

INTERSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION

The Norwood Board of Education considers all competitive extracurricular activities – academic, artistic and athletic – an integral part of the total educational program.

Competitive activities provide pupils with valuable experiences and opportunities. Practice for or performance in any competitive event shall not interfere with the regular educational program.

The board shall approve all proposed interscholastic competition for students in grades 6 – 8 either as a schedule or as a discrete event, whichever is appropriate. Contests of any other kind for pupils in grades K – 8 shall be approved by the Chief School Administrator.

The board shall appoint coaches, advisors, physicians and other necessary supervisory personnel upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator. The Chief School Administrator shall also ensure that training programs/regulations are developed for all extracurricular athletic activities and that all physical facilities involved in any competition in which district schools take part shall be adequate, safe and sanitary.

Public recognition shall be given to participants in academic or artistic competitions in the same measure as to athletic competitors. The district's Affirmative Action Resolution and Equity Plan in school and classroom practices shall apply to determining eligibility for competition, approval of each competitive activity in which pupils officially represent the district, and district expenditure to provide facilities and coaches.

Parental Consent

No pupil may participate in a school-sponsored physical activity outside the regular physical education curriculum without a signed consent form from a parent/guardian naming the activity and acknowledging that the activity may be hazardous.

Academic Eligibility

Academic standards for eligibility shall be those established by policy 6145, "Extracurricular Activities".

Attendance Standards

Attendance standards shall be those set in policy 5113, "Absences and Excuses". In particular, a pupil shall not participate in a performance, exhibition, practice or athletic event unless he/she has been present in school that day or has been absent for an excused reason other than for sickness.

Disciplinary Standards

Disciplinary standards are based on board policies 5114, "Suspension and Expulsion" and 5131, "Conduct/discipline". Pupils on disciplinary probation or serving a detention or suspension may not practice, perform or compete. The Chief School Administrator and the Principal shall decide at the end of a probation or suspension whether the pupil may return to practice and competition.

Special Education Pupils

To participate in Interscholastic Competition, special education pupils must meet the same requirements listed above in conformity with IEPs.

Physical Eligibility

All pupils in grades six through eight participating in interscholastic athletics must be given a medical examination within 365 days prior to the first practice session, with a health history update if the examination was completed more than 60 days prior to the first practice session of the first sport participated in. The medical examination shall be given at the student's *medical home*, as defined in file code 5141.3, "Health Examinations and Immunizations":

"Medical home" means a health care provider (physician or advanced practice nurse) and that provider's practice site chosen by the student's parent/guardian for the provision of health care.

If a student does not have a medical home, the school physician shall conduct the medical examination. Examinations shall be made available throughout the school year consistent with the district athletic schedule. The examination shall be documented on the form approved by the commissioner of education and include, at a minimum, the components listed in the administrative code. In the event a private physician is used, the medical examination shall not be at the expense of the board of education.

Each district must provide written notification, signed by the district physician, to the parent/guardian, stating approval of the student's participation in athletics based upon the medical examination or the reasons for the disapproval of the student's participation. The health findings of the medical examination for participation must be made part of the student's individual health record and must be documented on a form issued by the Commissioner of Education.

The procedures for the medical examination to determine the fitness of a pupil to participate in athletics shall include a form for a medical history to be filled out and returned by a parent/guardian and a form to be filled out by the examining physician.

The medical examination to determine the fitness of a pupil to participate in athletics shall include, as a minimum, the following:

A. A medical history questionnaire, completed by the parent/guardian of the pupil, to determine if the pupil:

1. Has been medically advised not to participate in any sport, and the reason for such advice;
2. Is under a physician's care and the reasons for such care;
3. Has experienced loss of consciousness after an injury;
4. Has experienced a fracture or dislocation;
5. Has undergone any surgery;
6. Takes any medication on a regular basis, the names of such medication and the reasons for such medication;
7. Has allergies including hives, asthma and reaction to bee stings;
8. Has experienced frequent chest pains or palpitations;
9. Has a recent history of fatigue and undue tiredness;
10. Has a history of fainting with exercise;
11. Has a history of family members dying suddenly.

