

GREENVILLE SCHOOLS PHILOSOPHY OF CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS AND ATHLETICS

The Greenville School Committee recognizes the value of co-curricular programs and athletics as an integral part of the educational program.

The Committee believes that participation in co-curricular activities and sports provides a significant learning experience and opportunity for personal growth. Learning in these settings is closely related to learning in the classroom supporting the Guiding Principles of Maine's System of Learning Results. In competition and practice, student participants learn skills, strategies, relationships, leadership, self-discipline and responsibility. They also learn the importance of setting goals for themselves and the team, and planning how to achieve those goals.

The Committee also believes that participation in co-curricular activities and sports is related to physical and emotional health and fitness. These programs provide the incentive for developing and maintaining healthy bodies and active minds. These programs promote habits of exercise and good nutrition that can last a lifetime. Participation in co-curricular activities and sports builds self-confidence and a sense of personal responsibility for making healthy lifestyle choices. Being part of a team also creates a feeling of belonging and offers a supportive network that contributes to emotional wellbeing.

Based on these beliefs, it is the Committee's intent that the school unit offer students the opportunity to experience developmentally sound co-curricular and athletic programs.

At the high school level, interscholastic athletic programs will be designed to serve the needs of students who have shown that they are developmentally ready for intense competitive experiences. At this level, the purpose of athletic programs is to promote healthy competition, sportsmanship, cooperation, integrity and citizenship. Whenever feasible, junior varsity programs will be available to students who wish to develop their athletic skills.

At the middle school level, the school unit's athletic programs will be designed to meet the developmental needs of students through appropriate athletic activities. At this level, athletic programs will emphasize exploration of various sports, the strengthening of fundamental skills, teamwork, sportsmanship, and health and safety. It is the School Committee's intent that the programs promote opportunities for involvement of all team members in practices and in play.

The Superintendent/designee (i.e., Athletic Director) shall be responsible for making recommendations concerning the approval of new co-curricular and athletic programs or the modification or elimination of existing programs. The School Committee may articulate, through policy, criteria to be considered in decision-making or may delegate the responsibility for developing such criteria to the Superintendent/designee.

First Reading: July 23, 2007

Adopted: August 20, 2007

Reviewed: March 31, 2016