public participation shall be limited to 30 minutes. If you have any questions or concerns regarding matters on the Agenda, it may be important for you to utilize the first public participation opportunity as the Board will act on those items immediately. Charges, complaints or challenges should follow procedures listed under Policies 1400, 1410 and/or 1440, which are included on the materials table. Thank you for your anticipated courtesy and cooperation. The agenda follows:

IN THE EVENT OF FIRE AND/OR IF YOU HEAR THE FIRE BELL, YOU MUST LEAVE THE BUILDING. PLEASE USE THE NEAREST EXIT, WHICH IS TO YOUR RIGHT IN THE BACK OF THIS ROOM.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Superintendent's Update

- 2017-2018 Budget
- Bond 2016 Update
- Energy Bus

Old Business

- Parent Inquiry

Public Participation

Board of Education Minutes

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____ to approve the minutes of

1. Minutes of Jan 18, 2017 Special Meeting
2. Minutes of Jan 25, 2017 Special Meeting
3. Minutes of Feb 1, 2017 Regular Meeting

Board Correspondence

Board Committee Reports

Consideration of Consent Agenda:

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____ that the Consent Agenda consisting of Items I (a-f), II (a-b), and III (a-d) be approved as a whole with action recorded separately.

I. Business Report

a. Acceptance for File of Financial Reports

1. Acceptance of Extra Curricular Reports - December 2016 & January 2017
2. Acceptance of Treasurer's Report - January 2017
3. Acceptance of Revenue and Expenditure Report - January 2017
4. Acceptance of Claims Auditor Report - January 2017

b. Approval of Contracts and Agreements

1. Approval of Health & Welfare Services Agreements for Resident Students Attending Non Public Schools Outside of the District for the 2016/17 School Year (Amityville, Hicksville, Malverne, Smithtown & Uniondale)
 2. Approval of Event Agreement with American Airpower Museum
- c. Approval of Declaration of Obsolete Equipment
 - d. Approval of Transfer of Funds - March 2017
 - e. Approval of Variance to Policy 1500 to Waive Fee Schedule for the Farmingdale High School PTA Psychic Night
 - f. Approval of East Meadow Driving School Contract for 2017-2018

II. Items for Action

- a. Approval of District Calendar for 2017 - 2018
- b. Approval of a Memorandum of Agreement with an Employee Named in Executive Session

III. Superintendent's Report

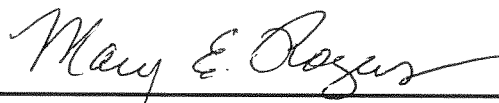
- a. Personnel Items -- Instructional
- b. Personnel Items -- Non-Instructional
- c. Approval of Committee on Special Education Placements Report and Acceptance for File of Said Report
- d. Approval of Committee on Preschool Special Education Placements Report and Acceptance for File of Said Report

IV. Item For Discussion

- 1. Draft Policy 5280, Interscholastic Athletics

Public Participation

Adjournment

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mary E. Rogers", written in black ink.

Mary E. Rogers, District Clerk

Interscholastic Athletics

Interscholastic athletics for boys and girls is an integral and desirable part of the district's secondary educational program. Individual and team sports shall be based upon comprehensive physical education instruction and intramural activities, seeking broad participation from all eligible secondary students. Lifetime or carry-over sports are to be particularly encouraged and supported. Parity in the number and kind of sports activities for girls and boys, as well as number of participants, is a clear objective of the district.

Student eligibility for participation on interscholastic teams shall include:

1. authorization by the school physician or private physician;
2. written parent or guardian consent (the written consent will contain information for parents on mild traumatic brain injury (TBI), and will provide a link to the State Education Department's web page on TBI);
3. endorsement by the building principal/athletic director based on established rules and various league and State Education Department regulations; and
4. sustained academic performance.

In accordance with existing Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, the Board of Education will permit students in grades 10-12 to receive credit towards high school graduation equivalent to physical education for participation in interscholastic athletics. Such credit will, in addition to other requirements, be contingent upon proven cardiovascular and physical fitness competency in personal fitness for life and lifetime or carry-over sports. Standards for such fitness shall be developed by the administration.

