

# POLICY GUIDE

## 2431 ATHLETIC COMPETITION

The Board of Education recognizes the value of athletic competition as an integral part of the total school experience. Game activities and practice sessions provide opportunities to learn the values of competition and good sportsmanship.

For **the** purpose of this Policy, programs of athletic competition include all activities relating to competitive sports contests, games, events, or sports exhibitions involving individual students or teams of students when such events occur within or between schools within this district or with any schools outside this district. The programs of athletic competition shall include, but are not limited to, high school interscholastic athletic programs, middle school interscholastic athletic programs where school teams or squads play teams or squads from other school districts, and/or intramural athletic programs within a school or among schools in the district.

### Eligibility Standards

A student who wishes to participate in a program of athletic competition must submit, on a form or **via electronic registration** provided by the district, the signed consent of his/her parent. The consent of the parent of a student who wishes to participate in a program of athletic competition will include an acknowledgment of the physical hazards that may be encountered in the activity.

Student participation in a program of athletic competition shall be governed by the following eligibility standards:

### **Home School Options for High School Students and NJSIAA Athletics**

- 1. Home schooled children are eligible to participate in the high school interscholastic athletic program of this district only if the school district, the parent, and the home schooled child comply with the Guidelines, Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of NJSIAA, and the policies and regulations of the Board of Education.**
  
- 2. Home schooled children in grades 7 through 12 are eligible to participate in school district sponsored programs of athletic competition of this district.**



3. **A student who is serving an out-of-school suspension may not participate in school district sponsored programs of athletic competition while serving the suspension.**

### **Students Attending Private School-Options for High School Students and NJSIAA Athletics:**

**A child who is currently enrolled in private school, but who is a resident of the district, is eligible to participate in the high school interscholastic athletic program of this district only if the parent, the school district, and principal of the school the child is currently enrolled in agree to that child's participation, and agree to comply with the Guidelines, Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of NJSIAA, and the policies and regulations of the Board of Education.**

Notice of the school district's eligibility requirements shall be available to students.

#### **Required Examinations – Interscholastic or Intramural Team or Squad**

Students enrolled in grades seven to twelve must receive a medical examination, in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.7, prior to participation on a school-sponsored interscholastic or intramural team or squad

The examination shall be conducted within 365 days prior to the first day of official practice in an athletic season with examinations being conducted at the medical home of the student. The "medical home" is defined as a health care provider and that provider's practice site chosen by the student's parent for the provision of health care **pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.3**. If a student does not have a medical home, the school district shall provide the examination at the school physician's office or other comparably equipped facility. The parent may choose either the school physician or their own private physician to provide this medical examination. The medical examination required prior to participation shall be in accordance with the requirements as outlined in N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(h)1 and Regulation 2431.2 and shall be documented using the Preparticipation Physical Evaluation form required by the Department of Education.

**The school district shall distribute the Commissioner of Education developed sudden cardiac arrest pamphlet to a student participating in or desiring to participate in an athletic activity, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.e., and the student's parent(s) shall each year and prior to participation by the student in an athletic activity comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.d.**

**The school district shall annually distribute the Commissioner of Education developed educational fact sheet relative to use and misuse of opioid drugs for sports related injuries to parents of students who participate in athletic activities and comply with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.10.**



Information concerning a student's HIV/AIDS status shall not be required as part of the medical examination or health history pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:5C-1 et seq. The health findings of this medical examination shall be maintained as part of the student's health record.

### Emergency Procedures

Athletic coaches shall be trained in first aid to include sports-related concussion and head injuries, the use of a defibrillator, the identification of student-athletes who are injured or disabled in the course of any athletic program or activity, and any other first aid procedures or other health related trainings required by law or the Superintendent.

The Superintendent shall prepare and present to the Board for its approval procedures for the emergency treatment of injuries and disabilities that occur in the course of any athletic program or activity. Emergency procedures shall be reviewed not less than once in each school year and shall be disseminated to appropriate staff members.

### Interscholastic Standards

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 adopts the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, and Regulations of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association as Board policy and shall review such rules on a regular basis to ascertain they continue to be in conformity with the objectives of this Board.

The Superintendent shall annually prepare, approve, and present to the Board for its consideration a program of interscholastic athletics that includes a complete schedule of athletic events and **may** inform the Board of changes in that schedule.

N.J.S.A. 2C:21-11

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3 et seq.; **18A:40-41; 18A:40-41.10**

N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.7(d); 6A:16-1.34; 6A:16-2.1 et seq.

Adopted:

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