

<p align="center">Associated School Boards of South Dakota</p>	<p align="center">NEPN Code: IGDI</p>
<p align="center">Policy Reference Manual</p>	

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

The Board believes that students benefit from the experiences made possible through participation in interscholastic sports. Learning how to deal with success and failure, developing self-discipline, experiencing the successes of teamwork, and developing physical skills are some of the benefits which can come from these programs.

All interscholastic programs will require Board approval and will operate under the general supervision of the Superintendent. Qualified personnel will be assigned to supervise and coach the various sports as needed.

Membership of the District in an interscholastic athletic association or conference will be subject to annual approval by the Board. The Board will review the constitution and bylaws of any such organization, and its rules and regulations for member teams, before granting approval.

It is the practice of the Board to maintain membership for the District in the South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA). In the conduct of interscholastic athletic programs, the rules, regulations, and limitations outlined by that association will be followed.

Eligibility requirements for participating in athletic programs will be set by the school administration with the approval of the Board and will conform to the regulations of the SDHSAA. They will include the requirements that a student have the written permission of his parent or guardian to participate and will have been determined as physically fit for the sport by the school physician or his personal physician.

By signing the SDHSAA Consent Form the parent acknowledges the existence of potential dangers associated with athletic participation, participation in any athletic activity may involve injury of some type, the severity of such injuries can range from minor cuts, bruises, sprains, and muscle strains to more serious injuries such as injuries to the body's bones, joints, ligaments, tendons, or muscles, that catastrophic injuries to the head, neck and spinal cord and concussions and on rare occasions, injuries so severe as to result in total disability, paralysis and death may also occur.

The parent or guardian must sign a waiver to the effect that the student has health insurance coverage prior to the student participating in interscholastic athletic activities, including practice.

Legal References: SDCL 13-36-4 (Delegation of control of interscholastic activities to association)

Cross References: JGD: Student Suspension or Expulsion
IGDJ: Concussion Awareness and Prevention

Adopted: 1/1/2007

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Notes: ASBSD sample policies are intended to be a guide for school districts. As is the case with any policy, a local school district's unique circumstances, challenges and opportunities need to be considered.