PANTHER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: INTERSCHOLASTIC

ATHLETICS

ADOPTED: April 8, 2010

REVISED:

	123. INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS	
1. Purpose	The Board recognizes the value of a program of interscholastic athletics as an integral part of the total school experience for all district students and as a conduit for community involvement.	
2. Definition	For purposes of this policy, the program of interscholastic athletics shall include all activities relating to competitive or exhibition sport contests, games or events involving individual students or teams of students when such events occur between schools within this district or outside this district.	
3. Authority Title 22 Sec. 4.27 34 CFR Sec. 106.41 Pol. 103, 103.1	It shall be the policy of the Board to offer opportunities for participation in interscholastic athletic programs to male and female students on as equal a basis as is practicable and without discrimination, in accordance with law and regulations.	
SC 511	The Board shall approve a program of interscholastic athletics and require that all facilities utilized in that program, whether or not the property of this Board, properly safeguard both players and spectators and are kept free from hazardous conditions.	
SC 511	The Board shall determine the standards of eligibility to be met by all students participating in an interscholastic program. Such standards shall require that each student, before participating in any interscholastic activity, be covered by student accident insurance; be free of injury; and undergo a physical examination by a licensed physician.	
	The Board further adopts those eligibility standards set by the Constitution of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association.	

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SC 511	The Board directs that no student may participate in interscholastic athletics who has not:		
	1. Met the requirements for academic eligibility.		
Pol. 204	2. Attended school regularly.		
Pol. 122	3. Been in attendance on the day of the athletic event or practice for the hours required.		
	4. Returned all school athletic equipment previously used.		
Pol. 122, 218	5. Adhered to applicable discipline standards.		
	Off-Campus Activities		
Pol. 218	This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would violate the Code of Student Conduct if:		
	1. There is a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.		
	2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.		
	3. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school.		
	4. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, such as an agreement to complete a transaction outside of school that would violate the Code of Student Conduct.		
	5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.		
4. Delegation of Responsibility Pol. 122	The Superintendent or designee shall disseminate rules for the conduct of students participating in interscholastic athletics. Such rules shall be in conformity with regulations of the State Board of Education, the P.I.A.A. and the school district.		
	The Superintendent shall ensure that similar athletic programs are offered to both sexes in proportion to the district's enrollment.		

Title 22				
Sec.	12.1,	12.4		

The Superintendent shall ensure that interscholastic athletics are open to all eligible students and that all students are fully informed of the opportunities available to them.

The Athletic Director shall be responsible for the day-to-day operations involving the district's interscholastic athletic program. This responsibility flows through the Board, the Superintendent, and the building principal. Operationally, the Athletic Director and building principal shall administer all programs and prepare an Athletic Handbook for district coaches. The handbook shall delineate various responsibilities, procedures, and guidelines for the effective and efficient operation of district athletic programs.

An Assistant Athletic Director shall provide support and assistance to the Athletic Director in the performance of his/her duties.

The head coach is responsible to the Athletic Director/Assistant Athletic Director, as authorized.

Head coaches of varsity sports at Panther Valley High School are responsible for leadership, teaching and supervision of their sport. Each head coach is responsible for the overall supervision of his/her sport. Assistant coaches are directly responsible to the head coach.

5. Guidelines

Transportation

All athletic transportation for athletic practices and scheduled events shall be arranged by the Athletic Director.

The Supervisor of Transportation shall be given weekly requests for athletic transportation. S/He shall make schedules (daily). It will be the responsibility of the Athletic Director to work in cooperation with the Transportation Clerk, and then to inform head coaches of each sport of a weekly transportation schedule.

Pol. 810

Transportation shall be provided for all scheduled team events. Coaches shall adhere to transportation schedules.

Postponing Games/Practices

In the event of severe weather conditions or an emergency, it shall be the responsibility of the Athletic Director and the building principal to postpone scheduled athletic events.

An athletic event may not be played, either home or away, when school classes are suspended for the day, or if students are dismissed early because of severe weather conditions or an emergency situation.

An athletic practice may not be held when school classes are suspended for the day, or if students are dismissed early because of severe weather conditions or an emergency situation.

Scheduling Contests

The Athletic Director shall be the only individual responsible for scheduling all athletic contests within the district. Head coaches shall provide scheduling information, as requested by the Athletic Director.

