

Indian River Central School



Interscholastic Athletic Handbook for Parents and Students

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PARENTS/ATHLETE AGREEMENT FORM:

Note: This form must be completed and returned to the coach during the first five practice days after the Sport Season begins. *Failure to do so does not relieve an athlete from adhering to these rules and regulations. Consequences for violations will be enforced.*

ATHLETES AND PARENTS AGREEMENT:

By signing below, you indicate that you have read the Interscholastic Athletic Handbook. By reading the booklet, you are aware of the rules, regulations and policies set forth by the state and District for participation on Indian River athletic teams and further you agree to abide by them.

CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT

At the forefront of proper concussion management is awareness, proper prevention, identification, and recovery for safe return to play. All parent/guardians of student athletes and athletes must receive concussion information prior to participating in interscholastic sports at Indian River. By signing below, you also affirm that you have indeed received and read the NYSPHSAA concussion information provided on page 25 and 26 of this handbook.

ATHLETIC INJURY WARNING STATEMENT:

We (parent and student) understand that as an athlete, it is possible that a person may be injured in any interscholastic activity. Many injuries are truly accidental in nature and involve no negligence by anyone, including a student. When choosing to participate in an interscholastic activity, a student and their parent/guardian assume the risks for injuries to occur.

During the next school year I plan on playing the following sports:

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
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<u>Print athlete's name</u>	<u>Athlete's Signature</u>	<u>Date</u>
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Parent/Guardian Signature	Date
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TEAR OFF THIS PAGE AND RETURN IT TO YOUR COACH.

ALMA MATER

A fair river of the northland,
Gladly gave to us our name,
And as time records our history,
We will honor it with fame.
We are planting our traditions,
We'll defend them valiantly,
Hand in hand, we are united,
Indian River, we love thee.

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Welcome Letter

Dear Student-Athlete and Parent/Guardian:

Welcome to the Indian River Central School District Interscholastic Athletic Program. Nationwide studies have shown that students involved in extracurricular activities such as sports, achieve better grades, manage their time more effectively, have less disciplinary problems and stay in school. It is the hope of the Indian River Board of Education and the Athletic Department that we meet the needs of the students who make the decision to become part of our Warrior Athletic Family. We as coaches/mentors strive to promote the Optimum physical, mental, social and moral development.

Our athletic program supports the academic mission and code of conduct of the Indian River Central School District. It is my belief that students participating in our athletic program will have opportunities for developing life-long skills and experiences that are not always available during the course of the daily academic schedule. The primary goal of the Indian River Central School District Interscholastic Athletic Program is to provide high quality experiences that are fun and promote individual growth within a safe and healthy environment

Participation in our athletic program is a privilege granted to students who maintain academic eligibility and positive citizenship in school and community. When your daughter/son chooses to participate in our sports program, we feel that they have committed themselves to certain responsibilities and obligations. This handbook has been prepared to be used as a reference by our student-athletes and their parents/guardians in an effort to define responsibilities as they pertain to the rules and regulations, as well as the guidelines for participation in our interscholastic athletic program. These are governing principles intended to ensure the safety and physical as well as emotional well being of all student-athletes. Our program is governed by established Commissioner of Education Regulations basic code for extra curricular activities.

I look forward to your participation in the Indian River Central School District Athletic Program. Please call the athletic office with any questions/concerns regarding the program and/or this handbook; I may be reached at 642-3699 or e-mail jaybrown@ircsd.org.

Sincerely,

Jay M. Brown

Jay M. Brown
Director of Health,
Physical Education and Athletics

STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE FOR CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT

Schools are advised to develop a written concussion management policy. A sample policy is available on the NYSPHSAA web site at www.nysphsaa.org. The policy should include:

- A commitment to reduce the risk of head injuries.
- A procedure and treatment plan developed by the district medical director.
- A procedure to ensure proper education for school nurses, certified athletic trainers, physical education teachers, and coaches.
- A procedure for a coordinated communication plan among appropriate staff.
- A procedure for periodic review of the concussion management program.

RETURN TO LEARN and RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOLS

Cognitive Rest: Activities students should avoid include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Computers and video games
- Television viewing
- Texting
- Reading or writing
- Studying or homework
- Taking a test or completing significant projects
- Loud music
- Bright lights

Students may only be able to attend school for short periods of time. Accommodations may have to be made for missed tests and assignments.

Physical Rest: Activities students should avoid include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Contact and collision
- High speed, intense exercise and/or sports
- High risk for re-injury or impacts
- Any activity that results in an increased heart rate or increased head pressure

Return to Play Protocol once symptom free for 24 hours and cleared by School Medical Director:

Day 1: Low impact, non strenuous, light aerobic activity.

Day 2: Higher impact, higher exertion, moderate aerobic activity. No resistance training.

Day 3: Sport specific non-contact activity. Low resistance weight training with a spotter.

Day 4: Sport specific activity, non-contact drills. Higher resistance weight training with a spotter.

Day 5: Full contact training drills and intense aerobic activity.

Day 6: Return to full activities with clearance from School Medical Director.

Any return of symptoms during the return to play protocol, the student will return to previous day's activities until symptom free.

CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT TEAM

Schools may, at their discretion, form a concussion management team to implement and monitor the concussion management policy and program. The team could include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Students
- Parents/Guardians
- School Administrators
- Medical Director
- Private Medical Provider
- School Nurse
- Director of Physical Education and/or Athletic Director
- Certified Athletic Trainer
- Physical Education Teacher and/or Coaches
- Classroom Teachers

