Policy 123 — Interscholastic Athletics

Printed 10/30/2026

Policy Number	123
Title	Interscholastic Athletics
Version	v1 · 10/30/2026 · DRAFT

Interscholastic Athletics

Purpose

The Board recognizes the value of a program of interscholastic athletics as an integral part of the total school experience for all district students and as a conduit for community involvement.

The **interscholastic athletic** program fosters the growth of school loyalty within the student body as a whole and **inspires** community interest.

Interscholastic athletic activities and practice sessions provide opportunities to teach the values of competition, sportsmanship, and teamwork.

Definition

For purposes of this policy, the program of **interscholastic athletics includes** all activities relating to competitive or exhibition sport contests, games or events involving individual students or teams of students when such events occur between schools within this district or outside this district.

Authority

It shall be the policy of the Board to offer opportunities for participation in interscholastic athletic programs to male and female students on as equal a basis as is practicable and without discrimination, in accordance with **applicable laws,** regulations **and Board policies**.[1][2][3] **[4] [5]**

The Board shall approve a program of interscholastic athletics and require that all facilities utilized in that program, whether or not the property of this Board, properly safeguard both players and spectators and are kept free from hazardous conditions.[6]

The Board shall determine the standards of eligibility to be met by all students participating in **the** interscholastic **athletic** program. Such standards shall require that each student, before participating in any interscholastic **athletic** activity, be covered by student accident insurance and undergo a physical examination by a licensed physician **to ensure that there are no obvious illnesses and/or injuries that would place the student or others at enhanced risk of injury**.[6]**[7]**

The **Board adopts the** eligibility standards set by the Constitution **and Bylaws** of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association **(P.I.A.A.)**.

The Board directs that no student may participate in interscholastic athletics who has not:[6]

1. Met the requirements for academic eligibility.
2. Complied with the requirements of **applicable handbooks,** Board policies and administrative regulations. **[8] [9] [10]**
3. Attended school regularly. **[11]**
4. Been in attendance on the day of the athletic event or practice for the hours required.
5. Returned all school athletic equipment previously used.
6. Adhered to **other** applicable **conduct** standards.

Off-Campus Activities

Student conduct that occurs off school property **or during nonschool hours shall comply with the provisions of the student discipline policy addressing on and off-campus activities.** **[10]**

Delegation of Responsibility

Each school year, prior to participation in an interscholastic athletic activity, every student athlete and their parent/guardian shall sign and return the **acknowledgment** of receipt and review of the following: **[8] [9]** [12][13]

1. Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury Information Sheet.

2. Sudden Cardiac Arrest Symptoms and Warning Signs Information Sheet**, that includes information about electrocardiogram testing**.

The Superintendent or designee shall annually prepare, approve and present to the Board for its consideration a program of interscholastic athletics, which shall include a complete schedule of events.

The Superintendent or designee shall disseminate rules for the conduct of students participating in interscholastic athletics. Such rules shall be in conformity with regulations of the State Board of Education, the P.I.A.A. and the district.

The Superintendent shall ensure that similar athletic programs are offered to both sexes in proportion to the district's enrollment**, in accordance with Title IX regulations**.[3]

The Superintendent shall ensure that interscholastic athletics are open to all eligible students and that all students are fully informed of the opportunities available to them.[14] [15]

Guidelines

Male/Female Athletic Opportunities Report

By October 15 of each year, on the designated disclosure form, the Superintendent or designee shall report to the PA Department of Education the interscholastic athletic opportunities and treatment for male and female secondary school students for the preceding school year.[16]

By November 1 of each year, the completed disclosure form shall be made available for public inspection during regular business hours and posted on the district's website.[16]

The availability of the completed disclosure form shall be announced by posting a notice on school bulletin boards, in the school newspaper, on any electronic mailing list or list serve, and by any other reasonable means.[16]

Name, Image and Likeness

Students and their parents/guardians are responsible for following the rules set by the P.I.A.A. for the student to maintain their amateur status in order to be continuously eligible to participate in the district's interscholastic athletics program. [17]

Students may use their own name, image and likeness for such permissible activities that include commercial endorsements, promotional activities, social media presence, product or service advertisements and unique digital items/assets. [17]

District employees and any individual affiliated with a P.I.A.A. member school, including booster clubs, coaches, collectives, administrators and alumni, are prohibited from soliciting, arranging, negotiating or paying for a student's use of their name, image and likeness and/or the provision of consideration to a student for the use of their name, image and likeness. This provision does not apply if the use of the name, image and likeness is for their own child. [17]

Students must notify the building principal or Athletic Director upon entering into any type of name, image and likeness contracts or agreements within seventy-two (72) hours of entering into such contract or agreement. Such notification does not serve as approval by the district of any name, image and likeness contract or agreement. [17]

Footnotes

[1] 22 PA Code 4.27
pacodeandbulletin.gov
pacodeandbulletin.gov
Legal Reference
View source

[2] 24 P.S. 1601-C
palegis.us
palegis.us
Legal Reference
View source

[3] 34 CFR 106.41
ecfr.gov
ecfr.gov
Legal Reference
View source

[4] Pol. 103
Policy Reference
Open policy

[5] Pol. 103.1
Policy Reference
Open policy

[6] 24 P.S. 511
palegis.us
palegis.us
Legal Reference
View source

[7] PIAA Bylaws, Article V
piaa.org
piaa.org
Legal Reference
View source

[8] Pol. 123.1
Policy Reference
Open policy

[9] Pol. 123.2
Policy Reference
Open policy

[10] Pol. 218
Policy Reference
Open policy

[11] Pol. 204
Policy Reference
Open policy

[12] 24 P.S. 5323
palegis.us
palegis.us
Legal Reference
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[13] 24 P.S. 1425
palegis.us
palegis.us
Legal Reference
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[14] 22 PA Code 12.1
pacodeandbulletin.gov
pacodeandbulletin.gov
Legal Reference
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[15] 22 PA Code 12.4
pacodeandbulletin.gov
pacodeandbulletin.gov
Legal Reference
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[16] 24 P.S. 1603-C
palegis.us
palegis.us
Legal Reference
View source

[17] PIAA Bylaws, Article II
piaa.org
piaa.org
Legal Reference
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Legal References

CITED REFERENCES

[1] 22 PA Code 4.27

[2] 24 P.S. 1601-C et seq

[3] 34 CFR 106.41

[4] Pol. 103

[5] Pol. 103.1

[6] 24 P.S. 511

[7] PIAA Bylaws, Article V

[8] Pol. 123.1

[9] Pol. 123.2

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES