

**STUDENT ATHLETICS – INTERSCHOLASTIC, INTRAMURAL
AND INDIVIDUAL SPORTS ACTIVITIES.**

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to set forth the expectation of the North Kingstown School Committee that the establishment and operation of a high school athletic program should be both educational and recreational. This program should encourage participation by as many boys and girls as possible and should be carried out 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.

PHILOSOPHY:

The North Kingstown School Committee 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 sports.

POLICY STATEMENT:

It is the School Committee's policy to provide high school students interscholastic athletic competition in a variety of sports. Students shall be allowed to participate in individual sports on the basis of their physical condition and desire. Qualified personnel shall be provided for coaching and supervising individual sports.

The School Committee recognizes that a well organized and well conducted interscholastic athletic program is a potent factor in the morale of a high school 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. The Committee sees the goal of such athletics as the life strength, self-reliance, emotional maturity, social growth, and good sportsmanship.

POLICY CONDITIONS:

1. Participation in high school interscholastic athletics is limited to students in grades 9-12 with participation of properly supervised teams from grades 6-8 also permitted in a limited program within their own grade levels with other schools.
2. The athletic program is an integral part of the high school curriculum and comes under the authority of the principal to the same degree as do all other phases of the curriculum.
3. Those teachers and coaches having direct responsibilities 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 School Committee and administration. This includes such matters as schedules, financial expenditures, relationships with other schools, and health and safety regulations.
4. The North Kingstown High School is a member of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League (RIIL) under the direction of the Rhode Island Secondary Principals Association, and in all athletic matters will adhere firmly to the rules and regulations of that body and to the philosophy of sports which the Association encourages. The eligibility of students

to participate in the Athletic program is determined in accordance with the RIIL regulations and local school policy.

5. No student may start practice for any interscholastic athletic team until he or she has been examined and approved by a medical doctor within fifteen months from the official starting date of that sport and the pre-participation permission slip and physical form are signed by a parent and the student athlete.

Until they provide primary proof of health insurance, school insurance will be made optional to all families. It is mandatory that all interscholastic football players purchase “football only” insurance through the school insurance provider.

6. Expenditures for the athletic program are incorporated as part of the overall general school budget which is the responsibility of the Athletic Director but overseen by the Principal and the Director of Administrative Services. All expenditures must follow the Purchase Procedures, policy DJF and the Administrative Regulations for Requisitions, policy DJFA-R. If the approved athletic budget appears to have cost overruns, the Director of Athletics will alert the Superintendent prior to any further expenditure.

The Athletic Director will submit a pre and post-season budget for each sport to the Superintendent. The pre- and post season budget will consist of all expenditures, revenues, encumbrances and unencumbered balances for each sport at each school, including both donations and expenditures of the athletic budget. Coaches of each sport shall submit their budgetary needs to the Director of Athletics for the next school year, and the latter will present the total athletic budget request to the Superintendent for inclusion in the general budget by October.

7. Intramural programs at the middle and high schools shall conform to the same budget process as stated above and all attempts shall be made to ensure equity of activities access and compensation among schools. Oversight compensation for the intramural programs should be set at the program level only.

8. District participation in interscholastic athletics shall be subject to approval by the School Committee. This shall include approval of membership in any leagues, associations, conferences, or rules for student participation and or annual sports schedules, particularly post-season contests.

9. Every effort shall be made to have adequate medical supervision available at all Interscholastic athletic competitions in accordance with interscholastic rules.

10. The salaries of coaches shall be in accordance with schedules agreed to in the Contract Agreement between the School Committee and the Teachers' Association. However, Coaching positions and assignments are not limited to certificated school personnel.

Adopted: August 26, 1974

Revised: October 20, 2009, Sept. 11. 2012