Although the district will take reasonable care to protect student athletes, students may still sustain injuries. In order to most effectively ensure student safety, open communication between students, parents and coaches about the child's medical condition is critical. Coaches, and other appropriate staff, will receive guidance and training regarding recognition of injury and removal of the student athlete from play in the event of injury. Parents and/or students are expected to report injuries so that student health can be protected.

In the case of a suspected or actual head injury, a student must be removed from play immediately. In order to resume participation following injury, including head injury, the student needs to receive medical clearance. The Superintendent, in consultation with appropriate district staff, including the school physician, will develop regulations and procedures to guide the process of return to play.

In addition, all student participants in the district's interscholastic athletics program must adhere to the code of conduct as outlined in the Student/Parent handbook, or risk suspension, removal, or other disciplinary action(s) from such program.

Athletic Placement Process

The Board permits students in seventh and eighth grades who wish to play at the junior varsity or varsity level in Bowling, Golf and Tennis to do so provided they can complete the entire Athletic Placement Process. A description of the Athletic Placement Process is available from the district's Director of Athletics.

The Board permits students in seventh and eighth grades who wish to play at the junior varsity or varsity level in Bowling, Golf and Tennis to do so provided they can demonstrate it is an appropriate level based on physical and emotional maturity, in conformance with the Athletic Placement Process.

Cross-ref:

4316 Physical Education

5200, Co-curricular and Extracurricular Programs

Ref:

Education Law §§414; 1502; 1604(7-b); 17089(3)(8-a); 1718(2); 3001-b; 4409

8 NYCRR 135.4

Adoption Date: May 3, 2000; Revised: March 6, 2002; Revised: June 2, 2004; Revised: January 12, 2005

Interscholastic Athletic Regulation

The following regulation shall apply with respect to interscholastic athletics:

1. Bona Fide Students

A. High School - a student must be a bona fide student of the high school which he/she represents and must be taking at least four subjects, including physical education.

B. Middle School - a student must be a bona fide student of grades 7 or 8 of the school represented.

Note: *If it becomes necessary to combine member schools to maintain a team or sport, a written request must be submitted and approval obtained from the league and section involved. Schools which have combined teams must submit a report to the Modified Committee and this will be submitted to the Executive Committee.*

2. Registration

A student must have enrolled during the first fifteen (15) school days of the semester and must have been in regular attendance 80% of the school time. Bona fide absences caused by personal illness are accepted.

3. Transfer

The Farmingdale School District will adhere to all sectional and state guidelines in regard to residency eligibility. Copies of the sectional and state guidelines are available in the office of the Director of Athletics.

4. Age and Grade

A high school student shall be eligible for interschool competition in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 until his/her nineteenth birthday. If the age of nineteen years is reached on or after July 1, the student may continue to participate during the school year in all sports. Appeals to the age limit for the extension of athletic eligibility, based on extreme circumstances, must be made to the Director of Athletics, who will follow the appeals process set forth by the Nassau Athletic Association (Section 8).

Note: *Students from seventh grade on may be eligible regardless of age or grade if they have been approved through the State Education Department's Athletic Placement Process according to the Farmingdale School District Guidelines.*

A middle school student upon entry into the 7th grade is eligible for modified program competition. One is ineligible when their sixteenth birthday is attained; however, if a student attains their sixteenth birthday during a sports season, he/she may complete that sport's season. In program B, (football and boys' lacrosse), when a student's fifteenth birthday is attained during a sports season, he/she may complete the sport's season.

5. State Eligibility

A student is eligible for senior high school athletic competition in a sport during each of four consecutive seasons commencing with the student's entry into the ninth grade, unless he/she has satisfied Athletic Placement Process according to school guidelines.

All athletes must be bona fide students of their districts and comply with age, grade and registration guidelines.

6. Athletic Placement Process

I. Introduction

The intent of the Athletic Placement Process is to permit students in grades 7 through 12 to safely participate at the appropriate level of competition based upon readiness rather than age and grade. It is designed for mature and elite exceptionally skilled students to advance to an upper level and less developed students to participate at an appropriate lower level that is suited to their development and ability.

In order to assure that all students in the Farmingdale School District are afforded a fair and equitable chance to make a team and experience the ability to participate on either a team or individual sport, the Farmingdale Board of Education has established the following guidelines in accordance with the State Education Department's Athletic Placement Process.

Students will not be permitted to apply for the Athletic Placement Process in the event that the district adopts a contingency budget or removes middle school Interscholastic Sports from the budget.

II. Guidelines

- A. Where an interscholastic team sport is offered at the Middle School level, a 7th/8th grade student athlete will not be permitted to apply for the Athletic Placement Process. (This does not apply to student/athletes playing down from high school to middle school sports).
- B. In the sports of Bowling, Golf and Tennis a 7th or 8th grade student/athlete may apply to play up to the High School level through the Athletic Placement Process. All rules and regulations established by the State Education Department in its current Athletic Placement Process procedures must be followed. These include, but are not limited to, parental permission, administrative approval, medical clearance (e.g., physical maturity examination), sport skill evaluation, physical fitness testing and notification to appropriate schools and agencies. The Director of Athletics will review all data submitted.

III. Calendar

In order for a student to play up or down through the Athletic Placement Process, he/she must have all paperwork submitted prior to the first day of practice. The student must be able to try out in the same fashion as the other athletes on the team during the initial try-out period. The student is responsible

for making sure that he/she finds out all necessary information about practice and try-out schedules and for meeting all deadlines.

7. Health Examinations

A student who may engage in interscholastic competition is required to have an adequate health examination and health history update when required, and may not practice or participate without the approval of the school district's medical director or their own private physician.

Note: *Medical examinations may be scheduled at any time during the school year and shall be valid for a period of twelve continuous months. Unless the medical examination is conducted within thirty days of the start of a season, a health history update is required. Any pupil whose safe participation is in question as a result of the health history interview, or injury, or prolonged absence, must be re-qualified by a physician prior to participation.*

8. Head Injuries/Concussion Management

Physical injuries may occur as a result of participation in any sport. Concussions are among the types of injuries that may occur during interscholastic sports activities. A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury caused by an impact or blow to the head or body. Concussions can happen in any sport, but are most often associated with contact sports such as football, rugby or ice hockey.

Symptoms of a concussion include, but are not necessarily limited to:

- Amnesia (e.g. decreased or absent memory of events prior to or immediately after the injury, or difficulty retaining new information)

- Confusion or appearing dazed

- Headache or head pressure

- Loss of consciousness

- Balance difficulty or dizziness, or clumsy movements

- Double or blurry vision

- Sensitivity to light and/or sound

- Nausea, vomiting, and/or loss of appetite

- Irritability, sadness or change in personality

- Feeling sluggish, foggy, groggy or lightheaded

- Concentration or focusing problems

- Slowed reaction times, drowsiness

- Fatigue and/or sleep issues (e.g. sleeping more or less than usual)

- Seizures and/or slurred speech

- Weakness or numbing in arms, legs, facial drooping

- Dilated or pinpoint pupils and/or change in size of one pupil

Significant irritability.

All coaches, physical education teachers, and certified athletic trainers are required to be trained to recognize the symptoms of a concussion and to seek proper medical treatment for such injuries.

Athlete Return to Play Protocol

The District's practice provides for the immediate removal from athletic activities of any student who has sustained, or is believed to have sustained a concussion. If there is any doubt as to whether the student has sustained a concussion, it shall be presumed that he or she has sustained a concussion until proven otherwise.

Once the student athlete is symptom free at rest for twenty-four (24) hours, has a signed written and signed authorization from the student's private treating physician, she/he may begin the return to play progression below (provided there are no other mitigating circumstances):

Phase 1: Low impact, non-strenuous, light aerobic activity (e.g., walking, or riding a stationary bicycle).

Phase 2: Higher impact, higher exertion, and moderate aerobic activity (e.g., running, or jumping rope, but no resistance training).

Phase 3: Sport specific non-contact activity; low resistance weight training with a spotter.

Phase 4: Sport specific activity, non-contact drills; higher resistance weight training with a spotter.

Phase 5: Full contact training drills and intense aerobic activity.

Phase 6: Return to full activities without restrictions.

Students should be monitored by District staff daily following each progressive challenge, physical or cognitive, for any return of signs and symptoms of concussion. Staff members should report any observed return of signs and symptoms to the school nurse, certified athletic trainer, or administration. A student should only move to the next level of activity if they remain symptom free at the current level. Return to activity should occur with the introduction of one (1) new activity each twenty-four (24) hours. If any post-concussion symptoms return, the student should drop back to the previous level of activity, and then re-attempt the new activity after another twenty-four (24) hours have passed. A more gradual progression should be considered based on the individual's circumstances, and a private medical provider's, or other specialist's, orders and recommendations.

Once the student has gone through the full above-referenced rehabilitation protocol with the athletic trainer and is asymptomatic they will be referred to the District's Medical Director for final clearance.

9. Amateur

- A. All contestants must be amateurs. An amateur is one who has never used, or is not now using, his/her knowledge of athletics or his/her skill for gain and who has always contested under his/her own name. A student who signs a contract with a professional team is no longer eligible for interschool sports. (This rule does not apply to officiating, recreational or playground work).
- B. A student who violates the above rule may apply to his/her league or to the member of the central Committee in his/her section for reinstatement one year from the date of the latest violation.

10. College

A student is no longer eligible to represent the school in that sport in that season if the student participates in practice or competition with or against any college athletic squad during that season.

11. Professional Try-Outs

No try-outs or practice with professional teams are approved except during the summer vacation. A student who participates in such a try-out is ineligible to represent his/her school in that sport.

12. All-Star Contests

Because school authorities have a responsibility for preventing the exploitation of high school students who have qualified for a letter in school sports; the NYSPHSAA, Inc. recommends that school authorities discharge this responsibility by protecting students from being exploited by individuals or groups interested in promoting, for any purpose, spectator or revenue producing contests such as all-star, charity, and similar exhibition games. Exceptional senior contests as stipulated in the Eligibility Standards are permitted.

Furthermore, it shall be the responsibility of the school authorities to inform their teaching personnel to do nothing which shall impair this responsibility of boards of education to protect athletes against such exploitation.

13. Local Eligibility

Students involved in difficulties in the areas of behavior, academics, drug or alcohol abuse, smoking and quitting teams will be referred to the school academic eligibility committee.

Standards established by the committee are meant to include all students. However, parents may, of course, impose more stringent standards for their children.

14. Behavior

In order to participate on any school co-curricular and extra-curricular programs and interscholastic athletic programs, a student must be a good school citizen. A good school citizen is one who is not referred to the office for behavior reasons. In case of such referrals, the school eligibility committee will meet with the student and discuss the situation. A decision will be made by the school eligibility committee that will be in the best interests of all concerned.

15. Academics

The Board believes that a meaningful academic policy must be established concerning co-curricular and extra-curricular programs and interscholastic athletic program participation. All high school students must follow the academic eligibility policy as outlined below. An academic eligibility committee will be selected by the high school principal each year with the specific purpose of reviewing those students who are either on probation or ineligible. It will be the responsibility of the building principal to notify all club advisors and the district athletic director to notify all coaches of those students who are either on probation or ineligible. The committee will consist of: a building principal, director of athletics, director of guidance, guidance counselor, two coaches, two club advisors and one teacher not associated with clubs or interscholastic athletics activities. The committee will notify all students, after report card distribution, of their eligibility status. Students who are on probation are permitted to participate in extracurricular and interscholastic activities. Students who are ineligible are not permitted to participate in extracurricular and interscholastic activities.

Any student failing two or more subjects shall automatically be placed on probation by the eligibility committee and will remain on probation for the entire marking period. A student on probation may participate in all extracurricular activities and interscholastic sports provided that he/she adheres to the following criteria immediately upon being notified of his/her status:

1. The student submits weekly eligibility progress reports from all teachers to his/her advisor or coach every week. Poor performance may cause a student to be declared ineligible.
2. The student must seek help in the problem areas and provide proof of same to the eligibility committee.
3. Failure to comply with the above criteria will move the student to ineligible status.

After the next report card, any probationary student no longer failing two subjects will be removed from probation at that time.

The high school principal will insure that any student who remains on probation for two or more marking periods, or is declared ineligible, will be referred to the appropriate staff members for the development of a plan for academic improvement.

