

Policy Number: 105

Adopted: 8/19/2022

Revised: \_\_\_\_\_



## Midway Star Athletics and Activities Policy

### I. PURPOSE

- A. In recognition of the school board members' value on athletic and activities programming as an integral part of the total school experience for all students of Midway Star Academy (herein 'Midway Star'), we wish to ensure that our athletics and activities programs are in full compliance with the rules of the Midway Star's Policies.
- B. These policies will apply to all students attending Midway Star's PK-8

### II. RESPONSIBILITIES

- C. Students who participate in school-sponsored athletics and activities are expected to represent the school and community in a responsible manner. All rules pertaining to student conduct and student discipline extend to school athletics and activities.
- D. Spectators at school sponsored events, including parents, employees, and other members of the public, are expected to behave in an appropriate manner at those events.
- E. Students and employees may be subject to disciplinary action for conduct violating the Midway Star Code of Conduct. Parents and other spectators may be subject to sanctions for engaging in misbehavior or inappropriate or illegal behavior at these events.
- F. It shall be the responsibility of the Midway Star Director of Student Activities to develop and implement a plan to disseminate information needed to inform students, parents, staff, and the community of the opportunities available within the Midway Star's athletics and activities programming and the rules of participation.
- G. Students who participate in the Midway Star's Athletic and Activities Programming are subject to and must abide by Midway Star Policy, School Handbook rules, regulations, and procedures. Additionally, student participants, supervisory staff, and coaches are subject to Minnesota Athletics Policies.
- H. The Midway Star's Student Services director, and Principal, shall be responsible for conducting an annual evaluation of school athletic and activities programming and presenting the results of any recommendations to the School Board.

### III. ADDITION AND DELETION OF INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC OFFERINGS

- A. The Board recognizes that student interest in athletic and activities participation changes over time and that offerings available to students must change in response. In addition, the School Board charges the Midway Star Director of Student Activities with the development and implementation of a process to regularly survey student interest regarding athletic and activities offerings. The Principal is responsible for the implementation of a process for considering the addition and deletion of athletic and activities programming.

## REGULATIONS ATHLETIC AND ACTIVITIES POLICY

### I. ATHLETIC AND ACTIVITIES PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

- A. One of the primary goals of the athletic and activities programming is to provide active participation for a maximum numbers of students. Students who join athletics and activities programs may expect to be provided opportunities for actual participation time, but may also expect to have to work diligently to gain the greatest amounts of participation time.
- B. The number and kinds of athletic and activities programming will be responsive to student interest as well as to budget limitations. The direction and the expansion of the intramural athletic program will be a direct result of student interest. Continuous re- evaluation of athletics and activities programming will create stronger and more unique programming that fits individual and group needs.
- C. Grade Level Participation (Athletics only):
  - 1. Grades 7-8: The goal of middle school athletics is to provide participation opportunities for all students. There may, however, be occasions when the numbers of participants in junior high athletic programs exceed the number that coaches can properly instruct and safely supervise. When that occurs, additional coaches may be added or participation limited with the approval of the Midway Star Services Director.
  - 2. Grades 5-8: All students will be afforded the opportunity to participate in intramural, extramural and/or interscholastic activities as resources permit.
- D. Equitable Resources and Athletic Activities Athletic activities, equipment, and facilities will be provided for both sexes on an equitable basis and as directed by state statute. The number and kinds of athletic activities will be responsive to student interest. Continuous change, partial or total, of the athletic program will create a stronger and more unique program that fits individual and group needs.

## II. COACH SELECTION (ATHLETICS ONLY)

- A. It is the intent of the Midway Star to employ the best-qualified coaches possible. Coaches shall be selected and assigned by the appropriate athletic coordinator or director with input as needed from the building principal or other supervisors. Whenever coaching vacancies occur, efforts shall be made to recruit and hire well-qualified coaches from among the Midway Star licensed staff. These efforts include posting as prescribed in Board rules and regulations. When qualified candidates are not available from within the licensed staff or the pool of qualified candidates on staff does not include a person with the special ability and background desired to meet the demands of a particular position, other qualified persons may be employed. Coaches will be minimally of legal age and subject to customary Human Resources Hiring Practices and Procedures.
- B. When a staff member terminates employment as a teacher in the Midway Star, the person may continue in a coaching position at the discretion of the Midway Star Director of Student Services with input from the Principal if there are no better qualified candidates on staff.
- C. Staff members may make application for positions occupied by non-staff persons even though such positions have not been announced as vacancies. Staff applications must be made within three weeks of the official close of the season for fall sports and by April 15 for winter and spring sports. Such applications must then receive consideration by the Student Services Director.

