

The Livonia Public Schools

Guideline for ~~Student Activities~~

~~And Athletic Offerings~~ High School Student Club
Activities, Club Athletics, and Board Of
Education Approved Athletics

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Rationale

Guidelines are necessary because many parents want the school district to promote and fund programs in which their children may have an interest in.

Recent Requests

Skiing	Weightlifting	Field Hockey
Bowling	Roller Hockey	Sailing
Skateboarding	Ribbon Dancing	Boxing
Boy's Gymnastics	Boys' Volleyball	Kick Boxing
Figure Skating	In-Line Skating	Lacrosse
Archery	Equestrian	Karate
Crew	Cycling	Badminton

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETIC OFFERINGS HIGH SCHOOL CLUB ACTIVITIES, CLUB ATHLETICS, AND BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVED ATHLETIC TEAMS

I. General Statements

If an ~~student athletic team becomes a activity or sport~~ **Board approved athletic team** qualifies for activity or athletic department status, it should receive, **as appropriate**, the additional funding required to support the **Board approved athletic team**. ~~similar to other student activities or athletic department programs in terms of equipment, transportation, awards, etc. This would not require that an existing sport or activity~~ **Board approved athletic team** be dropped in order to create the necessary funding. **However, this request must proceed through the formal budget process in order to be certain that funding will be available to initiate and sustain programming.** Similarly, new **Board approved athletic** programs ~~should~~ **will** be assigned to **the** activity or athletic department. ~~status only if "new dollars" are available to maintain the quality of existing programs.~~

If a club athletic team is approved, it is considered a self-funded entity with monies accrued or raised through the club athletics organization which is not directly administered by Livonia Public Schools. Livonia Public Schools holds no responsibility in terms of budgetary items including, but not limited to, facility usage, equipment, and/or transportation. Similarly, new club athletic teams shall be assigned to the appropriate school office, assistant principal of the attendance office.

II. STUDENT CLUB ACTIVITIES (Student Activities Department)

A. Definition

A student-club activity is defined as a program that may exist or operate under the supervision of the high school student activities director. Student-Club activities are funded primarily from monies raised by or through the student activities program. Student Club activities originate only with the approval of the building principal and have use of the district facilities as available.

B. Requirements to achieve student club activity status:

- The student club activity must demonstrate adequate interest, defense by the building principal or student activities director.
- Develop goals and a purpose statement and have it approved by the student activities director and building principal. This charter should include rules and regulations where applicable.
- A qualified faculty member or approved adult sponsor will must be approved by the principal and student activities director.
- Minimum guidelines will be established at the building level with school district input if necessary as appropriate.
- Arrangements will be made for adequate facilities, management personnel, and assistance.

C. Administrative Requirements

- ~~Development of goals and purpose statement and have it approved by the student activities director and building principal. This charter should include rules and regulations where applicable.~~
- Provide proposed fundraising activities, to be approved by the student activities director and the building principal.
- ~~Be sponsored by a faculty member or an approved adult.~~
- Provide the student activities director with a transportation plan, if applicable.
- Complete an annual program review and end of the year sponsor meeting with the student's activities director.
- Adequate administrative resources and physical facilities must be available.
- As appropriate, establish clear criteria for a participating student to earn an activity letter award. Not all clubs will be approved to offer the opportunity to earn an activity letter award. This must be recommended by the Student Activities Director and approved by the principal.

D. Activity Letter Award

- A student may earn an activity letter award if the student meets the criteria set forth in the club activity's guidelines or bylaws. Typically, at minimum, participation in a club for at least two years in good standing is required to be awarded an activity letter.
- Activity letters are requested through the club sponsor and approved by the student activities director.

III. CLUB ATHLETICS (Attendance Office Assistant Principal)

A. Definition

A club athletic team is defined as a program that may exist or operate under the supervision of the attendance office assistant principal. It is also defined as a game of skill, that the skill be physical, that the game has a wide following, and that following achieve a certain level of stability. The sport is refereed game or judged performance.

A club athletic team is funded through the club athletics organization which is outside of Livonia Public Schools. A club athletic team originates only with the approval of the Director of Secondary Programs.

