

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Cherry Hill, New Jersey

POLICY 6142.3

PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS - ATHLETIC PROGRAM

Participation in a variety of athletic activities is a valuable and vital part of public education. We believe that athletic experiences should develop our student athletes physically, mentally, socially and emotionally; they provide an opportunity for individual participants to develop responsibility, self-reliance, self-esteem and heightened cultural and emotional awareness. The success of our athletic teams is measured not only by well-coached student athletes performing up to their potential, but also by the realization of sportsmanship and leadership goals. The Board of Education takes pride in supporting an athletic program which continuously reinforces the values of good sportsmanship and good mental health, as well as, self-discipline, personal commitment, team pride, enthusiasm, loyalty and school spirit.

We believe that coaching of the highest quality is integral to the success of the program. The coach's primary role is that of teacher who is knowledgeable of the sport, who develops and inspires loyalty in the student athletes, who treats the student athletes with intelligence and sensitivity and who is a role model for these student athletes. The athletic program as a whole should be conducted in accordance with Board of Education goals and policies.

The Cherry Hill Board of Education also believes that participation in athletics involves responsibility as well as reward for all those in the program: athletes, parents, coaches and administrators. Participation in the athletic program carries with it responsibilities to the school, to the sport, to the student body, to the community, and to the student athletes themselves. The athletic program provides student athletes with experience and training that develops a lifetime set of values.

Definition: For the purposes of this policy, “unsportsmanlike behavior” shall refer to any person attending a Cherry Hill School District sports event who

1. initiates or engages in a verbal or physical threat or abuse aimed at any student, coach, official, or parent or,
2. initiates or engages in a fight or scuffle with any students, coach, official, parent or other person,

if the conduct occurs at or in connection with a school sponsored sports event.

Definition: For the purpose of this policy, “school sponsored athletic event” shall refer to any athletic event, including home, away or neutral site, in which a Cherry Hill School participates in interscholastic competition.

The Cherry Hill Board of Education recognizes that as a spectator, it is a privilege to attend and observe a contest and to demonstrate support for one's team and youth athletics in general. The District encourages members of the community to support school sponsored competitive activities in a safe and orderly environment. It is expected that all spectators shall behave in a respectful manner that reflects positively on the school community. The District will provide an environment free from unsportsmanlike behaviors (e.g. verbal or physical harassment) and will not tolerate such conduct from anyone in attendance.

The Superintendent shall develop procedures for those individuals, as determined by district administrators or their designees, found to be in violation of this policy.

GOALS:

The Cherry Hill Public Schools Athletic Program establishes the following goals:

1. To enhance self-esteem in student athletes.
2. To develop a sense of pride in student athletes towards self, team, school and community.
3. To enhance the student athletes' opportunities for attending an institution of higher learning when combined with their academic successes.
4. To provide an opportunity to develop self-reliance skills and teach student athletes how the skills learned in athletics can be applied to life-long experiences.
5. To develop a sense of values in student athletes that will promote sportsmanship, respect, commitment, responsibility and cooperation.
6. To develop in student athletes an awareness, respect and understanding of the uniqueness and blending of human differences.
7. To provide student athletes with an opportunity to participate in various levels of competition.
8. To provide experiences that will develop student athletes mentally, physically, socially and emotionally.
9. To provide the opportunity for student athletes to develop leadership qualities, as well as becoming contributing team members.
10. To provide student athletes with the best possible instruction and guidance by hiring coaches that are knowledgeable, sensitive and positive role models.

11. To provide student athletes with the opportunity to develop skills, learn strategies and become knowledgeable about a particular sport.
12. To encourage wholesome relationships among participants, spectators, schools and communities.

Related Policies: Policy 5131: Conduct and Discipline
 Policy 6145.4: Athletic Practices on Religious/Cultural Holidays
 Policy 6142.4: Co-Curricular Activities

Related Procedures : A-14: Athletic and Co-Curricular Eligibility
 A-17: Prevention of Violence
 A-19: Interscholastic Athletic Program – High Schools
 A-20: Middle School Athletic Program
 C-2: Cancellation of Activities/Athletics Due to Inclement Weather

Legal References N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3 *Voluntary associations regulating conduct of student activities; membership; rules and regulations; appeals*
 N.J.S.A. 18A:26-2.1 et al. *Supervisory certificate required for appointment as director of athletics*
 N.J.S.A. 18A:36-20 *Discrimination; prohibition*
 N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-1 et seq. *Substance abuse*
See particularly:
 N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-9, -10, -11
 N.J.S.A. 18A:42-2 *School orchestra not to compete with civilian musicians; exceptions*
 N.J.S.A. 18A:43-1 *Accident insurance for pupils authorized*
 N.J.A.C. 6:3-8.1 et seq. *Athletics Procedures*
See particularly:
 N.J.A.C. 6:3-8.1(c), -8.1(d), -8.1(f)
 N.J.A.C. 6:4-1.3(a) *Policy development*
 N.J.A.C. 6:4-1.5(f) *School and classroom practices*
 N.J.A.C. 6:8-4.1 *Review of mandated programs and services*
 N.J.A.C. 6:11-3.24 *Athletics personnel*
 N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.4(a)6 *District policies and procedures*
 N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.1 et seq. *General Provisions for School Health Services*
See particularly:
 N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2
 N.J.A.C. 6A:30-1.1 et seq. *Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts*
 20 U.S.C.A. 1681 et seq. - *Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972*
 29 U.S.C.A. 794 et seq. - *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973*
 Krupp v. Bd. of Ed. of Union County Reg. H.S. Dist. #1, 278 N.J. Super. 31 (App. Div. 1994) cert. den. 140 N.J. 277 (1994)
 NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations
 Manual for the Evaluation of Local School Districts (August 2000)
 Multi-year Equity Plan for the Academic Years 2000-2001 through 2002 2003, New Jersey State Department of Education Division of Student Services Office of Bilingual Education and Equity Issues

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