### III. ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES PROCEDURES

#### A. Participation Fees:

1. A fee schedule for participation in athletics and activities has been established by the Board of Education and will be reviewed annually.
2. Fees are refunded as outlined in guidelines provided by the Midway Star's.
3. Scholarships Students may be eligible for a participation fee scholarship or may choose an alternative fee payment by submitting a scholarship request form and meeting established criteria.
4. Minimal fees are charged for intramural athletics and some activities.

#### B. Supervision

1. The Director of Student Services or coordinator and the principal will ensure that coaches and supervisory staff carry out their duties and assignments in a professional manner and in the best interests of student participants.
2. Control and Behavior of Students
  - i. It is the responsibility of the coach or supervisory staff to see that the conduct of student participants is above reproach on the playing field or floor, in the locker room, on the bus, and in every aspect of all activities conducted inside as well as outside of the Midway Star. Midway Star rules and regulations governing behavior of student participants must be vigorously supported and enforced by all coaches and supervisory staff.
  - ii. It is the responsibility of the coach or supervisory staff to see that students are supervised at all times when using either indoor or outdoor supervisory staff facilities. Facilities will not be used when coaches or supervisors are not present.

C. Informed Consent (Athletics Only) By its nature, participation in interscholastic athletics includes risk of injury that may range in severity. Although serious injuries are not common in supervised school athletic programs, it is impossible to eliminate the risk. Participants can and have the responsibility to help reduce the chance of injury. Athletes must obey all safety rules, report all physical problems to their coaches, follow a proper conditioning program, and inspect their own equipment daily.

#### D. Physical Examinations and Insurance (Athletics Only)

1. Athletes must have on file in the school a record of a physical examination performed by a physician as specified by State Health Guidelines at least every three years.

school staff. d. Law enforcement agency. iv. Parent/Guardian.

B. Sexual/Racial/Religious Harassment/Violence and Hazing During the calendar year, a

## VI. ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

In an effort to maintain high academic expectations and credible academic standards while assuring that students are making progress meeting the state academic proficiency standards, the following criteria must be met for a student to remain academically eligible.

A. Academic Criteria Policy for Athletic Participation for Students in Grades 5-8  
Students receiving an F grade in any class at any time will go on “academic support”. The academic support system will proceed as follows:

1. At various times during each marking period, the athletic coordinator will do an academic evaluation of the students that are participating in the after school athletic programs. The coach will then receive a list of student athletes that are on their team that have an F.
2. If a student is failing before a formal marking period, teachers may contact the Athletic Coordinator at any time to notify the coordinator of the failing grade.
3. The Athletic Coordinator will notify the coach and the coach will contact the parent(s).
4. At this time the student will be on “academic support”.
5. The student, in cooperation with the instructor, coach, and Athletic Coordinator, will attend practices, and support services as directed by the instructor, coach, and the coordinator.
6. The student will route a progress report to his/her teachers. If the student receives an “unsatisfactory” (U) toward progress; the student will not be allowed to participate in competitions and contests. Students will be allowed to practice while on “academic support”. Once the student has received a satisfactory progress report (S), they may resume full team participation. A student will be considered in “good standing” when at a formal marking period (mid- quarter/quarter) there are no F’s on the grade report. At this time the student will off “academic support”.

## B. Academic Criteria Policy for Athletic Participation in Grades 5-8

1. Students in grades 5-8 must make satisfactory progress toward graduation through the accumulation of credits.
  - a. Credit Accumulation \*Good Standing\* Students in grades 5-8 must meet the following criterion:
    - i. be enrolled full time during the season of eligibility,
    - ii. be earning satisfactory grades,
    - iii. have an attendance and tardy rate above 85% during the regular season

The student will be given information pertaining to their current academic status and options that are available to remedy the situation. The options may include:

1. Opportunities to meet with current instructors for additional assistance with coursework.
  2. Opportunities to secure professional tutoring assistance.
  3. Opportunities to enroll in learning centers outside of the school.
- b. Other options as applicable.

During the period following the administrative conference, the student will be allowed to participate, provided they are making satisfactory progress toward earning the credit for each course they are enrolled in. During this period, the student's progress will be reviewed on a weekly basis. The student may be ruled ineligible for participation if they fail to show effort and progress in any of the weekly reviews. The period of ineligibility will be Monday through Saturday of the following week.

During the period of academic ineligibility, the student will not be allowed to participate in practices, scrimmages, or games. There is no weekly review during this period. The student will need to accumulate credits and meet the minimum threshold before they will be considered for reinstatement.

