

SECTION: PROGRAMS

TITLE: INTERSCHOLASTIC
ATHLETICS

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Palmyra Area School District

123. INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

1. Philosophy

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The aim of the interscholastic athletic program of Palmyra Area School District is to provide all students with an opportunity to participate, in some way, in a series of athletic contest and practices which should fill students needs for learning experiences in athletics, promote friendly competition fostering school spirit, and teach citizenship through sportsmanship.

Primarily, the interscholastic athletic program should be considered a part of the school program, educational in purpose because interscholastic teams should be considered as advanced classes not only for the teaching of special playing skills, but also for instruction in general areas of health, sanitation and safety. Therefore, it is essential that the athletic program fits harmoniously with overall educational aims and be controlled by the established state and local authorities.

Further, competition is a basic American tradition which an athletic program should foster. Friendly rivalries with neighboring communities give students opportunities to make new friends, develop school pride, improve playing skills and promote better community relations. Athletic contests can emphasize form, physical development, wholesome social experience and closer school-community rapport within the competitive spirit.

Finally, the school must exercise leadership to develop the qualities of fair play and courtesy in all aspects of interscholastic athletics. Contests provide opportunities to observe and exemplify good sportsmanship, which is good citizenship. All students, faculty, and fans, participating in athletic events, should recognize that it is an integral part of the school program because of its educational implications.

<p>2. Responsibility</p>	<p>The principal is responsible for all aspects of the athletic program conducted by the school. Also, PIAA constitution and by-laws clearly state “The principal of the high school in all matters pertaining to athletic relations of his/her school, is responsible to the PIAA. S/He may delegate some of these powers, but such delegation shall not relieve him/her of his/her responsibility.”</p> <p>Therefore, the principal must also seek and promote harmonious relationships between coaches, players, teachers, patrons, and other school officials. To achieve these tasks and to realize maximum quality and efficiency in the interscholastic athletic program, the principal may assign certain duties, as specified, to the athletic director, faculty manager of athletics, equipment manager, and coaches. However, final responsibility for all functions rests with the principal.</p>
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