



School Committee Policy:

#564

Athletics

The purpose of athletics is to provide learning experiences for students which contribute to physical, mental, social and emotional growth. Athletics should foster the development of positive self-esteem and a climate among coaches and team members where **mutual respect, honor and integrity are valued**. In this way, athletics fulfills a necessary and important function in the entire educational process for each student athlete. The competitive interscholastic program in Maynard is a voluntary program designed to meet the needs and interests of the highly motivated student-athlete who has sufficient ability. The student-athlete, as well as the parent/guardian, must be prepared to make a major commitment to the maximum development of knowledge, skills and attitudes under the supervision of a thoroughly trained and effective coaching staff committed to the educational goals of the school system. Requirements for academic eligibility, attendance and behavior are set forth in the Student Handbooks. Part-time and home-schooled students who meet these criteria, and MIAA requirements, are welcome as team member. See Policy #660, "Part-time Students", Policy #562 "Student Activities" and Administrative Regs. #562.1 "Student Fees".

On the Varsity level, the purpose of the athletic program is to provide an opportunity for the highly skilled student-athlete to develop further and to earn the opportunity to participate at the most advanced level of an interscholastic sport, and on a team committed to attain the highest level of success. A major element in the success of this program is the improvement made by all student-athletes who participate in the sport. **On the Junior Varsity, Freshman and grade 7-8 level**, the purpose of the program is to develop the individual student-athlete to his/her fullest potential. Participation, teamwork and the development of individual proficiency in a sport will be cherished above the pursuit of winning games. The number of team members must allow the coach to ensure reasonable participation of each student-athlete.

Date Approved: 2/28/02

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Cross Reference: #14, 331, 562, 660, 661, MHS and FMS Student Handbooks, MIAA Blue Book

Legal Reference: MGL 71:47
