

**HIGH SCHOOL SPONSORED EXTRA-CURRICULAR ATHLETICS
FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS (GRADES 6-8)**

The Board of Education believes that individual students will have opportunities to grow physically and intellectually through their experience in self-discipline and their contribution to team effort, made possible through extra-curricular athletics.

The Board will provide the opportunity for middle schools students (grades 6-8) to participate in high school sponsored extra-curricular athletic competitions in a variety of sports. The Board will assess a participation fee when there is a cost associated with offering the program. Students will be allowed to participate in individual sports on the basis of their physical condition and desire. Qualified professional staff will be provided for coaching and for the supervision of all athletic events.

The purpose of high school sponsored extra-curricular athletics for middle school (grades 6-8) students is both educational and recreational. The extra-curricular athletic program should encourage participation by as many middle school boys and girls as possible, and should be carried on with the best interests of the participants as the primary consideration.

The Board also believes parents are important "stakeholders" not only in academic pursuits but in the area of extra-curricular activities. The middle school administration, the district athletic/activities director, the coaches, and sponsors are encouraged to develop open dialogue and communication with parents in order to facilitate parent support and understanding for the total district program and goals.

A well-organized and well-conducted extra-curricular athletics program can have a positive influence on the morale of a middle school student body. It also can enhance good community-school relations.

The high school sponsored extra-curricular athletic program for middle school students will be organized under the following guideposts:

- 1 The high school shall serve as the sponsor for middle school extra-curricular athletic programs. This is considered an integral part of the middle school curriculum, and comes under the authority of the principal to the same degree as all other phases of curriculum.
2. Participation in extra-curricular athletic program is for students in grades 6-8. These are fee-based programs with no district financial support.
3. Programs of extra-curricular athletics will be available to middle school boys and girls, which provide equal access to the following: 1) school facilities, 2) coaching and instruction, 3) scheduling of practice times and games, 4) number of activities at each level of competition, and 5) equipment, supplies, and services.
4. The eligibility of students to participate in the middle school extra-curricular athletics program is determined in accordance with requirements of the Pattonville Board of Education.

5. The following provisions apply to determining eligibility for middle school extra-curricular athletics programs:
 - a. Students must have accumulated at least a 2.0 grade point average during the previous semester at Holman Middle School, Pattonville Heights Middle School or Remington Traditional School (6-8) in order to be eligible for the next semester.
 - b. Students transferring from another school must have a 2.0 grade point average during the previous semester.
 - c. Students eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who do not meet the above criteria may have their eligibility restored by the middle school principal following a review with the athletic/activities director.
 - d. It is expected that middle school students participating in extra curricular activities are in good standing academically and behaviorally.
6. The value of district organized or non-district camps/clinics is recognized. However, no student shall be eliminated or penalized from participating on any middle school extra-curricular athletic team for failure to participate in any camp or clinic outside the normal activity season.
7. No student may start practice for any high school sponsored extra-curricular middle school athletic team until he or she has been examined and approved by a physician and written consent has been obtained from the parent.
8. Fees and financial transactions associated with middle school extra curricular activities that are sponsored by the high school must be handled through the high school activity accounts office. These activities are funded independently of the district budget through user fees.
9. District participation in middle school extra curricular activities athletics will be subject to approval by the Board. This will include approval of membership in any leagues, associations, or conferences.
10. Insurance against accident or injury will be required for students engaged in extra curricular athletics.