

## PHILOSOPHY OF MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS

The athletic program can be an important part of the total educational process. It is the philosophy of the Board of Education that middle school athletics will be a co-curricular program that will provides opportunities for all eligible students to develop skills, productive work habits, behaviors, and attitudes essential to continuing growth and development and is linked to the regular curriculum. The assistant principal who has been assigned athletic duties will be responsible for overseeing the program.

The Board believes that the primary teaching emphasis of middle school athletics is to encourage participation, with no denial of participation based on athletic ability, and teach skills in a competitive and safe environment. The tenets of a quality middle school athletic program will require that the collective efforts of all coaches be focused on the following: increased student participation, increased parent and staff (teacher and administrator) involvement, improved student interest in school, growth in student self-esteem and self confidence, student satisfaction from belonging to a team that works toward mutually acceptable goals, skill development in respective athletic activities (technique, strength, agility, running, jumping, throwing, etc.), and student growth in responsible behavior (attendance, care of equipment, and training rules).

Legal Ref.: Iowa Code § 279.8 (2011).

Cross Ref.: 510.1 Eligibility Rules Governing Athletics

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