[See POLICY ALERT No. 238]

9182 ATHLETIC COACHES

The Board of Education will employ athletic coaches that are properly certified and possess the personal characteristics that qualify them to serve as role models to students. The Superintendent shall recommend to the Board the employment of qualified athletic coaches and paraprofessional aids/coaches for the district's interscholastic athletic programs.

For the purpose of this Policy, "athletic coach" means a person who coaches an interscholastic high school athletic team in any way, whether for pay or as a volunteer at the varsity, junior varsity, or freshman level (ninth grade through twelfth grade).

For the purpose of this Policy, "paraprofessional aid/coach" means a person who aids in the coaching of an interscholastic high school athletic team in any way, under the direct supervision of an athletic coach and without any direct supervision responsibilities.

Athletic Coaches

Any athletic coach approved by the Board must be the holder of either a New Jersey teaching certificate or a substitute credential, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-5.16(b). The twenty-day limitation noted at N.J.A.C. 6A:9B-7.3(a) shall not apply to coaching situations.

The Board shall determine, consistent with the requirements and standards of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq., that no criminal history record information exists on file in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Identification Division, or the State Bureau of Identification which would disqualify the athletic coach from being employed or utilized in such capacity or position. The athletic coach, except as provided in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1.g., shall be permanently disqualified from employment or service in the district if the criminal history record check reveals a record of conviction for any crime or offense as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq.

An athletic coach employed by the district who is not a regular employee of the district shall be screened for tuberculosis in accordance with the current New Jersey Department of Health Guidance for Tuberculosis (TB) Testing in New Jersey Schools.



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An athletic coach employed by the district who is not a regular employee of the district shall be employed only for the duration of the specific sport season. The athletic coach shall be paid the stipend and no out-of-district athletic coach shall be eligible for tenure or for employment benefits.

All athletic coaches are required to participate in all mandated trainings required for their position and any other trainings as required by the Superintendent or designee.

Paraprofessional Aid/Coach

The Board recognizes the services of paraprofessional aides/coaches bring unique skills to the district, enrich the athletic program, assist district athletic coaches in the performance of their duties, and enhance the relationship between the school district and the community. Therefore, the Board authorizes a program for the utilization of paraprofessional aides/coaches in the district. Paraprofessional aides/coaches may be paid by the Board.

Paraprofessional aides/coaches will be screened for tuberculosis in accordance with the current New Jersey Department of Health Guidance for Tuberculosis (TB) Testing in New Jersey Schools.

Paraprofessional aides/coaches shall be required to participate in all mandated trainings required for their position and any other trainings as required by the Superintendent or designee.

[Must Select if Paraprofessional Aids/Coaches Are Paid – Optional for Unpaid Paraprofessional Aids/Coaches

The Board shall determine, consistent with the requirements and standards of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq., that no criminal history record information exists on file in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Identification Division, or the State Bureau of Identification which would disqualify the paraprofessional aides/coaches from being employed or utilized in such capacity or position. The paraprofessional aides/coaches, except as provided in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1.g., shall be permanently disqualified from employment or service in the district if the criminal history record check reveals a record of conviction for any crime or offense as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq. If an unpaid paraprofessional aide/coach is required by the Board to obtain a criminal history background check, the Board shall reimburse the unpaid paraprofessional aide/coach for the cost of obtaining a criminal history background check as required by N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.2.**]**



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Paraprofessional aides/coaches may serve only under the direction and direct supervision of an appropriately certified or licensed head and/or assistant coach employed by the Board and serve only in a support capacity. Athletic coaches are responsible for the supervision and instruction provided to students participating in athletic programs or co-curricular activities.

Paraprofessional aides/coaches are not permitted access to student records and must not disclose any confidential student matters they become aware of as a result of their volunteer responsibilities.

Paraprofessional aides/coaches may be immediately relieved of their volunteer responsibilities, with or without cause, by the Superintendent with such action to be recommended to the Board by the Superintendent at the next Board meeting following relief of duties.

The Superintendent or designee will prepare and promulgate rules of conduct for athletic coaches. Each athletic coach will be given a copy of this Policy.

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1.; 18A:6-7.2.
NJSIAA Coaching Requirements

Adopted:

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