OTHER RESOURCES

- New York State Education Department
- New York State Department of Health
http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/injury_prevention/concussion/htm
- New York State Public High School Athletic Association
www.nysphsaa.org/safety/
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention
<http://cdc.gov/concussions>
- National Federation of High Schools
www.nfhslearn.com – The FREE Concussion Management course does not meet education requirement.
- Child Health Plus
http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/managed_care/consumer_guide/about_child_health_plus.htm
- Local Department of Social Services – New York State Department of Health
http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/ldss/htm
- Brain Injury Association of New York State
<http://www.bianys.org>
- Nationwide Children's Hospital – Concussions in the Classroom
<http://www.nationwidechildrens.org/concussions-in-the-classroom>
- Upstate University Hospital – Concussions in the Classroom
<http://www.upstate.edu/pmr/healthcare/programs/concussion/classroom.php>
- ESPN Video – Life Changed by Concussion
<http://espn.go.com/video/clip?id=7525526&categoryId=5595394>
- SportsConcussions.org
<http://www.sportsconcussions.org/ibaseline/>
- American Association of Neurological Surgeons
<http://www.aans.org/Patient%20Information/Conditions%20and%20Treatment/Concussion.aspx>
- Consensus Statement on Concussion in Sport – Zurich
<http://sportconcussions.com/html/Zurich%20Statement.pdf>



Concussions: The Invisible Injury

Student and Parent Information Sheet

CONCUSSION DEFINITION

A concussion is a reaction by the brain to a jolt or force that can be transmitted to the head by an impact or blow occurring anywhere on the body. Essentially a concussion results from the brain moving back and forth or twisting rapidly inside the skull.

FACTS ABOUT CONCUSSIONS ACCORDING TO THE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC)

- An estimated 4 million people under age 19 sustain a head injury annually. Of these approximately 52,000 die and 275,000 are hospitalized.
- An estimated 300,000 sports and recreation related concussions occur each year.
- Students who have had at least one concussion are at increased risk for another concussion.

In New York State in 2009, approximately 50,500 children under the age of 19 visited the emergency room for a traumatic brain injury and of those approximately 3,000 were hospitalized.

REQUIREMENTS OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Education:

- Each school coach, physical education teacher, nurse, and athletic trainer will have to complete an approved course on concussion management on a biennial basis, starting with the 2012-2013 school year.
 - * School coaches and physical education teachers must complete the CDC course. (www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/online_training.html)
 - * School nurses and certified athletic trainers must complete the concussion course. (<http://preventingconcussions.org>)

Information:

- Provide concussion management information and sign off with any parental permission form. **The NYSPPHSAA will provide a pamphlet to member schools on the concussion management information for parents.**
- The concussion management and awareness information or the State Education Department's web site must be made available on the school web site, if one exists.

Removal from athletics:

- Require the immediate removal from athletic activities of any pupil that has or is believed to have sustained a mild traumatic brain injury.
- No pupils will be allowed to resume athletic activity until they have been symptom free for 24 hours and have been evaluated by and received written and signed authorization from a licensed physician. For interscholastic athletics, clearance must come from the school medical director.
 - * Such authorization must be kept in the pupil's permanent health record.
 - * Schools shall follow directives issued by the pupil's treating physician.

SYMPTOMS

Symptoms of a concussion are the result of a temporary change in the brain's function. In most cases, the symptoms of a concussion generally resolve over a short period of time; however, in some cases, symptoms will last for weeks or longer. Children and adolescents are more susceptible to concussions and take longer than adults to recover.

It is imperative that any student who is suspected of having a concussion is removed from athletic activity (e.g. recess, PE class, sports) and remains out of such activities until evaluated and cleared to return to activity by a physician.

Symptoms include, but are not limited to:

- Decreased or absent memory of events prior to or immediately after the injury, or difficulty retaining new information
- Confusion or appears dazed
- Headache or head pressure
- Loss of consciousness
- Balance difficulties, dizziness, or clumsy movements
- Double or blurry vision
- Sensitivity to light and/or sound
- Nausea, vomiting and/or loss of appetite
- Irritability, sadness or other changes in personality
- Feeling sluggish, foggy or light-headed
- Concentration or focusing problems
- Drowsiness
- Fatigue and/or sleep issues – sleeping more or less than usual

Students who develop any of the following signs, or if signs and symptoms worsen, should be seen and evaluated immediately at the nearest hospital emergency room.

- Headaches that worsen
- Seizures
- Looks drowsy and/or cannot be awakened
- Repeated vomiting
- Slurred speech
- Unable to recognize people or places
- Weakness or numbing in arms or legs, facial drooping
- Unsteady gait
- Change in pupil size in one eye
- Significant irritability
- Any loss of consciousness
- Suspicion for skull fracture: blood draining from ear or clear fluid from the nose

ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS PROGRAM

Students who participate on athletic teams will do so under the eligibility requirements, rules, and regulations of the NYS Commissioner of Education and the NYS Public High School Athletic Association as well as the local Board of Education. Equal opportunity to participate in interschool competition, either on separate teams or in mixed competition on the same team, shall be provided to male and female students, except as outlined in the Commissioner's Regulations and regulations of the N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. If your son/daughter attended another high school prior to this school year he/she may be residentially ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics. (See Transfer Rule Page 5)

Foreign exchange students need to take appropriate steps to be eligible for participation. Contact the Athletic Director regarding eligibility.

"A pupil shall be eligible for Senior High School athletic competition in a sport during each of four consecutive seasons of such sports commencing with the pupil's entry into the ninth grade and prior to graduation, except as otherwise provided in the sub clause (4) (selective/classification). If the Board of Education has adopted a policy pursuant to sub clause (4) of clause (a) of this subparagraph, to permit pupils in the seventh and eighth grades to compete in Senior High School athletic competition, such pupils shall be eligible for competition during five consecutive seasons of a sport commencing with the pupil's entry into the eighth grade, or six consecutive seasons of a sport commencing with the pupil's entry into the seventh grade. A pupil shall be eligible for interschool competition in grades nine, ten, eleven, and twelve until his/her 19th birthday, except as otherwise provided in sub clause (4) (selective/classification). A pupil who attains the age 19 years on or after July 1 may continue to participate during that school year in all sports." Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, 135.4

Indian River Athletes must also:

- Have a current Sports Physical cleared by the Chief School Medical Examiner (Good for one calendar year).
- Return the Health History form. The form must be filled out and signed by parent/guardian.
- Return the Medical Release form (completed and signed) prior to the first contest (includes scrimmages).
- Return the signed "Code of Conduct" form to your coach for each team a student participates on within 5 days.

The following Modified, Junior Varsity, and Varsity sports teams are offered in Interscholastic Athletics at Indian River:

MODIFIED

FALL:

Football
Girls Swimming
Boys & Girls Cross Country
Boys & Girls Soccer

WINTER:

Boys & Girls Basketball
Girls Volleyball
Boys Swimming
Boys Wrestling

SPRING:

Girls Softball
Boys Baseball
Boys & Girls Track
Boys & Girls Lacrosse

JUNIOR VARSITY

FALL:

Boys & Girls Soccer
Football
Cheer

WINTER:

Boys & Girls Basketball
Cheer
Girls Volleyball

SPRING:

Girls Softball
Boys Baseball
Boys Lacrosse

VARSITY

FALL:

Football
Cheer
Boys & Girls Soccer
Boys & Girls Cross Country
Girls Swimming
Girls Tennis

WINTER:

Boys & Girls Basketball
Cheer
Boys Swimming
Girls Volleyball
Boys Wrestling
Boys & Girls Indoor Track
Girls Bowling

SPRING:

Boys & Girls Lacrosse
Girls Softball
Boys Baseball
Boys Tennis
Boys & Girls Track
Boys Golf

Grade-Point Average

Only core courses are used in the calculation of the grade-point average. Be sure to look at your high school's list of NCAA-approved core courses on the Eligibility Center's Web site to make certain that courses being taken have been approved as core courses.

The Web site is www.ncaaclearinghouse.net.

Division I grade-point-average requirements are listed on page two of this sheet.

The Division II grade-point-average requirement is a minimum of 2.000.

DIVISION I

16 Core-Course Rule

16 Core Courses:

4 years of English.
3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).
2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).
1 year of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.
2 years of social science.
4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or non-doctrinal religion/philosophy).

DIVISION II

14 Core-Course Rule

14 Core Courses:

3 years of English.
2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher).
2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered by high school).
2 years of additional English, mathematics or natural/physical science.
2 years of social science.
3 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or non-doctrinal religion/philosophy).

PLEASE NOTE: Beginning August 1, 2013, students planning to attend an NCAA Division II institution will be required to complete 16 core courses.

For more information regarding the rules, please go to www.NCAA.org Click on "Academics and Athletes" then "Eligibility and Recruiting." Or visit the Eligibility Center Web site at www.eligibilitycenter.org.

Please call the NCAA Eligibility Center if you have questions:
Toll-free number: 877/262-1492.

PARENT/GUARDIAN/SPECTATOR CODE OF BEHAVIOR/ETHICS

1. Be loud, be proud, be positive, our job is to encourage good play and conduct on the field/court of play.
2. Keep cheering positive in nature. No profanity or degrading language/gestures.
3. Avoid actions which would offend visiting teams, spectators, or individuals. Treat all opposing teams and spectators with respect.
4. Learn the rules of the game in order to be a better-informed spectator.
5. Accept the judgment of the contest officials and coaches. All calls can not and will not go our way. Encourage all spectators to participate in the spirit of good sportsmanship.

NCAA FRESHMAN-ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS QUICK REFERENCE SHEET

Core Courses:

NCAA Division I requires 16 core courses as of August 1, 2008. This rule applies to any student first entering any Division I college or university on or after August 1, 2008. See the chart below for the breakdown of this 16 core-course requirement.

NCAA Division II requires 14 core courses. See the breakdown of core-course requirements below. Please note, Division II will require 16 core courses beginning August 1, 2013.

Test Scores

Division I has a sliding scale for test score and grade-point average. The sliding scale for those requirements is shown on page two of this sheet.

Division II has a minimum SAT score requirement of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.

The SAT score used for NCAA purposes includes only the critical reading and math sections.

The writing section of the SAT is not used.

The ACT score used for NCAA purposes is a sum of the four sections on the ACT:

English, mathematics, reading and science.

All SAT and ACT scores must be reported directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center by the testing agency. Test scores that appear on transcripts will not be used. When registering for the SAT or ACT, use the Eligibility Center code of 9999 to make sure the score is reported to the Eligibility Center.

N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A. INC. CODE OF EHTICS

It is the duty of all concerned with high school athletics:

1. To emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play;
2. To eliminate all possibilities that tend to destroy the best values of the game;
3. To stress the values derived from playing the game fairly;
4. To show cordial courtesy to visiting teams and officials;
5. To establish a happy relationship between visitors and hosts;
6. To respect the integrity and judgment of the sports officials;
7. To achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility;
8. To encourage leadership, use of initiative, and good judgment by players on the team;
9. To recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional well-being of the individual players;
10. To remember that an athletic contest is only a game, not a matter of life or death for player, coach, school, fan, community, state, or nation.

TITLE IX COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

The Indian River Central School District hereby notifies each application for employment, each primary/secondary student and their parents, each employee, and each union and professional organization holding a collective bargaining agreement with said school district; that the school district; intends to take all appropriate action to comply with the provisions of Title 9 of the Education Amendment of 1972, as amended by Public Law 93-568, effective July 21, 1975 (20 USC Sec. 1682, 1683, and 1686) prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex in the educational programs or activities operated by said school district or in the employment of any person in such programs.

Any inquiries regarding the application of the laws prohibiting sex discrimination in education and regulations promulgated by the office of Civil Rights of the United States Department of Health, Education, and Welfare should be directed to the Superintendent of the school district, who will coordinate efforts of the school district to comply with and carry out its responsibilities under 45 CRF, Part 86.

It is the intent and policy of the school district to comply in every way with the regulations under Title 9 which are intended to insure that no person in the United States shall on the basis of sex discrimination be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

Inquires should be directed to Donna Kennedy, Compliance Office, District Office, Indian River Central School, Philadelphia, New York 13673 or call 642-3441.

TRANSFER RULE:

NOTE: The Transfer Rule will be enforced as written with no variations permitted.

A. A student in grades 9-12 who transfers, with a corresponding change in residence of his/her parents (or other persons with whom the student has resided for at least six months) shall become eligible after starting regular attendance in the second school. A residence change must involve a move from one school district to another. Furthermore, when a student moves from one public school district to another public school district, for athletic eligibility the student must enroll in the public school district or in a private school within that district's boundaries of his/her parents' residency. The Superintendent, or designee, will determine if the student has met district residency requirements.