Any student failing three or more subjects will automatically be declared ineligible by the eligibility committee and will remain ineligible for the entire marking period unless a written request is made by the student (in writing) to the eligibility committee for an appeal. The written request must also be signed by the student's parent or guardian.

If the appeal is granted, the student must:

1. Submit weekly eligibility progress reports to a mentor appointed by the committee.

2. The student must seek help in the problem subjects (homework helpers, extra help, Honor Society tutors, etc.) and provide proof of such help to a member of the committee.

A student who is ineligible may not practice, compete or participate in any interscholastic sport or extracurricular activity unless an appeal is granted by the eligibility committee.

If a student does not meet the conditions of the criteria appeal process, he/she cannot come before the eligibility committee until after the next report card.

After the next report card, any student no longer failing three or more subjects will be removed from ineligibility and either placed on probation (if failing two subjects) or removed from ineligibility entirely.

If a student is declared ineligible or placed on probation at the end of the fourth marking period, he/she must attend summer school. Failure to attend summer school will cause the student to begin the next school year with the same status that was determined by the fourth marking period grades.

16. Drop-outs

Any student quitting an athletic team for reasons unacceptable to the coach (i.e. not informing the coach of reasons, not attending practice sessions, etc.) must be brought before the eligibility committee to decide whether said student will be able to join another team. Any student who has the ability to participate in two sports during the same season will be eligible to compete only after both coaches give consent for dual participation and the student has established one of the teams as his/her priority team with the athletic director. In the event of a conflict that cannot be resolved, the student will participate with the priority team.

17. Awards

All students who participate in athletics in grades 7 through 12 will receive a Certificate of Participation.

Varsity Athletes may earn specific awards such as Most Valuable Player (MVP), Most Improved Player (MIP) and/or Coaches Award.

League, Conference, County and State Awards will be given out at the Nassau County Coaches Association Dinners.

Adoption Date: May 3, 2000; Revised 11-18-16: March 6, 2002; Revised: June 2, 2004; Revised: January 12, 2005; Revised: May 4, 2005; Revised: June 5, 2013

Interscholastic Athletics

Interscholastic athletics for boys and girls is an integral and desirable part of the district's secondary educational program. Individual and team sports shall be based upon comprehensive physical education instruction and intramural activities, seeking broad participation from all eligible secondary students. Lifetime or carry-over sports are to be particularly encouraged and supported. Parity in the number and kind of sports activities for girls and boys, as well as number of participants, is a clear objective of the district.

Student eligibility for participation on interscholastic teams shall include:

1. authorization by the school physician or private physician
2. written parent or guardian consent
3. endorsement by the building principal/athletic director based on established rules and various league and State Education Department regulations, and
4. sustained academic performance

In accordance with existing Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, the Board of Education will permit students in grades 10-12 to receive credit towards high school graduation equivalent to physical education for participation in interscholastic athletics. Such credit will, in addition to other requirements, be contingent upon proven cardiovascular and physical fitness competency in personal fitness for life and lifetime or carry-over sports. Standards for such fitness shall be developed by the administration.

In addition, all student participants in the district's interscholastic athletics program must adhere to the code of conduct as outlined in the Student/Parent handbook, or risk suspension from such program.

Cross-ref:

4316 Physical Education

5200, Co-curricular and Extracurricular Programs

Ref:

Education Law §§414; 1502; 1604(7-b); 17089(3)(8-a); 1718(2); 3001-b; 4409

8 NYCRR 135.4

Adoption Date: May 3, 2000; Revised: March 6, 2002; Revised: June 2, 2004; Revised: January 12, 2005

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS REGULATION

The following regulation shall apply with respect to interscholastic athletics:

1. Bona Fide Students:

A. High School - a student must be a bona fide student of the high school which he/she represents and must be taking at least four subjects, including physical education.

B. Middle School - a student must be a bona fide student of grades 7 or 8 of the school represented.

Note: *If it becomes necessary to combine member schools to maintain a team or sport, a written request must be submitted and approval obtained from the league and section involved. Schools which have combined teams must submit a report to the Modified Committee and this will be submitted to the Executive Committee.*

2. Registration:

A student must have enrolled during the first fifteen (15) school days of the semester and must have been in regular attendance 80% of the school time. Bona fide absences caused by personal illness are accepted.

