

Concord School District Policy #690.1

Athletic Philosophy and Guidelines

The School Board believes that student activities are vital to the educational development of the whole child. Athletic activities can be essential components of an educational program because they develop students' self-esteem, social skills, and physical fitness. All students should be given the opportunity to participate in athletic experiences appropriately arranged to meet their developmental needs and individual interests.

The total District athletic program should primarily focus on the continued development of students and prepare them for lifelong participation in physical activities.

I. Elementary Schools

The elementary school program, in coordination with community programs, should focus on developing appropriate team and individual activities which provide a balance of cooperation and competition for every elementary-age students. Through these activities students should develop the following:

- motor skills and overall physical fitness
- knowledge of concepts, rules and basic skills in various games
- sportsmanship through practicing self-control, safe practices and personal responsibility
- both interest and enjoyment in participating in physical activity

II. Rundlett Middle School (RMS)

The middle school program should provide opportunities for maximum athletic participation for every student in those grades. Effective coordination between school and community programs is essential. The individual, intramural and interscholastic activities offered to middle school students will be developed by administration with the approval of the Board. Through these activities, students should develop the following:

- more advanced and diverse skills in a widening range of athletic activities
- increased physical ability through specific skill instruction and fitness programs
- an understanding that participation is a privilege which demands personal responsibility and a sense of fair play

III. Concord High School (CHS)

The high school program should provide a wide variety of opportunities for participation, ranging from individual and intramural activities to competitive interscholastic athletics programs. Effective coordination between school and

community programs is essential. The administration may choose to offer freshman, junior varsity, or varsity teams, using guidelines approved by the Board. Through all of these activities, students should develop the following:

- good sportsmanship as evidenced by fair play, teamwork, discipline, and commitment
- a sense of personal fitness and sound health concepts for lifelong wellness
- a sense of responsibility to self, the student body, the school and the community.

A. Considerations used to add or discontinue interscholastic athletic activities at CHS

- There is a significant interest in having the activity as shown by student participation.
- The activity helps to maintain gender balance in opportunities for students to participate.
- There are sufficient facilities available for participants to practice and compete.
- The costs for the activity are clearly delineated and sources of financial support are approved.
- The activity is a recognized sport by the state athletics association.
- There is coordination with community organizations that offer the same sport so as to eliminate or minimize both overlapping seasons and competing demands on students.
- A competitive schedule can be arranged.
- Any new activity will not have a long-term negative impact on existing programs.

B. Considerations used to add or discontinue interscholastic athletic activities at the middle school level

- There is significant interest in having a school team.
- There are viable alternatives either at school or in the community for all students who wish to participate in this sport.
- A competitive schedule can be arranged which is appropriate for middle school students in terms of time spent, distance traveled, and frequency of contests.
- There are sufficient facilities available for participants to practice and compete.
- The activity helps to maintain gender balance in opportunities for students to participate.

- The costs for the activity are clearly delineated and sources of financial support are approved.
 - The activity does not involve undue demands on students at the middle school grades.
- C. Considerations used to add or discontinue intramural athletic activities – at both RMS and CHS
- There is significant interest in the activity.
 - The activity will provide skill building at the middle school level and appropriate amounts of competition for both middle and high school students.
 - The activity will help to maintain gender balance in opportunities for students to participate.
 - There are sufficient facilities available for participants to practice and compete.
 - The costs of the activity are clearly delineated and sources of financial support are approved.
 - The activity has been coordinated with community programs.

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