B. A student who transfers without a corresponding change in residence of his/her parents (or other persons with whom the student has resided for at least six months) is ineligible to participate in any interscholastic athletic contest in a particular sport for a period of one (1) year if as a 9-12 student participated in that sport during the one (1) year period immediately preceding his/her transfer.

Students who transfer from any school to the public school district of the residence of his/her parents (or other persons with whom the student has resided for at least six months) or a private school within that district's boundaries shall receive a waiver from the Transfer Rule. Such a transfer without penalty will only be permitted once in a high school career. *Schools must submit the required transfer form to the Section office. Athletes are not permitted to practice before the form has been submitted. Athletes are not permitted to compete without approval.*

NOTE: A student in a foreign exchange program listed by CSIET has a one year waiver of the Transfer Rule. If such a student elects to stay a second year he/she becomes a foreign student at the start of the school year with item (b) in effect.

Bylaws & Eligibility Standards

Exemptions to (b): For athletic eligibility a student must enroll in the public school district or in a nonpublic school within that district's boundaries of his/her parent's residency.

Note: Multiple High School Districts - The policies/boundaries of the school district will be followed. If the district has an open enrollment policy, the interpretation to be used will be same as used for students of K-8 school districts. When a student enrolls in 9th grade, that is the district (building) of their residence. Any subsequent transfer would be subject to the Transfer Rule.

1. The student reaches the age of majority and establishes residency in a district and can substantiate that they are independent and self supporting.

I'm a parent and I am concerned about a situation at home or in school.

What can I do to help at home?

Please feel free to give administration a call anytime to report a situation, no matter how minor it may seem. There are many ways we can help – and we are always confidential with any information provided to us. We always encourage a safe and healthy school environment at IRHS. If a safety issue arises, please do not encourage your child to strike another person. This aggressive behavior may make the situation even worse, and may subject your child to disciplinary action when THEY are the true victim. Help your child to know how to defend themselves by walking with others, de-escalating situations and telling adults.

Dignity Act Coordinators: High School:
Mr. Troy Decker and Mrs. O. Jeanne Dolly
Middle School: Nancy Taylor-Schmittt, Eric Sauer

COACH/PLAYER COMMUNICATION

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach, the athlete, and the parent. These are encouraged. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help resolve the concern.

- When appropriate your son/daughter should first talk with the coach about the concern.
- If the coach/athlete meeting does not clear the situation then the parent(s) should call and set up an appointment with the coach.
- If the parent(s) need further discussion on the issue the school Athletic Director is the next contact.
- The Building Principal is the next person a parent should contact if issues are not resolved.

Please do not approach a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meeting at these times generally does not work well for any of the parties involved.

The following are appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:

- Advanced notice of schedule conflicts.
- The treatment of your son/daughter.
- Ways to help your son/daughter improve.
- Concerns about your son/daughters behavior.

What is discrimination?

Discrimination is when a person is treated differently based on the group or category to which that person belongs, or perceived to belong, rather than looking at the person for their individual characteristics. When a person discriminates against another person, they treat them unfairly which denies that person normal privileges or rights.

What is bullying?

Bullying is a form of harassment that can be done face to face or indirectly to another person or through electronics (i.e. cyber-bullying). A bully uses their power to make the victim feel unimportant by embarrassing or controlling them. The behavior may be repeated over time. Bullying can be a sudden activity or can be planned ahead.

Bullying behaviors includes:

- ✦ Threats of intimidation to others
- ✦ Treating others cruelly
- ✦ Terrorizing
- ✦ Coercing
- ✦ Stalking
- ✦ Habitual put-downs
- ✦ Badgering of others

Other misbehaviors that include harassment, hazing, intimidation or discrimination

What is cyber-bullying?

Cyber-bullying occurs through electronic communication on the internet, cell phones, or other electronic media. Cyber-bullying can involve, but is not limited to:

- ✦ Sending mean, vulgar, or threatening messages or images
- ✦ Posting sensitive, private information about another person
- ✦ Pretending to be someone else in order to make a person look bad

What should I do if I'm being treated unfairly?

There are many ways to address unfair treatment, but each situation is different. You should ALWAYS speak with an adult – many of us have been there before.

In addition:

- ▢ Get help from an adult at home and/or school
- ▢ Get help from peers
- ▢ Avoid 'hot spots' where you are alone
- ▢ Be assertive and speak out against unfair treatment
- ▢ Support others who are victims of unfair treatment

2. If a private or parochial school ceases to operate a student may transfer to another private or parochial school of his/her choice. Otherwise, a student must enroll in the public school district of his/her parents' residency.

3. A student who is a ward of the court or state and is placed in a district by court order. Guardianship does not fulfill this requirement.

4. A student from divorced or separated parents who moves into a new school district with one of the aforementioned parents. Such a transfer is allowed once every six months.

5. A student who is declared homeless by the superintendent pursuant to Commissioner's Regulation 100.2.

6. A student of a military employee who is transferred to an active military base may enroll in the non-public school closest to their residence and maintain eligibility if the student enrolls in a non-public school immediately following the change in residence.

NOTE: It is provided, however, that each school shall have the opportunity to petition the section involved to approve transfer without penalty based on an undue hardship for the student.

c. Transfer students trying out for sports before school opens in the fall shall register and be accepted by the principal of that school before the medical examination and the first practice. This shall constitute the start of the regular attendance for falls sports.

NOTE: After approval by the school medical officer a student may practice immediately and must satisfy the specific Sports Standard according to the number of practice sessions required.

d. Practices at the previous school may be counted toward the minimum number of practices required provided the principal or athletic director of the previous school submits, in writing, the number and dates of such practices to the principal or athletic director of the new school.

ATTENDANCE

A. Athletes are expected to attend school all day the day of a contest or the previous school day of a weekend/holiday event. In order for a student to participate in a practice or game, a 9th through 12th grade student must be in school by 10:45AM, and a 7th & 8th grade student must be in school by 10:30AM unless excused for a legal reason other than illness.

