

Interscholastic athletic programs provide certain opportunities and emphasize definite aims difficult to duplicate in other school activities. A primary purpose of athletics is to provide each individual with a good background in health and physical fitness. Interscholastic athletics, as a part of the overall educational program, certainly assist in the achievement of these goals.

The experience derived from participation in interscholastic athletics should be enjoyable and beneficial. Even though victories are significant in any athletic program it is understood that they do not come at the expense of educational objectives. In recognition of this fact it should be emphasized that positive reinforcement should be the primary motivator used when coaching athletes. Participation by all students is encouraged.

The objectives of the district's interscholastic athletic program are:

1. To give students an opportunity to participate in organized physical activity, recognizing that participation carries with it certain responsibilities.
2. To provide an outlet for athletic competition.
3. To provide a "whole school" interest and activity; to bring in students other than athletes and to include other student organizations.
4. To teach students good habits in health, hygiene and safety.
5. To teach new skills and offer opportunities to improve those already learned.
6. To provide opportunity to exemplify and observe good sportsmanship and good citizenship.
7. To provide opportunities for lasting friendships, both with teammates and opponents.
8. To teach that every sport has rules and regulations that must be followed.
9. To help students develop leadership skills, the ability to cooperate and meet responsibilities.

Student participation in the interscholastic athletic program does not guarantee that all of these objectives will be achieved. Every effort shall be made to show students the real goals and benefits for which sports were established. Students who participate in interscholastic athletics must meet all eligibility requirements (i.e., co-curricular activity code) and must follow all applicable rules and regulations as established by the local or state affiliation and the administration or Board. Applicable rules and regulations shall be published in appropriate handbooks.

The School District of Slinger shall not discriminate in student participation in athletic programs or activities, standards and rules of behavior, disciplinary actions or facilities usage on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin, color, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, handicap or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or handicap. This policy does not, however, prohibit the district from placing a student in an activity based on objective standards of performance, from providing separate programs in interscholastic athletics for males and females if such programs are comparable in type, scope and support from the District, or from providing separate toilet, locker and shower facilities. Discrimination complaints shall be processed in accordance with established procedures.

The Slinger School District will follow all guidelines for head injuries and concussions as detailed in s. 118.293, stats.

### **Legal References:**

### **Cross References:**

**Adoption Date:** 6/25/2018