3. Transfer:

The Farmingdale School District will adhere to all sectional and state guidelines in regard to residency eligibility. Copies of the sectional and state guidelines are available in the office of the Director of Athletics.

4. Age and Grade

A high school student shall be eligible for interschool competition in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 until his/her nineteenth birthday. If the age of nineteen years is reached on or after July 1, the student may continue to participate during the school year in all sports. Appeals to the age limit for the extension of athletic eligibility, based on extreme circumstances, must be made to the Director of Athletics, who will follow the appeals process set forth by the Nassau Athletic Association (Section 8).

Note: *Students from seventh grade on may be eligible regardless of age or grade if they have been approved through the State Education Department's Selection/Classification program according to the Farmingdale School District Guidelines.*

A middle school student upon entry into the 7th grade is eligible for modified program competition. One is ineligible when the sixteenth birthday is attained; however, if a student attains the sixteenth birthday during a sports season, he/she may complete that sport season. In program B, (football and boys' lacrosse) when the fifteenth birthday is attained during a sports season, he/she may complete the sport season.

5. State Eligibility

A student is eligible for senior high athletic competition in a sport during each of four consecutive seasons commencing with the youngster's entry into the ninth grade, unless he/she has satisfied selection/classification according to school guidelines.

All athletes must be bona fide students of their districts and comply with age, grade and registration guidelines.

6. Selection/Classification

I. Introduction

The intent of the Selection/Classification program is to permit students in grades 7 through 12 to safely participate at the appropriate level of competition based upon readiness rather than age and grade. It is designed for mature and elite exceptionally skilled students to advance to an upper level and less developed students to participate at an appropriate lower level that is suited to their development and ability.

In order to assure that all students in the Farmingdale School District are afforded a fair and equitable chance to make a team and experience the ability to participate on either a team or individual sport, the Farmingdale Board of Education has established a number of selection/classification guidelines.

Students will not be permitted to apply for selection classification in the event that the district adopts a contingency budget or removes middle school Interscholastic Sports from the budget.

II. Guidelines

- A. Where an interscholastic team sport is offered at the Middle School level, a 7th/8th grade student athlete will not be permitted to apply for selection/classification status. A list of the team sports is available in the office of the Director of Athletics. (This does not apply to student/athletes selectively classifying down from high school to middle school sports).
- B. Where a sport is not offered at the Middle School level, a 7th or 8th grade student/athlete may apply for selection/classification status. A listing of sports offered in Farmingdale High School is available in the office of the Director of Athletics. All rules and regulations established by the State Education Department in its current selection/classification program procedures must be followed. These include, but are not limited to, parental permission, developmental screening, individual athletic profile, athletic performance test, coach's sports skill evaluation and notification to appropriate schools and agencies. The Director of Athletics will review all data submitted including coach's recommendation and conduct an on-site evaluation.

III. Calendar

In order for a student to be selectively classified, he/she must have all paperwork and/or any appeal process completed prior to the first day of practice. The student must be able to try out in the same fashion as the other athletes on the

team during the initial try-out period. The student is responsible for making sure that he/she finds out all necessary information about practice and try-out schedules and for meeting all deadlines.

IV. Appeals

An appeals process is in place to allow students their right of due process. In the event a 7th or 8th grade student wishes to participate on an interscholastic team at the high school level in a sport that is not offered at the middle school, the following must take place:

- A. The student/athlete must be able to demonstrate to the appeals committee that he/she is so exceptional that s/he will be able to compete at the high school level.
- B. The student/athlete must provide documentation of prior experience in the sport.
- C. The student/athlete must meet all academic and health requirements as stated in the school policy book.
- D. The student/athlete must complete the State Education Department's Selection/Classification procedures for his/her particular sport.

Any student has the right to an appeals hearing; however appeals will not be heard until after the student successfully completes a physical and selection/classification test.

V. Appeals Committee

The Appeals Committee will be made up of an Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, a middle school principal, a high school principal, the director of physical education and athletics, the coach and the school physician/nurse. In order for a student to be approved, he/she must receive a 4/5 vote of the appeals committee. An absentee vote may be accepted with a statement of assurance that all material pertaining to the student has been reviewed.