B. Any absence from school must be an accepted excusable absence. If more than a 1/2 day of school is missed, the athlete is not permitted to play that day. Exceptions can be made only by the Athletic Director and/or High School Administration.

Unexcused absences from practices may jeopardize retaining a position on the team, an opportunity to earn a varsity letter, and/or playing time at the coaches' discretion.

Excused absences from practices, especially those deemed excessive or avoidable may impact position on the team and playing time, not as a punitive measure, but for the safety of that individual, fairness to the rest of the team, and strategic reasons.

Excusable absences recognized by the district are:

1. Sickness
2. Sickness or death in family
3. Impassable road or weather
4. Quarantine
5. Religious observance
6. Required court appearance
7. Remedial health treatment, Doctor, Dentist, etc.
8. Approved college visit
9. Military obligation

C. An IRCSD student is ineligible to participate in extra curricular activities if the student is absent due to In or Out-of-school Suspension, or Truancy.

D. Attendance at all practice sessions/games for all team members are mandatory. If for some reason the student athlete will be absent or tardy for a practice/game, he or she must speak personally to a member of the team's coaching staff prior to that practice/game. If the coach is unavailable, the Director of Athletics or his secretary must be notified. Athletes are not permitted to leave practice/games early without prior approval of a member of the coaching staff (except in emergency situations). Athletes will be allowed one unexcused absence from practice during the course of a season. If a second unexcused absence occurs during a sport season, the athlete will face a team level consequence. (i.e. – loss of playing time, game suspension, etc.). If attendance issues persist, the student may be dropped from the team and forfeits all awards, pending a meeting with the player, parents, coach, and Athletic Director. All appeals should be discussed with the Athletic Director and building Principal.

THE DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENT'S ACT (DASA)

IRHS Promotes Safe & Healthy Schools

Creating a healthy school climate where students feel safe and supported physically, emotionally and academically will have a meaningful impact on academic learning. At IRHS we maintain a safe school environment through enforcing the Indian River Central Code of Conduct and promoting civility, citizenship and character education. This safe school environment requires teaching tolerance, respect for others and dignity for all.

What is DASA?

The "Dignity for All Students Act" is a New York State law effective July 1, 2012. It is designed to provide a learning environment free of discrimination and harassment. DASA works to help prevent discrimination and harassment through civility, citizenship and character education.

What is a student's responsibility or rights?

An Indian River Central student has the right to participate in all district activities on an equal basis regardless of race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, sex or any other legally protected status. Students and school staff have the responsibility to maintain a mutual respect and dignity for all regardless of actual or perceived differences. IRHS promotes learning and strengthening students' confidence as students practice respect and dignity for everyone.

What does civility and citizenship look like at IRHS?

IRHS students and staff show civility through their positive actions and respectful things they say to one another. Civility requires using proper social behavior, appropriate gestures and showing respect for all people that are at school or attending school functions. Students apply good citizenship when they care and show concern of other student's feelings and safety, communicate their own way of thinking in a productive manner and show self control to deal with everyday challenges.

What is harassment?

Harassment is when the school environment becomes hostile, or unsafe, in nature through the use of verbal threats, intimidation, abuse, and conduct. Harassment can substantially interfere with education through causing stress mentally, emotionally or physically. A student that feels unsafe or fears for physical safety could be experiencing harassment.

VARSITY LETTER AND AWARD ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

1. An athlete can receive only one 6 inch (6") chenille block "I.R.C." during his or her varsity career. The athlete will receive this block "I.R.C." when qualifying for his or her first award.
2. An athlete will be presented a certificate each time he or she qualifies award in a sport.
3. A gold pin identifying the sport participated in will be awarded for every varsity sport that the student qualifies for an award in. A student competing on a junior varsity team will receive numerals designating the student's year of graduation. Only one set of numerals will be given to each student who qualifies for the award regardless of the number of junior varsity sports played. A student competing on a modified team will receive an emblem award. A student will receive only one emblem regardless of the number of sports played.
4. In order for a student athlete to qualify for a modified, junior varsity, or varsity award, the following requirements must be met:
 - The athlete must be present and ready to participate in 80% of the practices and games during the course of a season.
 - The athlete must stay on the team until the season is complete.
 - The athlete must hand in or pay for any equipment issued to him/her.
5. If a student moves away during the season, or if a student is injured and can not continue, the following requirements must be met:
 - The student must have attended 80% of practices or games up to the point of moving away or the injury.
 - Student must return or pay for all equipment issued to him/her.
6. A "Most Valuable Player" award will be presented to a deserving player each of the varsity sports teams.
7. Each senior that participates in a sports program for 4 years while in high school will be presented an "Athletic Achievement" award.

E. When parents/guardians and student-athletes choose to take a family vacation during a sports season, it must be understood that the time missed by the student-athlete will most assuredly affect team chemistry, missed progression of team plays/strategies, and personal conditioning. Students and families should take this into consideration when deciding to tryout for our teams. In the event of an unavoidable absence due to a vacation, an athlete must be willing to assume the consequences related to their status on that squad. Prior to each season, coaches will establish team rules that will inform parents and players of the consequences for missing time due to vacation. Consequences could include; loss of starting position, being ineligible for specific game time (i.e.-sitting 1st quarter), loss of eligibility from certain special team squads, loss of leadership roles, etc.

DRESS CODE

Student athletes are expected to represent the school in a positive manner. The pride and self-esteem that come from participating on an athletic team should be reflected in the way team members dress. Students dress apparel at home and away games should always be neat and appropriate. Coaches of teams may determine that dress of individuals is not appropriate and will insist that students dress more appropriately.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL

- A. Interscholastic athletic program participants must be given a physical examination must receive final approval for participation by the school physician.
- B. Students who are injured in athletics must report all injuries no matter how minor to the coach.
- C. When an athlete is injured and requires medical treatment, an accident report must be filled out and given to the school nurse as soon as possible.
- D. If a student has a physician-attended injury or is absent with an illness for five or more days, he/she must have the approval of a physician before he/she can return to the activity.
- E. **Warning:** Participation in athletics involves some risk of physical injury. It may occur in either "contact" or "non-contact" sports. Many injuries are truly accidental in nature and involve no negligence by anyone including a student. The parent or guardian assumes the risks for injuries to occur.

