

BLOOMSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT Policy Manual
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Section: PROGRAMS

Title: INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

Date Adopted: August 17, 1981

Date Last Revised: 18 October 2010

123. INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

- .1 The Bloomsburg Area School District Board of School Directors believes individual students will benefit through opportunities to grow physically and intellectually through their experience in self-discipline and their contribution to team effort made possible through competitive interscholastic and intramural team and individual sports activities.

- .2 It is the Board’s policy to provide students with interscholastic athletic competition in a variety of sports. Students will be allowed to participate in athletic competition 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.

- .3 The purpose of athletics is both educational and recreational. The athletic program should encourage participation by as many boys and girls as possible, and should be carried on with the best interests of the participants as the first consideration. This should be done without unreasonable interference with other obligations in the school community.

- .4 It is recognized that a well-organized and well-conducted athletic program is a potent factor in the morale of a 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.

- .5 The conditions of this policy should ensure the following:
 - .51 Participation in interscholastic athletics is limited to students in grades

9-12, with participation of properly supervised teams from grades 7 and 8 also permitted.

- .52 The athletic program is an integral part of the curriculum, and comes under the authority of the appropriate principal to the same degree, as do all other phases of the curriculum.
- .53 All individuals 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 expenditures, relationships with other schools, and health and safety regulations.
- .54 The Bloomsburg High School is a member of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA), and in all athletic matters will adhere firmly to the rules and regulations of that body and to the philosophy of sports which PIAA encourages. The eligibility of students to participate in the athletic program is determined in accordance with PIAA regulations. In addition, the Athletic Handbook of the school district is to be used as a guide for coaches, the athletic director and the high school principal, in establishing standards for the entire athletic program. It is the responsibility of the athletic director to distribute copies of this handbook to all coaches and to review its contents with them when appropriate.
- .55 No student may start practice for any athletic team until he or she has been examined and approved by a medical doctor and until written consent has been obtained from the parent/guardian.
- .56 Expenditures for the athletic program are incorporated as part of the general budget of the Board. Coaches for 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 appropriate 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 approval of the Superintendent.
- .57 Professional personnel and other staff members shall be considered for coaching positions. People who are employed outside the school district shall also be encouraged to apply for coaching positions. All coaching positions shall be advertised within the school district and externally.
- .571 Coaching assignments shall be automatically renewed except:
 - a. the school board may declare a position open at any time before a contract has been executed by a coach and the school district.

- b. if a coach resigns, the board shall declare the position open upon acceptance of the resignation.
- .572 Within sixty (60) days of the end of the sport:
 - a. assistant coaches shall be recommended by the head coach, athletic director and principal.
- .573 In the absence of an appointed head coach, the Board shall reserve the right to appoint, or not appoint, the assistant coaches prior to the selection of the head coach.
- .574 An individual will normally be appointed to serve as varsity head coach for no more than two sports. The Board, at its discretion, may waive this provision when it appears to be in the best interest of the school district.
- .58 Deleted 10/18/10
- .59 District 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.
- .6 The high school principal and the athletic director shall develop an appropriate method of recognition and awards for students who participate in interscholastic athletic activities. That information shall be published in the “Athletic Handbook.” The board shall authorize the purchase of a portrait of an individual or team that has achieved first place in a P.I.A.A. State Championship event. Portraits shall be displayed in a designated area of the high school.
- .7 The official colors of Bloomsburg High School athletic teams are red and white. Those colors should be utilized in athletic uniforms to the greatest extent practical.