All significant schedule changes are subject to Board approval. All contracts between the district and a competing school must be signed by the building principal.

Head coaches shall communicate promptly with the Athletic Director to schedule all events other than regularly scheduled league or conference games, as well as exhibition contests.

In the event scheduled date changes are requested, the decision shall be made by the Athletic Director and building principal.

Postponed events shall be played as soon after the regularly scheduled date as possible.

Tickets

Pol. 904

All Board members, the building principal and the Superintendent shall be given a courtesy pass for the season good for all athletic events.

The head coach of each admission-charged varsity sport shall receive two (2) tickets to his/her respective home events. Varsity assistant coaches shall receive one (1) ticket to home events.

Released Time

Every effort shall be made to curtail released time from school classes for athletic events. The building principal shall have total authority in determining any released time request.

Clinic attendance requests shall be submitted to the Athletic Director for recommendation and then forwarded to the building principal and Superintendent. Board approval shall be required.

Athletic Awards

Each athlete who meets the established requirements will be awarded a suitable item at the conclusion of his/her senior year in school.

The head coach of each varsity sport shall recommend members of his/her team for an item. Student athletes must participate for a full two (2) years, including senior year, to be eligible for an award.

Athletic Banners

All current banners hanging in the gym shall remain hanging. They may be repositioned, but not removed.

All athletic teams shall be entitled to have banners in the gymnasium.

All banners shall have the same shape, size, design and color combinations (black background, gold border, gold letters, 3 ft x 6 ft in size).

To qualify to have a team banner displayed, a team must win a division, league, district title, or eastern finalist in that sport. All individual banners shall follow the same pattern and format presently used (e.g., 1000 points in basketball).

Booster clubs or private donors will pay for division and individual banners. The district will pay the cost for banners for league titles or higher. The district will pay for state title banners.

Use Of Facilities

All head coaches of an outdoor sport must first have approval from the Athletic Director before using the gymnasium.

Any outside organization must apply in writing to the Board for athletic facility use. All use of facilities must be in accordance with Board policy.

At no time shall outside groups or individuals use school facilities when in conflict with district athletic teams and programs.

Pol. 707

The Board shall determine, when granting use of school facilities to outside groups, if a fee will be charged, and the amount of the fee.

Academic Eligibility

Pol. 122

The building principal shall have total authority in determining which students are eligible for athletic participation in accordance with P.I.A.A. and district guidelines.

In the event a student is ruled academically ineligible by the building principal, the student may not practice or participate in athletics until the ineligibility has been lifted by the principal.

The principal shall notify the Athletic Director concerning any student not eligible to participate. The Athletic Director shall notify the head coach, who is responsible for enforcing eligibility.

Meetings/Dinners

The head coach and his/her assistants shall be permitted to attend one (1) dinner meeting per school year involving his/her respective sport at district expense.

Voting privileges at meetings for the various sports shall be held by the building principal. In the event the principal does not attend a meeting, voting privileges shall be given to the Athletic Director.

Athletic Participation Of Transfer Students/Enrolled Students

The Board recognizes that the transfer of a student from another school district can involve circumstances beyond the student's control. However, the Board must do its best to ensure fair and equitable treatment of all students, both currently enrolled in the district and transferring into the district.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures to implement this policy, which will involve administration by the building principal and the Athletic and Activities Director.

The principal shall direct head athletic coaches to manage transfer students and enrolled students involved in athletics based on the following criteria:

1. The head coach will allow a transfer athlete to participate with the team for a period of three (3) or more days and use that period of time as an evaluation process and a try-out for the student.

- 2. After the set period of time, the head coach will decide if the student fits his/her criteria to qualify for participation on the team. If the student meets these standards, s/he will be allowed to participate with the team. If the student does not meet these standards, s/he will be cut from the team (this only applies to sports which currently cut athletes due to a limited number of participants as required or allowed).
- 3. If a student is already enrolled in the district and decides to try-out for an athletic team after the start of an athletic season (start date being the first official day of practice), s/he will not be allowed to participate on the team.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 511

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 4.27, 12.1, 12.4

Discrimination in Athletics, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations – 34 CFR Sec. 106.41

Board Policy – 103, 103.1, 122, 204, 218, 707, 810, 904