F. Indian River Concussion Management Policy. The Board of Education of the Indian River School District recognizes that concussions and head injuries are commonly reported injuries in children and adolescents who participate in sports and recreational activity and can have serious consequences if not managed carefully. Therefore, the District adopts the following policy to support the proper evaluation and management of head injuries.

Concussion is a mild traumatic brain injury. Concussion occurs when normal brain functioning is disrupted by a blow or jolt to the head. Recovery from concussion will vary. Avoiding re-injury and over-exertion until fully recovered are the cornerstones of proper concussion management.

While district staff will exercise reasonable care to protect students, head injuries may still occur. Physical education teachers, coaches, nurses and other appropriate staff will receive training to recognize the signs, symptoms and behaviors consistent with a concussion. Any student exhibiting those signs, symptoms or behaviors while participating in a school sponsored class, extracurricular activity, or interscholastic athletic activity shall be removed from the game or activity and be evaluated as soon as possible by an appropriate health care professional. The school certified athletic trainer or school nurse depending on the situation will notify the student's parents or guardians and recommend appropriate monitoring to parents or guardians.

If a student sustains a concussion at a time other than when engaged in a school-sponsored activity, the district expects the parent/legal guardian to report the condition to the school certified athletic trainer or school nurse so that the district can support the appropriate management of the condition.

The student shall not return to school or activity until authorized to do so by their family health care professional. Any student who continues to have signs or symptoms upon return to activity must be removed from play and be re-evaluated by their family health care provider. The school and the school's physician reserve the right to make the final decision on return to activity including physical education class and after-school sports.

The Superintendent and the district's certified athletic trainer, in consultation with appropriate district staff, including the school's physician, will develop regulations and protocols to guide the return to activity.

GUIDELINES FOR AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION:

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide an organized, systematic means for ensuring the safety and well-being of the student-athletes during the time between dismissal from school and the start of athletic practices and contests.

A. All student-athletes should report to the locker rooms immediately following the bell dismissing them from school, change and report to practice. *Exception; athletes staying after school for extra help or attending meetings should report immediately to the designated area. Once the "help session" or meeting is complete, the athlete should report directly to practice with a signed pass from the teacher/supervisor.

B. For any practice starting after 3:00 pm, the student must be with a teacher or in the designated supervised area. No students will be allowed to indiscriminately wander in the hallways or on the school grounds.

C. Student-athletes that have a practice time of 4:00 pm or later are advised to take the school bus home or make other arrangements. Transportation back to school or fields for athletics is the athletes' responsibility.

D. Student-athletes should use common sense while waiting for their coach to arrive (for example: they will not be hitting or throwing balls, or engaging in activities that may endanger themselves and/or others).

Student-athletes that do not follow these guidelines and/or the directions of the district's "*security monitor*" will be subject to disciplinary action accordingly:

- First Offense: Warning (coach, athletic director, principal and parent/s notified).
- Further Offenses: An additional offense of this policy could result in suspension from a practice. Continued violations could result in game and season suspensions.

NOTE: All personal items should be locked in a school issued locker until after practice or contest. If you do not have a locker, see your Coach or Phys. Ed. Teacher.

DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

- A. An athlete may appeal the decision of the coach or Athletic Director to the Athletic Council. A written notice of appeal shall be submitted to the Athletic Director within three school days of the coach or Athletic Director's decision. The athlete must present copies of the appeal to the coach and Athletic Director.
- B. The Athletic Council will consist of the Athletic Director, High School Administrator and a teacher not involved in coaching and selected by the Student Council.
- C. The Director will convene the Athletic Council within three school days after receiving the notice of appeal. The Athletic Council will conduct a private hearing allowing attendance by those individuals directly involved in the case. The director shall keep minutes, and they will be considered confidential material. The athlete will have the right to present evidence and to cross-examine witnesses. A decision must be concurred by a majority vote of the Athletic Council. Written notice of the results shall be sent within two school days of the hearing by the Director to the athlete and copied to the athlete's parents, coach, principal, and other members of the council.
- D. The athlete may appeal the Athletic Council decision to the Superintendent of Schools. The Superintendent shall review the record of the Athletic Council hearing to determine if the decision was based on reasonable evidence. The athlete must make the appeal to the Superintendent within five school days following the Athletic Council's decision. The Superintendent's decision shall be in writing to the athlete, the athlete's parents, and members of the Athletic Council.

TRANSPORTATION

Athletes will travel to all athletic contests with the team and coach in district owned vehicles except when extenuating circumstances arise. Students may get written parental permission to ride home from away contests with Legal family members, other parents or guardians. Students may not ride with other students to or from away contests.

Students will not be taken home after away athletic events. Instead, students will be brought back to the high school and middle school campus and dropped off. Please encourage your child to use their cell phone to call prior to their return to campus, so their ride can be waiting at school.

G. At present time, Indian River is fortunate to employ a highly qualified Licensed and Certified Full-time Athletic Trainer as a member of our staff. All sports Related injuries of any nature must be reported to the coach and/or athletic trainer at the time that they occur so further injury can be avoided. If at all possible we strongly urge athletes to be seen by the athletic trainer before going directly to a doctor. However, if in doubt or there will be a lengthy delay before your son/daughter can see the athletic trainer report to a medical facility. On school days our athletic trainer's hours usually begin at 11:30 AM and last until the conclusion of the last practice or home game. During weekends and times when school is not in session, the athletic trainer is required to be on site only for contests. Occasionally, the athletic trainer will be on site for non-school day practices.

Many of the Athletic Trainers duties include:

- Working directly with coaches in planning conditioning programs to prevent injuries
- Coordinating coverage of games and practices
- Administering emergency care and first aid when injuries occur
- Evaluating injuries and making appropriate medical referrals
- Providing daily treatment, rehabilitation and reconditioning to the injured athlete
- Maintaining records pertaining to all injuries
- Communicating with the athlete's parents regarding injury status and progression

The athletic training program exists to help athletes receive the best possible care. At certain times, however, the athletic trainer and training room facilities are extremely busy. Athletic training services are granted on a first come, first served basis on practice days. On game days, students will be treated in an order that will allow bus and/or game commitments to be met.

