

BOARD POLICY

No. 6145

6000 INSTRUCTION

6145 Interscholastic Athletics

A. Athletics Philosophy

Interscholastic athletics comprise an integral part of the educational program for Regional School District 8. Athletics enrich the educational program by providing an experience that fosters physical, social, and emotional growth of students through comprehensive teaching practices and appropriately competitive experiences. Our athletics program should promote high standards of academic achievement, good citizenship and individual responsibility on the playing field, in the school and in the community. In so doing, the athletics program complements and supports the academic program.

B. Underlying Beliefs

The athletics program should provide a wide basis of team and individual athletic opportunities in an atmosphere that safeguards the health, safety, and general welfare of all participants. Athletic participation will stimulate academic achievement, stress sportsmanship, and value competition. The possession of values taught through the athletics program fosters an environment for student-athletes where positive representation of school and community is achieved through their involvement. Skills and traits derived from concepts of physical fitness, teamwork, personal responsibility, resilience, and commitment to self and group improvement will be valuable lifelong characteristics developed through the athletic program.

C. Equal Opportunity

Equal status shall be accorded all sports, and ~~that~~ equal attention shall be paid to participants in all sports.

D. Responsibility & Management

Interscholastic athletics are a part of the educational program designed to meet the needs of the participants. All programs shall be organized and scheduled strictly for the benefit of the participating students whose health and safety shall be of primary consideration. Regional School District 8 adheres to all regulations of the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC), the regulatory agency for high school interscholastic athletic programs in Connecticut. The Board directs the administration to develop administrative regulations to implement this policy and balance requirements of academics and athletic participation.

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