7. Health Examinations

A student who may engage in interscholastic competition shall receive an adequate health examination and health history update when required, and may not practice or participate without the approval of the school district physician.

Note: *Medical examinations may be scheduled at any time during the school year and shall be valid for a period of twelve continuous months. Unless the medical examination is conducted within thirty days of the start of a season, a healthy history update is required. Any pupil whose safe participation is in question as a result of the health history interview, or injury, or prolonged absence, must be re-qualified by a physician prior to participation.*

8. Head Injuries/Concussion Management

Physical injuries may occur as a result of participation in any sport. Concussions are among the types of injuries that may occur during interscholastic sports activities. A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury caused by an impact or

blow to the head or body. Concussions can happen in any sport, but are most often associated with contact sports such as football, rugby or ice hockey.

Symptoms of a concussion include, but are not necessarily limited to:

Amnesia (e.g. decreased or absent memory of events prior to or immediately after the injury, or difficulty retaining new information)

Confusion or appearing dazed

Headache or head pressure

Loss of consciousness

Balance difficulty or dizziness, or clumsy movements

Double or blurry vision

Sensitivity to light and/or sound

Nausea, vomiting, and/or loss of appetite

Irritability, sadness or change in personality

Feeling sluggish, foggy, groggy or lightheaded

Concentration or focusing problems

Slowed reaction times, drowsiness

Fatigue and/or sleep issues (e.g. sleeping more or less than usual)

Seizures and/or slurred speech

Weakness or numbing in arms, legs, facial drooping

Dilated or pinpoint pupils and/or change in size of one pupil

Significant irritability.

All coaches, physical education teachers, and certified athletic trainers are required to be trained to recognize the symptoms of a concussion and to seek proper medical treatment for such injuries.

Athlete Return to Play Protocol

The District's practice provides for the immediate removal from athletic activities of any student who has sustained, or is believed to have sustained a concussion. If there is any doubt as to whether the student has sustained a concussion, it shall be presumed that he or she has sustained a concussion until proven otherwise. A student is prohibited from resuming athletic activities until he or she has been symptom-free for not less than 24 hours, and has been evaluated by, and received a written and signed authorization from a licensed physician. In order to resume participation in interscholastic sports activities, the student will be evaluated by the district athletic trainer using a stepwise 1 - 5 progression.

Day 1: Light aerobic activity

Day 2: Sport-specific activity

Day 3: Non-contact training drills

Day 4: Full contact practice

Day 5: Return to play

Each step should take 24 hours so that the athlete would take approximately one week to proceed through the full rehabilitation protocol once they are asymptomatic at rest and with provocative exercise. If any post concussion symptoms occur while in the stepwise program, then the student should drop back to the previous asymptomatic level and try to progress again after a further 24-hour period of rest has passed.

Once the athlete has gone through the full rehabilitation protocol with the athletic trainer and is asymptomatic they will be referred to the District Physician for final clearance.

8. Amateur

- A. All contestants must be amateurs. An amateur is one who has never used, or is not now using, his/her knowledge of athletics or his/her skill for gain and who has always contested under his/her own name. A student who signs a contract with a professional team is no longer eligible for interschool sports. (This rule does not apply to officiating, recreational or playground work).
- B. A student who violates the above rule may apply to his/her league or to the member of the central Committee in his/her section for reinstatement one year from the date of the latest violation.

9. College

A student is no longer eligible to represent the school in that sport in that season if the student participates in practice or competition with or against any college athletic squad during that season.

10. Professional Try-Outs

No try-outs or practice with professional teams are approved except during the summer vacation. A student who participates in such a try-out is ineligible to represent his/her school in that sport.

11. All-Star Contests

Because school authorities have a responsibility for preventing the exploitation of high school students who have qualified for a letter in school sports; the NYSPHSAA, Inc. recommends that school authorities discharge this responsibility by protecting students from being exploited by individuals or groups interested in promoting, for any purpose, spectator or revenue producing contests such as all-star, charity, and similar exhibition games. Exceptional senior contests as stipulated in the Eligibility Standards are permitted.

