

CHAPTER 5.00 – STUDENTS

ATHLETICS

5.80+

- (1) Each school may establish a board of control for athletics to include the school principal, instructional staff members, the athletic director, and any other member deemed appropriate by the school principal.
- (2) All District high schools and schools with middle grades shall be members of the Florida High School Athletic Association, Inc. (F.H.S.A.A.) and shall be governed by the rules and regulations adopted by F.H.S.A.A. Students who participate in athletics shall meet eligibility requirements established by F.H.S.A.A. and the School Board. Membership dues will be paid from the internal accounts of each respective school.
- (3) Students practicing or participating in any type of interscholastic athletics shall provide proof of accident insurance covering medical expenses of any injury sustained in a sport. The principal shall be responsible for obtaining proof, as evidenced by a copy of the insurance card and a signed statement from the student's parent(s), as defined by Florida Statutes, of the student's insurance prior to practice or participation in interscholastic athletics. Such insurance may be made available to the parent(s) through the school, or the parent(s) may submit evidence that insurance has been provided through another source.
- (4) No student shall engage in practice or participate in any interscholastic game without the written permission of the student's parent(s) or legal guardian and a current physical examination as required by Florida High School Athletic Association being on file.
- (5) No student shall be a candidate for an athletic team or a participant in athletic competition without filing an informed consent signed by his/her parent(s). The consent must explain the nature and risk of concussion and head injury as required by law. The consent must be filed annually prior to participating in any physical activity related to athletic competition or candidacy for an athletic team.
- (6) A student athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in a practice or competition shall be removed from play immediately. The athlete may not return to play without a clearance from appropriate medical personnel.
- (7) Pursuant to Florida Statutes licensed medical personnel who act as volunteers for school events and agree to render emergency care or treatment shall be immune from civil liability for treatment of a participant in any school-sponsored athletic event, provided such treatment was

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rendered in accordance with acceptable standards of practice and was not objected to by the participant.

- (8) An automatic external defibrillator (AED) will be available for use, if needed, at every preseason and regular season interscholastic contest and at every FHSAA state championship series contest. Staff will be trained to use such equipment. Procedures for use of the AED are on file at each school and at the district office.
- (9) All students shall be subject to all School Board rules and to the Code of Student Conduct while attending athletic events and practices.
- (10) In order for a student to be eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular student activities, he/she must meet all of the requirements established by the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) consistent with Florida Statutes and maintain satisfactory conduct, as defined by the District Code of Student Conduct. If a student is charged with committing a felony on/off School Board property, the appropriate due process procedures will be implemented prior to suspension or expulsion from school and/or denial of participation in extra-curricular activities.
- (11) A report of alleged violation of this standard of conduct shall be submitted to the principal or his/her designee for investigation. If the principal or his/her designee determines that a violation has occurred, the student and his parent shall be notified in writing, of the suspension from school sponsored extracurricular activities.
- (12) The purpose of this section is to address athletic participation by transfer students. The School Board shall comply with the rules and regulations promulgated by the FHSAA, Florida Law, and this policy when determining the eligibility of a transfer student to participate in the District's interscholastic athletic program. Eligibility to participate in sports will be determined in accordance with FHSAA bylaws and meets all other eligibility requirements.

A student who transfers to a school during the school year may seek to immediately join an existing team if the roster for the specific interscholastic or interscholastic extra-curricular activity has not reached the identified maximum size for the particular activity and if the coach for the activity determines that the student has the requisite skill and ability to participate. The FHSAA and District may not declare such a student ineligible because the student did not have the opportunity to comply with qualifying requirements.

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However, a student may not participate in a sport if the student participated in that same sport at another school during that school year, unless the student meets one (1) of the following criteria:

- A. Dependent children of active duty military personnel whose move resulted from military orders.
- B. Children who have been relocated due to a foster care placement in a different school zone.
- C. Children who move due to a court-ordered change in custody due to separation or divorce, or the serious illness or death of a custodial parent.
- D. Authorized for good cause. For purposes of this policy “authorized for good cause” means the student is able to satisfactorily demonstrate to the Principal that one (1) of the following applies:
 - 1. The student moves to a new home address due to a move by the student and a person or person(s) with whom he/she has been previously living that makes it necessary for the student to attend a different school.
 - 2. The student moves to a new residence following marriage of the student. The student must immediately establish a new residence that makes it necessary to attend a different school.
 - 3. The student is reassigned to a new school pursuant to Board policy.
 - 4. The student transfers from his/her current school within the first twenty (20) school days to a new school (i.e., acceptance into a previously applied for magnet program, charter, or private school.)
 - 5. Special assignment by the Superintendent.
 - 6. Undue hardship.

The Principal of each school in the District shall be responsible for enforcing the FHSAA's bylaws and policies in his/her school. The Principal shall review and determine whether a transfer student qualifies under one of the transfer eligibility categories set forth in the FHSAA's bylaws and meets all other eligibility requirements. Upon approval of the transfer student's eligibility, a Notice of Transfer form prescribed

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by the FHSAA shall be submitted to the FHSAA prior to the student participating in any sport season.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 1001.41; 1001.42, F.S.

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