

FAIRFIELD AREA SCHOOL

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS (PIAA Sanctioned)

3178

3178.1

Purpose

The Board believes that the goals and objectives of this district are best achieved by a diversity of learning experiences, some of which are more appropriately conducted outside the regular classroom curricular program of the school.

All learning experiences offered by the schools of this district – curricular, co-curricular, extra-curricular, and interscholastic – should be planned and integrated toward the attainment of the district's objectives.

3178.2

Definition

For purposes of this policy, the program of interscholastic athletics as sanctioned by PIAA shall include all activities relating to competitive sport contest, 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.

3178.3

Authority

The Board shall make school facilities, supplies and equipment available and assign staff members for the support of a program of interscholastic athletics. Such availability and assignment shall be in accordance with the Equal Access Act.

The Board shall approve annually a program of interscholastic athletics and shall require that all facilities utilized in that program whether or not the property of this Board – properly safeguard both players and spectators and are kept free from hazardous conditions.

The Board shall determine the standards of eligibility to be met by all students participating in the interscholastic program. Such standards shall require that each student be covered by the maximum Student Accident Insurance available, or its equivalent, be in good physical condition, be free of injury and shall have fully recovered from illness, as determined by the District physician, before participating in any interscholastic athletic event.

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The Board further adopts those eligibility standards set by the Constitution of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association and shall review such standards annually to ascertain that they continue to be in conformity with the objectives of this district.

The Board further directs that no student may participate in the program of interscholastic athletics who has not: maintained a satisfactory record of academic proficiency; attended school regularly; and returned all school athletic equipment.

3178.4

Eligibility

In supplement to the eligibility requirements established by the PIAA, Inc., it shall be the policy of the Fairfield Area District that students must meet the following criteria to participate in any interscholastic activity:

3178.4a To be eligible for extracurricular activities, students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 65% during the first three weeks of a quarter.

3178.4b To be eligible for extracurricular activities, students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 74% during the remainder of the quarter.

3178.4c An after-school, supervised tutoring session should be provided for ineligible students or students deemed at risk by coaches or the athletic/activities director. Ineligible students are strongly encouraged to use this service. For example, those students who have a GPA between 65 and 74 during the first three weeks of the quarter would be considered at risk. It is recommended that this program be run in conjunction with the National Honor Society peer-tutoring program.

3178.4d Students, who do not achieve a cumulative GPA of 74% at the end of a quarter, will be ineligible for the first 15 school days of the following quarter beginning on the day report cards are issued. Students who do not achieve a GPA of 74% at the end of the school year will be ineligible for the first 15 days of the following year.

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- 3178.4e Any student who becomes ineligible for a total of three weeks during a season will be dismissed from the team.
- 3178.4f Eligibility shall be cumulative from the beginning of a grading period, shall be reported on a weekly basis, and shall be filed in the principal's office.
- 3178.4g Students who miss in excess of twenty (20) days in a school year without a medical excuse will be ineligible to participate immediately upon accruing the twentieth day of absence.
- 3178.4h All students must be present within 2 ½ hours from the start of the regular school day to participate in or attend any extra-curricular activities unless excused for a medical or dental appointment substantiated by a doctor's verification and a note from the parents.
- 3178.4i Any student who receives any detention or any type of suspension will not be permitted to participate in or attend any interscholastic activities on the day the detention or suspension is served. Any student who receives a second suspension will not be permitted to participate in or attend any interscholastic activities for the remainder of that season or the marking period, whichever is greater.

3178.5

Guidelines

All practices, games and other events related to interscholastic activities are automatically canceled when school is closed or dismissed early for inclement weather or emergency. This includes events scheduled on or off school premises.

- 3178.5a Interscholastic events should never interfere adversely with the instructional program.
- 3178.5b All interscholastic activities and practices must be scheduled and approved by the Principal's office.

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3178.5c All interscholastic activities shall be adequately supervised by faculty sponsors or other adults.

3178.5d Students are subject to all District rules and regulations while attending or engaging in interscholastic activities.

3178.6 Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent shall annually review, approve and present to the Board for its consideration a program of interscholastic athletics that shall include a complete schedule as they occur.

The Superintendent shall prepare rules for the conduct of students participating in interscholastic athletics. Such rules shall be in conformity with the rules of the State Board of Education and the P.I.A.A.

Revised May 19, 2008