In the event of an athletic injury, the athletic trainer is in immediate control. At away contests, if the athletic trainer is not present, the host school medical personnel are in control. If no medical personnel are present, members of the coaching staff are instructed to "take charge" of the situation and, if warranted, call for emergency care.

The athletic training room is located at the High School. Currently the athletic trainer is Rob Brookes. He can be reached directly at 315-642-3699 or e-mail robbrookes@ircsd.org. Since contests are being played simultaneously and at different sites, coaches are required to be certified in First Aid and CPR and are in phone contact with the athletic trainer.

INSURANCE

A. Indian River participates in a student accident insurance plan through the Pupil Benefits Insurance Company. For parents and students, procedures for making claims are outlined as follows:

1. Make initial claim on any primary family insurance; student accident is normally secondary coverage.
 2. Complete and sign Part "B" statement of Parent or Guardian on student's accident claim form.
 3. For any charges in excess of all final payments under other policies, attach to the student's accident claim form:
 - a. A copy of all benefits paid
 - b. A copy of rejection of benefits
 4. Completed forms must be received by the school's insurance company within 90 days from the date of injury accompanied by all bills incurred to that date.
- B. Remember that the student accident plan is a secondary coverage. Claim is first made on the parent's primary medical insurance. If no medical expenses remain, no claim should be made against the school's accident insurance. NOTE: Medicaid, Tricare, Child Health Plus, or Uninsured are not primary coverage. In the case of those individuals whose coverage is under one of these all bills should be submitted first to the student accident insurance plan.

If you have any questions call O. Jeanne Dolly at 642-3684

SPORTS PARTICIPATION

A. Participating on an athletic team demands a great deal of time and hard work. Serious consideration prior to the start of the sports season must be given when deciding to participate. When a student decides to participate, he/she is encouraged to complete the sports season. However, a student may leave the team during the first three weeks of the season without any penalty, providing he/she conferences with the coach and return all equipment issued to him/her. If a student leaves after the first three weeks of the season, the following stipulations will apply:

1. The student must conference with the coach and return all equipment or pay for all equipment issued to the student before he/she plays another sport.
2. The next sport season the student participates in, the student may practice but will not participate in the first three games or any scrimmages prior to the first three games.
3. For any level of football, bowling, track, wrestling, and all modified sports, the student will not participate in any scrimmages prior to any games or matches and will not participate in the first game.
4. After the first three weeks of the season, a student may not leave one team and go out for another during the season.

ATHLETIC/TEAM-BASED DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Violations of any articles of this Handbook or District Code of Conduct will be handled by the coach and/or Athletic Director.

Disciplinary action may consist of any one or more of the following:

1. Counseling between coach and athlete.
2. Conference involving coach, athlete, and parents.
3. Suspension from practice and/or games.
4. Additional penalties; not eligible for office (ex. Captain, President) for that season; leadership role eligibility for the next quarter. This could include the following school year. (Student leaders must be role models).
5. Suspension from team.
6. Other appropriate action as needed. (i.e.—Tier based discipline).

ATHLETIC BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

Violations of the District Code of Conduct or evidence that a student is involved in the possession and/or use of drugs, tobacco, tobacco products, alcohol, or an incident that is deemed a serious infraction and verified by a member of the professional staff or confirmed via arrest and/or conviction shall result in the following penalty (this could include conduct off school grounds):

TIER 1: (Tobacco Violation, Multiple Day Suspension from School, School Based Offense, Serious Offense, etc).*

- Excluded from participation for 8 calendar days, minimum, and at least one athletic contest or extracurricular function (if one is not included in the suspension dates). Athletes will be expected to practice with the team and attend all games, but will not participate in the contests.

TIER 2: (Drugs, Alcohol, Arrest, Repeated School Offenses, Other Serious Offense, etc).*

- Dismissal from all extracurricular activities for 5 calendar weeks. This penalty will be imposed even if it carries over to the next school year.
- At the discretion of the coach, athletes may return to practice after two weeks to prepare for potential return. The student will not participate in games until the completion of the five calendar weeks.
- The students is required to see a counselor appropriate to the offense prior to return to eligible status (school-based or community based).

TIER 3: (Drugs, Alcohol, Felony Arrest, Repeated School Offenses, Other Serious Offense, etc).*

- Dismissal from all extracurricular activities for 20 calendar weeks. This penalty will be imposed even if it carries over to the next school year.
- The student is required to see a counselor appropriate to the offense prior to return to eligible status (school-based or community based).

TIER 4: (Drugs, Alcohol, Arrest, Felony Charge, or Repeated Serious Offense, etc).*

- Dismissal from all extracurricular activities for remainder of Indian River athletic career.
- The student is required to see a counselor appropriate to the offense prior to return to eligible status (school-based or community based).

**Designation of "Tier" for Arrests, School Based or Serious Offenses will be at the discretion of school administration and based on information available and nature of the offense. Serious offenses may include, but will not be limited to those involved with alcohol, drugs, arrest, vandalism, harassment, or any conduct unbecoming a student representing our school system. Any conduct not specifically included in this plan will be addressed through appropriate administrative action.*

ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

While the thrill of victory is important in our athletic program, equally important is having a reputation of hospitality and good sportsmanship at Indian River. We ask all athletes and spectators to serve as Ambassadors of "Good Will" at all athletic contests. It is expected that all athletes will display conduct favorable to both the school and community. Failure to do so could result in suspension from the athletic program.

Individual coaches may establish rules for his/her particular team. These team rules must have prior approval of the Athletic Director. In addition, parents and students must be informed of these rules in writing and must return a copy with signature providing proof they have read these rules. Failure to do so will jeopardize the athlete's eligibility to participate.