## VII. PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING COMPLAINTS

- A. Informal Procedure A complainant should observe the following procedures for informal resolution of complaints. Participants:
  1. discuss the problem with captain(s). If problem is not resolved,
  2. schedule informal conference with coach or supervisory staff. If problem is not resolved,
  3. schedule informal conference with the appropriate coordinator. (If the coordinator is the individual against whom complaint is registered, void this step and go to step 4.)
  4. if problem is not resolved, invoke formal complaint.
- B. Formal Complaint Procedure
  1. schedule informal conference with principal. If problem is not resolved, invoke formal complaint, or,

2. schedule informal conference with Midway Star Director of Student Services. If problem is not resolved, invoke formal complaint, or
3. schedule informal conference with Principal.

C. Parents:

1. Informal Procedures: A parent desiring to resolve a complaint through informal procedures should schedule an informal conference with the Athletic Director. If problem is not resolved, invoke formal complaint.
2. Formal Procedures:
  - i. Coordinator Level If complainant is not satisfied with the disposition of a complaint at the Informal Level, complaint may be filed in writing with the coordinator (or with the principal if the complaint involves a coordinator who is also a coach or the supervisor). The complaint will include: • nature of the complaint • facts on which complaint is based (dates, persons, places, actions, etc.) • relief requested Meeting with coordinator: Within 10 school days after receipt of the written complaint the coordinator will meet with complainant in effort to resolve the complaint.
  - ii. Principal's Level:
    1. Filing of Complaint: If complainant is not satisfied with disposition of the complaint at coordinator level, or if no decision has been rendered within 10 school days after meeting with the coordinator, complainant may file the complaint in writing with the Principal.
    2. Meeting with Principal: Within 10 school days after receipt of the written complaint, the principal will meet with complainant in effort to resolve the complaint.
    3. Midway Star Director of Student Services and Activities Level:
      - a. Filing of Complaint: If complainant is not satisfied with disposition of the complaint at the principal level, or if no decision has been rendered within 10 school days after meeting with the principal, complainant may file the complaint in writing.
      - b. Meeting with Midway Star Director of Student Services : Within 10 school days after receipt of the written complaint, the Midway Star Director of Student Services will meet with complainant in effort to resolve the complaint.
    4. Principal
      - a. Filing of Complaint: If complainant is not satisfied with disposition of the complaint at the Midway Star Director of Student Services and Activities level, or if no decision has been rendered within 10 school days after meeting with the Midway Star Director of Student Services and Activities, complaint may be filed in writing with the Head of Schools
      - b. Meeting with the Principal: Within 10 school days after receipt of the written complaint, the Principal will arrange to meet with complainant in effort to resolve the complaint.



## VIII. ADDITION AND DELETION OF INTERSCHOLASTIC OFFERINGS

- IX.** The Midway Star Director of Student Services is charged with the development and implementation of a process to regularly survey student interest regarding interscholastic offerings. The Principal is responsible for the implementation of a process for considering the addition and deletion of interscholastic activities.
1. Interest Survey Secondary students will be surveyed at least every other year to determine interest in interscholastic offerings. The information collected through student surveys will be used to identify potential additions or deletions to interscholastic offerings. Students also may initiate consideration of interscholastic program changes through petitions directed to the Midway Star Director of Student Services demonstrating substantial student interest in a particular activity.
  2. Criteria for Addition/Deletion of Interscholastic Offerings Potential interscholastic activity offering additions/deletions will be judged on the following criteria:
    - i. There is substantial interest and ability to sustain a viable interscholastic activity.
    - ii. It will substantially address an imbalance in participation rates by males and females (pertains to gender equity in athletics only).
    - iii. It is a conference activity or if there is a reasonable expectation that it soon will be.
  3. Process Potential interscholastic program changes will be reviewed initially by the Midway Star Director of Student Services in light of the above criteria. Midway Star Director of Student Services

is responsible for forwarding the requests to the Principal with a recommendation. The Principal, in turn, will review the request and forward it with a recommendation and supporting data to the School Board for action. The addition and deletion of levels of competition within an athletic activity will be governed by the number of participants and budget considerations. Where the number of participants in a sport justifies two or more levels of competition at least one assistant coach will be provided for each of the levels below high school level. Sports where specific coaching specialties are required may be allocated additional assistant coaches. Additional coaching assistants might be made available through the use of volunteers in keeping with the goal of providing gender equity in the interscholastic program. Volunteer coaches will be selected using a similar process used to select salaried coaches.