B. A physical examination which shall include, as a minimum, no less than:

1. Measurement of weight, height, and blood pressure;
2. Examination of the skin to determine the presence of infection, scars of previous surgery, or trauma, jaundice, and purpura;
3. Examination of the eyes to determine visual acuity, use of eyeglasses or contact lenses, and examination of the sclera for the presence of jaundice;
4. Examination of the ears to determine the presence of acute or chronic infection, perforation of the eardrum and gross hearing loss;
5. Examination of the nose to assess the presence of deformity which may affect endurance;
6. Assessment of the neck to determine range of motion and the presence of pain associated with such motion;
7. Examination of chest contour;
8. Auscultation and percussion of the lungs;
9. Assessment of the heart with attention to the presence of murmurs, noting rhythm and rate;
10. Assessment of the abdomen with attention to the possible presence of hepatomegaly, splenomegaly, or abnormal masses;
11. Assessment of the back to determine range of motion and abnormal curvature of the spine;
12. Examination of extremities to determine abnormal mobility or immobility, deformity, instability, muscle weakness or atrophy, surgical scars and varicosities;
13. Examination of the testes to determine the presence and descent of both testes, abnormal masses or configurations, or hernia;
14. Assessment of physiological maturation;
15. Neurological examination to assess balance/coordination and the presence of abnormal reflexes.

The medical report must include a recommendation concerning the student's participation from the examining healthcare provider.

Insurance

The Board of Education does *not* provide any accident insurance. As a convenience to the parents of students attending the Norwood Public School District, administration may offer accident insurance for students from a duly authorized insurance company. ***The board assumes no expense or liability under such a policy.***

Good Sportsmanship

The board believes that instilling habits of good sportsmanship should be one of the primary goals of athletic endeavors and that all district employees should model good behaviors in this area.

It is especially important that the Athletic Coordinator and coaches accept the responsibility for encouraging young athletes to handle themselves in a sportsmanlike way and be models of self-control and dignity for players and spectators. Coaches shall include discussions on courtesy and sportsmanlike behavior as part of pre-game activities. Student fans shall be reminded that their conduct reflects on this district and that poor sportsmanship will be disciplined as outlined in the Student Athlete Handbook.

Parents/guardians and other adult spectators shall also be encouraged to act as models for young people by demonstrating self-control and dignity at all athletic events.

Unsportsmanlike behavior as exhibited through verbal abuse, rude gestures, taunts, obscenities, thrown objects, etc., shall not be tolerated in students, parents, staff or any persons in attendance at district athletic competitions. Discipline may include, but not be limited to, eviction from the competition and prevention from attending further competitions.

The Chief School Administrator shall prepare regulations on good sportsmanship and ensure their dissemination to students, parents/guardians and the community.

Date: June 16, 1986
 Revised: November 18, 1996
 Revised: January 28, 2002
 Revised: March 26, 2007
 Revised: June 29, 2009

Legal References:

<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 5:17-1 <u>et seq.</u>	Athletic code of conduct permitted; "youth sports event" defined...
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:11-3	Voluntary associations regulating conduct of student activities; membership; rules and regulations; appeals
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:26-2.1 <u>et al.</u>	Supervisory certificate required for appointment as director of athletics
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:36-20	Discrimination; prohibition
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40A-1 <u>et seq.</u>	Substance abuse
<u>See particularly:</u>	
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40A-9, -10, -11	
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:42-2	School orchestra not to compete with civilian musicians; exceptions
<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:43-1	Accident insurance for pupils authorized
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:7-1.4	Responsibilities of the district board of education

<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:7-1.7	Equality in school and classroom practices
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:9-5.19	Athletics personnel
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:16-1.4(a)6	District policies and procedures
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:16-2.1 <u>et seq.</u>	General Provisions for School Health Services
<u>See particularly:</u>	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:16-2.2	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:30-1.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-9.1 <u>et seq.</u>	Athletic Procedures
<u>See particularly:</u>	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-9.1(c), -9.1(d), -9.1(f)	
<u>N.J.A.C.</u> 6A:32-14.1	Review of mandated programs and services
20 <u>U.S.C.A.</u> 1681 <u>et seq.</u>	- Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
29 <u>U.S.C.A.</u> 794 <u>et seq.</u>	- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
 <u>Krupp v. Bd. of Ed. of Union County Reg. H.S. Dist. #1</u> , 278 <u>N.J. Super.</u> 31 (App. Div. 1994) cert. den. 140 <u>N.J.</u> 277 (1994)	
NJSIAA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations	
<u>Manual for the Evaluation of Local School Districts</u>	
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	

Cross References:

1322	Contests for pupils
3250	Income from fees, fines, charges
3453	School activity funds
3530	Insurance management
3541.31	Privately owned vehicles
5125	Pupil records
5126	Awards for achievement
5131	Conduct/discipline
5141.1	Accidents
5141.3	Health examinations and immunizations
5143	Insurance
5145.4	Equal educational opportunity
6121	Nondiscrimination/affirmative action
6142.4	Physical education and health
6145	Extracurricular activities
6146	Graduation requirements
6147.1	Evaluation of individual student performance