- A. Athletes will allow officials to deal with abusive opponents during athletic contests. Under no circumstances will an athlete provoke a verbal or physical confrontation with an opponent.
- B. An athlete shall display respect for the rights and property of others in all matters relating to his/her interscholastic athletic participation.
- C. Truancy, skipping classes, or practice sessions, and frequent tardiness on the part of a student are not considered to be in the best interests of the student, team, activity, school or community, and the athlete will be subject to disciplinary action.
- D. Athletes who do not meet the standards of good sportsmanship, citizenship, and academic success will be subject to disciplinary action.
- E. Any equipment or material issued to a student and returned in a damaged condition must be paid for before the student shall be permitted to participate in another activity. Parents will be billed for items not returned.
- F. Students involved in the deliberate destruction or ruining of property or equipment must make restitution for the loss.
- G. Any student who is ejected from a contest while representing the Indian River Central School system is subject to suspension from the next league contest. This will be handled according to Section III, NY. State, and League Policy.
- H. Hazing is defined as any willful act done by a student, whether individually or in cohort with others, to another student for the purpose of subjecting such student to humiliation, physical abuse or threats of abuse, social or other ostracism, shame or disgrace. Permission, consent or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing does not lessen the prohibition. Depending upon the severity of the incident penalties could include but are not limited to dismissal from the team.
- I. In accordance to district policy, athletes will be disciplined for use of electronic devices for...(Refer to District Policy)

5. If there are extenuating circumstances that force a student to leave a team after the first three weeks of the season, articles 2 or 3 may be waived. In order for articles 2 or 3 to be waived, the coach and the coach of the next sport the student wishes to participate in must reach an agreement on the validity of the extenuating circumstances, and both coaches must agree to waive articles 2 or 3. If agreement cannot be reached, then the Athletic Director will determine whether to waive articles 2 or 3.

6. If a student is suspended or dismissed from a team, articles 2,3 or 4 will take affect for the next sport the athlete participates in.
B. The Indian River Central School acknowledges the importance of athletics within the overall education process of our students and will always try to encourage participation in all athletic activities.

In order to maintain the criteria standards set forth, it may be necessary to limit the number of participants at the varsity, junior varsity, and modified level. The coach will establish a Sport specific rubric approved by the athletic director.

CRITERIA FOR CUTS MAY INCLUDE:

- 1. Sports specific skills
- 2. Knowledge of the game
- 3. Academics
- 4. Fitness
- 5. Athletic ability; speed, strength, agility, balance, quickness, etc.
- 6. Sportsmanship/Citizenship
- 7. Team selection done after minimum of 3 practice sessions

PROCEDURES (FOLLOWING TRYOUTS)

- 1. Athletic Director will be notified about cuts.
- 2. Coach will meet with players that are cut to discuss alternative opportunities in athletics.
- 3. Appeal process involves coach, student/parent, and Athletic Director.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

There are exceptional opportunities at Indian River Central School for our students to participate in extracurricular activities. However, students need to be mindful that extracurricular activities are looked upon as being a privilege for the student. Therefore, we are particularly interested in ensuring that these students meet our academic, attendance, conduct and substance abuse standards. "Extracurricular" clubs/activities recognized by the Board of Education and sponsored by the school.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

All levels of interscholastic athletics (grades 9-12), all clubs/class activities, A.F.S., Art Club, Dances, Drama, F.F.A., Forensic Club, French Club, Freshmen Class Officers, G.S.A. Club, German Club, Jr. Class Officers, Jr. Classical League, Latin Club, Music Club, National Honor Society, S.A.D.D., Sr. Class Officers/Trip, Ski Club, Sophomore Class Officers, Spanish Club, Stage Crew, Student Council, Student Musical, Whiz Quiz, Yearbook

In order for any student to be eligible to participate in any extracurricular activity, he or she must meet the following criteria:

- Students must have an overall average of at least 65% for the previous ten-week marking period.
- Students must not be failing more than one subject at the end of the ten-week marking period. BOCES will count as a double grade because it involves half the school day and four credits.

GRADES 9-12 ONLY:

Students must not exceed the existing attendance policy of 13 absences per semester without make-up. If students absences exceed 13 per semester (in more than one class), and the work is not made up on the prescribed time, the student will be ineligible to participate in the next ten week marking period. *If a student fails to meet these criteria, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for the next ten-week marking period.* Final course grades of the present year will be used to determine the eligibility of the students in the first ten weeks of the next year.

A student deemed academically ineligible will be allowed to request a one-time “waiver” to gain relief from ineligibility restrictions. The request for a waiver may only happen once during a student’s High School Career. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate the waiver process. In order to qualify for the waiver, students must meet the following criteria:

- Fail no more than two classes.
- Grades must be 60 or above in both failing classes.
- Meet attendance standards listed above.
- The student must complete the “Request for Waiver” form within the first - 10 school days after the end of the marking period. (Waiver form is located in the guidance office.)

The student will meet with the Waiver Committee to review plans for academic improvement. The committee will decide to grant or deny the request for the waiver based on academic, attendance, and behavioral input from teachers and staff. The academic waiver process will only be available at the beginning of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th marking periods. Students will not participate during the time of the waiver process.

If at the 5 week marking period, any class is below a 65 the student forfeits eligibility for the remainder of the quarter. Waiver decisions are final. No further appeal process will be granted.

Indian River Middle School Academic Eligibility For Extracurricular Activities

Middle School students who go through the APP process and are participating on a JV & Varsity team will be held to the same standards as the HS students.

All Indian River Middle School students are encouraged to participate in afterschool activities. This privilege is offered along with academic success. *Student’s academic results will determine eligibility.* IRMS Eligibility is determined at the 5 Week Progress Reporting time or 10 Week Marking Period. Any student who achieves a passing grade in all courses or is failing just one course at a grade or progress reporting time, will be Academically Eligible. If a student is failing two courses at a progress reporting time or marking period, they will be placed on Academic Probation. During that time, students may continue to participate, but are advised to stay after school, seek extra help and attend to passing all courses. If a student who is on Academic Probation is failing two or more subjects at the next grade or progress reporting time, that student is now deemed Academically Ineligible. The student will remain Academically Ineligible until they achieve Academic Eligibility. If at the end of any Marking Period a student is failing three or more subjects, the student will be deemed automatically Academically Ineligible.