Furthermore, it shall be the responsibility of the school authorities to inform their teaching personnel to do nothing which shall impair this responsibility of boards of education to protect athletes against such exploitation.

12. Local Eligibility

Students involved in difficulties in the areas of behavior, academics, drug or alcohol abuse, smoking and quitting teams will be referred to the school academic eligibility committee.

Standards established by the committee are meant to include all students. However, parents may, of course, impose more stringent standards for their children.

13. Behavior

In order to participate on any school co-curricular and extra-curricular programs and interscholastic athletic programs, a student must be a good school citizen. A good school citizen is one who is not referred to the office for behavior reasons. In case of such referrals, the school eligibility committee will meet with the student and discuss the situation. A decision will be made that will be in the best interests of all concerned.

14. Academics

The Board believes that a meaningful academic policy must be established concerning co-curricular and extra-curricular programs and interscholastic athletic program participation. All high school students must follow the academic eligibility policy as outlined below. An academic eligibility committee will be selected by the high school principal each year with the specific purpose of reviewing those students who are either on probation or ineligible. It will be the responsibility of the building principal to notify all club advisors and the district athletic director to notify all coaches of those students who are either on probation or ineligible. The committee will consist of: a building principal, director of athletics, director of guidance, guidance counselor, two coaches, two club advisors and one teacher not associated with clubs or interscholastic athletics activities. The committee will notify all students, after report card distribution, of their eligibility status. Students who are on probation are permitted to participate in extracurricular and interscholastic activities. Students who are ineligible are not permitted to participate in extracurricular and interscholastic activities.

Any student failing two or more subjects shall automatically be placed on probation by the eligibility committee and will remain on probation for the entire marking period. A student on probation may participate in all extracurricular activities and interscholastic sports provided that he/she adheres to the following criteria immediately upon being notified of his/her status:

1. The student submits weekly eligibility progress reports from all teachers to his/her advisor or coach every week. Poor performance may cause a student to be declared ineligible.
2. The student must seek help in the problem areas and provide proof of such to the eligibility committee.
3. Failure to comply with the above criteria will move the student to ineligible status.

After the next report card, any probationary student no longer failing two subjects will be removed from probation at that time.

The high school principal will insure that any student who remains on probation for two or more marking periods or is declared ineligible will be referred to the appropriate staff members for the development of a plan for academic improvement.

Any student failing three or more subjects will automatically be declared ineligible by the eligibility committee and will remain ineligible for the entire marking period unless a written request is made by the student (in writing) to the eligibility committee for an appeal. The written request must be counter-signed by the student's parent or guardian.

If the appeal is granted, the student must:

1. Submit weekly eligibility progress reports to a mentor appointed by the committee.
2. The student must seek help in the problem subjects (homework helpers, extra help, Honor Society tutors) and provide proof to the committee.

A student who is ineligible may not practice, compete or participate in any interscholastic sport or extracurricular activity unless an appeal is granted by the eligibility committee.

If a student does not meet the conditions of the criteria appeal process, he/she cannot come before the eligibility committee until after the next report card.

After the next report card, any student no longer failing three or more subjects will be removed from ineligibility and either placed on probation (if failing two subjects) or removed from ineligibility entirely.

If a student is declared ineligible or placed on probation at the end of the fourth marking period, he/she must attend summer school. Failure to attend summer school will cause the student to begin the next school year with the same status that was determined by the fourth marking period grades.

16. Drop-outs

Any student quitting an athletic team for reasons unacceptable to the coach (i.e. not informing the coach of reasons, not attending practice sessions, etc.) must be brought before the eligibility committee to decide whether said student will be able to join another team. Any student who has the ability to participate in two sports during the same season will be eligible to compete only after both coaches give consent for dual participation and the student has established one of the teams as his/her priority team with the athletic director. In the event of a conflict that cannot be resolved, the student will participate with the priority team.

17. Awards

All students who participate in athletics grades 7 through 12 will receive a Certificate of Participation.

Varsity Athletes may earn specific awards such as Most Valuable Player (MVP), Most Improved Player (MIP) and/or Coaches Award.

League, Conference, County and State Awards will be given out at the Nassau County Coaches Association Dinners.

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