

**INTERNATIONAL FALLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #361**

**BOARD POLICY 424.6
Professional Standards Varsity Coaches**

Adopted August 21, 2006

Revised May, 2023

- I. **Purpose:** It is the position of ISD 361 that varsity head coaches perform a unique and critical service to the school district's high school students, Falls High School, and the school district and community as a whole. Professional standards in terms of professional competence; adherence to school district philosophy; loyalty to programs, school, and community; moral character; and a commitment to excellence shall be demonstrated by all varsity head coaches as a condition for continuance in these positions.
- II. **General Information:** Varsity head coaches shall demonstrate all of the following professional standards:
- a. Exceptional demonstration of communication skills while interacting with athletes, parents, school personnel, other district programs and coaches, and the media.
 - b. Exceptional organizational skills demonstrated by thorough implementation of a consistent and effective program in terms of the programs outcomes, expectations, and procedures as these apply to all subordinate coaches, beginning with the first school district-recognized level of implementation for the particular program.
 - c. Exceptional articulation of the school district's philosophy of equity in terms of coaching, playing time, self-discipline, and adherence to the athletic code as espoused by the Minnesota State High School League, as these apply to all young athletes from beginning of the program through the 8th grade, or until the athlete enters state high school league levels of inter-school competition.
 - d. Exceptional articulation of the school district's philosophy that a cornerstone of high school athletics and other MSHSL activities is premised upon competition, which distinguished high school participation from earlier activities where the basic premise is participation in and of itself.
 - e. Exceptional commitment to the competitive growth of the individual program and the ability to translate this commitment to the enhanced development of the individual student athlete.

- f. Exceptional demonstration of the need for the continued professional development of all varsity head coaches and assistant coaches.
- III. **Professional Duties:** Varsity head coaches shall demonstrate their ability to effectively perform all of the following duties:
- a. Recognize the student athlete as a learner, first, last and always.
 - b. Adhere to Falls High School athletic rules and regulations and school district policy.
 - c. Initiate, establish, and maintain an effective relationship with parents, administration, and community in a manner that best serves the growth of the program.
 - d. Encourage the true spirit of competition with the goal to provide the coaching, training, and opportunity for growth necessary for the high school athlete's continued success in competition.
 - e. Commit to the effective organization, management, and administration of the program under the varsity head coach's direction.
- IV. **Professional Responsibilities:** Varsity head coaches shall effectively perform all of the following responsibilities:
- a. Develop, implement, and execute an effective practice schedule, recognizing the exigencies which come to bear on student athletes, their parents, and other programs in Falls High School.
 - b. Develop an effective long-range program plan inclusive of budget resources, program development goals, and personnel goals for all assistant coaches, whether school personnel or Recreation Department personnel.
 - c. Serve as a model for athletes and assistant coaches in terms of commitment to excellence, self-development, and leadership necessary for success in a competitive environment.
 - d. Provide the administration in an effective, timely, and professional manner, recommendations, reports, and program analysis data as requested and as required by the Falls High School coaching handbook.
 - e. Provide effective guidance, and support for all assistant coaches at all levels, varsity, junior varsity, and below, and be able to be recognized by all the program's participants and competitors, their parents, and the community at large as the person providing the necessary leadership for a program of excellence.