

**Policy****Descriptor Code: IDE****Competitive Interscholastic Activities, Grades 6-12****I. GRADES 9-12**

The Board of Education endorses and adopts the requirements set forth in the guidelines of the Georgia High School Association (GHSA), including any amendments thereto, for determining the eligibility of students in grades 9-12 to participate in competitive interscholastic activities. The Board directs the Superintendent to maintain and distribute the current GHSA guidelines to all schools in the system that sponsor competitive interscholastic activities, and to ensure compliance with those guidelines.

Each principal is responsible for properly supervising and regulating competitive activities in his or her school. The principal may delegate responsibility for supervising one or more student activities and clubs to a member or members of his or her professional staff, provided such individuals must act under the principal's direction.

To participate in extracurricular or interscholastic activities, the school system requires resident students, other than home study students, to be enrolled full-time during the semester of participation unless the student's schedule approved by school officials during the registration process provides otherwise. Home study students must enroll in and attempt to complete one qualifying course as defined in state law for each semester of participation. Procedures for home study student participation will be published.

**II. GRADES 6-8**

The Board of Education is responsible for regulating competitive interscholastic activities in grades 6-8, and therefore adopts the requirements set forth in State Board Rule 160-5-1-.19 Grades 6-8: Competitive Interscholastic Athletics, as to student eligibility, physical examinations, time restrictions, seasonal practice, special provisions and appeals.

The Superintendent is directed to ensure that each school principal properly supervises and regulates competitive activities in his or her school and that all staff members adhere to the requirements set forth in this policy.

Each principal of a school covered by the policy shall maintain documentation of adherence to the requirement of this policy.

The following limitations are placed on all schools having students on teams in Grades 8 or below:

- Teams having players in Grades 6-8 must not play more than 60 percent of the number of regularly scheduled games played by the high school varsity in any given sport. (One tournament, not to exceed four games, may be played in addition to the regular season games.)
- Practices held in any sport on a day preceding a school day may not begin prior to the end of the regular school day and must end prior to 7 p.m.
- Games played on nights preceding a school day may not begin prior to the end of the regular school day and must end prior to 7 p.m. Only one school day per week may be used by any team for interscholastic athletic games.