

Athletic Philosophy

The interscholastic athletic program at Stevenson High School is a vital and integral part of the total educational program. Research indicates a student involved in extracurricular activities has a greater chance for success during adulthood. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant are exactly those that will promote a successful life after high school.

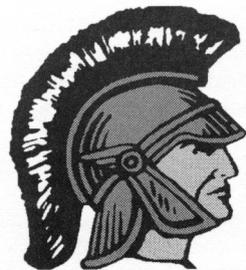
The purpose of interscholastic athletics is to make a positive contribution to the development of the participants, spectators, school and community.

As an integral part of the educational process, the athletic program should always conform and support the objectives and standards of the school. The total educational curriculum must take precedence to the athletic program. Athletes should strive for educational excellence, playing excellence, as well as staying within the boundaries of good sportsmanship.

We hope the information provided here makes both your child's and your experience with the Stevenson High School athletic program less stressful and more enjoyable.

Parent Code

As parents of students at Stevenson High School, we understand that attending any school activity or athletic event (paid or unpaid) does not give us the right to be unsportsmanlike, abusive physically or verbally to advisors, officials, players, coaches or fans. We understand that attending a Stevenson High School athletic event or extra-curricular activity is a privilege and that school personnel may revoke the privilege temporarily or permanently for inappropriate conduct.



Guide for Parent/Coach Communications

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*Striving for excellence;
learning for life.*

Academic Eligibility Standards for Participation as a Student-Athlete in the Livonia Public Schools

Participation in school sponsored athletic programs play a significant role in the development of our student-athletes. Lifelong traits such as teamwork, self-discipline, effort, and perseverance give substance to the concept of 'educational athletics'. Granting all this, the primary focus of our student-athletes will always be in the arena of academic achievement. Performance in the academic classroom supersedes performance on the athletic fields.

Toward that end, LPS student-athletes will be expected to be passing all of their classes to remain eligible for competition in athletic contests. The guidelines for this eligibility standard are set forth below:

CARD MARKING GRADES

- Grades of student-athletes will be reviewed by the athletic director at five week intervals.
- Athletes that have a failing grade at the time of the review will be deemed ineligible for competition for a period of one week.
- A failing grade is defined by a grade of less than 60%.
- The one week period is defined as Monday through Sunday.
- Student-athletes who are failing one class may be eligible for competition if their grade point average in their remaining classes is at a 2.0 or above.
- Ineligible students may practice with their teams, but are not to compete during scrimmages, games, or other events and contests.
- Ineligible students may become eligible after sitting out a week and by having improved their academic performance such that they have no failing grades or that their current GPA is at or above a 2.0.
- Ineligible students will remain on a weekly ineligible status. Their grades will be reviewed on a continuing weekly basis until they have met the performance standard and are deemed eligible.

SEMESTER GRADES

- The athletic director will review end-of semester grades.
- All student athletes that have earned a failing grade on the end-of-semester report card will be deemed ineligible for competition for a period of one academic semester.
- After being ineligible for one academic semester, the student may return to eligible status if they have met the academic performance standard.
- A failing grade will be defined as an E, an EW, or a NC as reported for the semester grade.
- Student-athletes who are failing one class may be eligible for competition if their grade point average in their remaining classes is at or above a 2.0.
- Ineligible students may practice with their team, but are not to compete during scrimmages, games, or other events and contests.

In addition:

- Card marking and semester grade point averages will be calculated using a standard scale such that A = 4.0, B = 3.0, C = 2.0, D = 1.0, E = 0.0.
- Additional Honor points for Accelerated, AP, or IB classes will not be included in the calculation of a student's GPA.
- Ineligible students will not have any portion of their athletic fee reimbursed.

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Common Understandings of Athletic Directors:

- If a student is eligible at the ten week mark, that student-athlete will not be checked again until the fifteenth week.
- Summer school coursework can make an ineligible student eligible during the fall semester. Courses that are taken during the summer do not have to be the exact courses that were failed in the previous semester. The classes passed during the summer will replace the failed classes with regard to athletic eligibility.
- Unless otherwise specified in an Individual Educational Plan Committee, the eligibility standards will apply to special education students.

