

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

The Waynesboro School Board believes individual students will benefit through opportunities to grow physically and intellectually through their experience in self-discipline and their contributions to team effort made possible through competitive interschool and intramural team and individual sports activities.

It is the board's policy to provide high school students interscholastic athletic competition in a variety of sports. Students shall be allowed to participate in individual sports on the basis of their physical condition and desire. Qualified personnel shall be provided for coaching and supervising individual sports. In addition, it is the policy of the board to provide intramural athletic activities as an outgrowth of class instruction in physical education and commensurate with the grade level of the students involved.

The purpose of secondary school athletics is both educational and recreational. The athletic program should encourage participation by as many students as possible and should be carried on with the best interests of the participants as the first consideration.

It is recognized that a well-organized and well-conducted athletic program is a potent factor in the morale of a secondary student body and an important phase of good community-school relations. Too great an emphasis on winning contests or too consistent a record of losing them are both harmful to the development of good attitudes among students and the public.

Policy Conditions

1. Participation in interscholastic athletics is limited to students in grades 9-12.
2. The athletic program is an integral part of the high school curriculum and comes under the authority of the principal to the same degree as do all other phases of the curricula.

(continued)

3. Those teachers having direct responsibility for the conduct of the athletic program of the school are required to conform in all ways to the general education program as laid down by the board and administration, including such matters as schedules, financial expenditure, relationships with other schools, and health and safety regulations.
4. Waynesboro High School is a member of the Virginia High School League, and in all athletic matters will adhere firmly to the rules and regulations of that body and to the philosophy of sports which the League encourages. It shall be the duty of all school officials who have responsibility for conformance with the rules of the Virginia High School League to be thoroughly familiar with these rules. If there is any doubt as to rule interpretation, it is the principal's responsibility to provide the correct interpretation for those in his charge. Any violation of these rules shall be regarded as a serious offense. The eligibility of students to participate in the athletic program is determined in accordance with Virginia High School League regulations.
5. No student may start practice for any athletic team or cheerleading squad until he or she has been examined and approved by a medical doctor and until written consent has been obtained from the parent.
6. Expenditures for the athletic program are incorporated as part of the general budget of the school. Coaches of each sport will submit their budgetary needs to the athletic director for the next school year, and the latter will present the total athletic budget request to the principal for approval and inclusion in the general budget. No expenditures for athletic purposes may be made in excess of those listed in the budget without the approval of the principal.
7. System participation in interscholastic athletics shall be subject to approval by the board. This shall include approval of membership in any leagues, associations, or conferences, of rules for student participation, and of annual sports schedules.

Adopted: April 11, 1995