Objectives of Participation

1. To provide a positive image of school activities at Stevenson High School
2. To provide students with opportunities for physical, mental, and emotional development
3. To experience team play along with loyalty, cooperation, and fair play
4. To create a desire to succeed and excel
5. To practice self-discipline and emotional maturity while learning to make decisions under pressure
6. To develop an understanding of the value of extra-curricular activities in a balanced educational experience
7. To demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times
8. To develop leadership qualities and skills

Expectations for Stevenson High School Student/Athletes

The following ten expectations are what a Stevenson High School student/athlete should encompass:

1. Follow all training rules, school rules and regulations.
2. Exhibit good sportsmanship towards the opponents, officials, teammates and fans.
3. Work to excel in academics.
4. Put team goals ahead of personal goals.
5. Be a role model for all students before, during and after school.
6. Have pride in yourself, your team, your school and care for your facility.
7. Respect, but never fear the opponent.
8. Work harder than the competition, both in and out of season, and never quit!
9. Be on time and prepared for practices, meetings and games.
10. Accept the results, learn from the mistakes, focus on the goal and never give up.

**Work Hard
Play Safe**

**Respect the Opponent
Respect the Officials
Accept the Results
Learn from Mistakes
Focus on the Goal!**

Parent/Coach Relationship

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations.

By establishing an understanding of each role, we are able to communicate the benefits of extra-curricular activities to children. As parents, when your children become involved in the athletic program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child.

This begins with clear communications from the coach.

Communication You Should Expect From Your Son/Daughter's Coach

1. Philosophy of the coach
2. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players
3. Locations and times of all practices and contests
4. Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning, etc.
5. Procedure should your child be injured during participation
6. Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation
7. Parent/athlete feedback forms will be available for your constructive input at the conclusion of the season

Communication Coaches Expect From Parents

The coach of your child's sport expects to receive the following communications from parents:

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance if and when possible
3. Specific concern in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations

As your child becomes involved in athletic programs at Stevenson High School, he or she will experience some of the most rewarding moments of his or her life.

It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate Concerns To Discuss With Coaches

1. What the expectations are for your son/ daughter during practices and games
2. Ways to help your child improve
3. Concerns about your child
4. Academic support and college opportunities

It is very difficult to accept your child's not playing as much as you may hope.

Coaches are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can be and should be discussed with your child's coach.

Other things must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues NOT Appropriate To Discuss With Coaches

It is inappropriate to discuss the following topics with coaches:

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling
4. Other student athletes

If You Have a Concern to Discuss with a Coach, This is the Procedure You Should Follow

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are to be encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be used to help promote a resolution of the issue:

1. Call to set up an appointment with the coach.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director at 734-744-2660, ext. 48116. She will set up the meeting for you.
3. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.
4. Use the 24-hour rule – wait to discuss a situation with a coach until 24 hours after the contest.

What Can a Parent Do if the Meeting With the Coach Did Not Provide a Satisfactory Resolution?

1. Call and set up an appointment to meet with the Athletic Director at 734-744-2660, ext. 48116 to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting, the appropriate next step can be determined if the situation is still unresolved.

Livonia Public Schools Dual Sport Participation Guidelines for High School

A Student Athlete at the High School level may participate in two sports in the same season (Dual Sport Participation) using the following guidelines:

- The student athlete must obtain agreement from both coaches that they are supportive of the student's plan (practice schedules, etc.) and that the student will be able to participate in both sports. If either of the coach disagrees, then the athletic director will facilitate and/or make the final decision.

- Once the plan is in place, the student athlete must declare his/her primary sport and from that point forward any conflicts will be dealt with by the student attending his/her primary sport. For example, if a football kicker/soccer player who declares soccer as his primary sport, if there is a soccer game the same night as a football game, the student athlete will participate in the soccer game.
- If there is a game for each sport that occurs on the same day at different start times, then the athlete may participate in both sport games however, the game schedule will not be manipulated to accommodate this situation.