B. Requirements to achieve club athletics status:

- Meet all of the following requirements.
 - Club Athletics request must have previously been an approved club activity with Livonia Public Schools.
 - Athletic program can not be an already Board of Education approved athletic program for Livonia Public Schools.
 - Must have consistently demonstrated adequate student interest. Adequate student interest is defined as consistent growth and/or stability among participants.
 - Have adequate competition among interscholastic opponents.
 - Must be sanctioned or under the supervision of a recognized statewide or nationwide governing body.
 - Be willing to abide by Livonia Public Schools Athletic Code of Conduct including eligibility requirements.
 - Sufficient self-funding and independently provided facilities are available to maintain the new program.
- Develop goals and a purpose statement and have it approved by the Assistant Principal of the Attendance Office and Director of Secondary Programs.
- This charter should include rules and regulations where applicable.
- Define criteria to earn an athletic letter award which must be approved by the club sponsor and the Director of Secondary Programs.
- A qualified sponsor must be approved by the Assistant Principal of the Attendance Office and Director of Secondary Programs.

C. Administrative Requirements

- Complete an annual program review and end-of-the-year sponsor meeting with the Assistant Principal of the Attendance Office and Director of Secondary Programs.
- Assistant Principal of the Attendance Office will report to the club sponsor the following:
 - Five-week eligibility grade check reports.
 - Violations of the athletic code of conduct by a student-athlete.
 - Violations of the district and/or school code of conduct by a student-athlete.

D. Letter Award

- A student may earn an athletic letter award if the student meets the criteria set forth in the club athletic team's guidelines or bylaws AND approved by Livonia Public School's Director of Secondary Programs or designee.
- The student is enrolled in Livonia Public Schools.
- The student's club athletic team affiliation is...
- Letters shall not be automatically awarded to all students participating on the club athletic team. He/she must compete at the equivalent of a "varsity level" and meet all aforementioned criteria.
- A student-athlete on a club athletic team who completes three full seasons in good standing of athletic experience in a particular sport but does not qualify for an athletic letter in any of those three seasons will be granted an athletic letter at the end of the third season. Awarding of an athletic letter in this manner is intended to recognize those student-athletes who regularly attend practice and team activities but whose skills and abilities may not earn the athletic letter based solely on the coach's criteria.
- Athletic letters are requested through the Assistant Principal of the Attendance Office and approved by the Assistant Principal of the Attendance Office.

IV. VARSITY SPORTS BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVED ATHLETICS

A. DEFINITION

A ~~varsity sport~~ **Board of Education approved athletic team** is defined as an ~~athletic program~~ **sport (varsity and/or sub varsity)** operating under the direct supervision of the athletic director and funded by the Board of Education. It is also defined as a game of skill, that the skill be physical, that the game has a wide following, and that following achieve a certain level of stability. The sport is refereed game or judged performance.

B. One of the following requirements must be met before a sport may apply for athletic department status.

1. Be a sponsored MHSAA sport which, by Handbook definition, requires that a minimum of 64 schools have been sponsoring the sport for two consecutive years.

2. Meet all of the following requirements.

- Must have demonstrated adequate student interest for the preceding four years. Adequate student interest is defined as double the minimum squad size.
- Have adequate competition for the given sport, defined as at least ten interscholastic opponents.
- Must be sanctioned or under the supervision of a recognized non-profit statewide governing body.
- Be willing to abide by all the rules and regulations of the MHSAA and the Livonia Public Schools Athletic Code of Conduct.
- Sufficient **district** funding and facilities are available to maintain the new program.

C. PERIODIC REVIEWS

All athletic offerings will be reviewed annually to determine compliance with the above guidelines and other standards established by the Livonia Public Schools.

D. Letter Award

- A student may earn an athletic letter award if the student meets the criteria set forth by the team's head varsity coach through participation at the varsity level athletic team and approved by the school's Athletic Director. Letters are not awarded to students who are participating on a Freshman or JV team.
- A student athlete on a Board of Education approved athletic team who completes three full seasons in good standing of athletic experience in a particular sport but does not qualify for an athletic letter in any of those three seasons will be granted an athletic letter at the end of the third season. The awarding of an athletic letter in this manner is intended to recognize those student athletes who regularly attend practice and team activities, but whose skills and abilities may not earn the athletic letter based solely on the criteria of the coach.
- Athletic letters are requested through the head varsity coach of the athletic team and approval from the school's Athletic Director.

IV. REQUESTS FOR SUB VARSITY AND VARSITY SPORT STATUS

- A. All requests for **Board of Education approved** athletic status (varsity or sub varsity) must go through the Livonia Public Schools Athletic Council, **initially**.
- B. All recommendations from the Athletic Council will be sent to the Director of **Secondary Programs** ~~the Administrative Services~~ for consideration of adoption **which may include surveying Livonia Public Schools students in 6th-11th grades prior to moving forward with a recommendation.**
- C. The Director of **Secondary Programs** ~~Administrative Services~~ will forward recommendations to the Superintendent of the Livonia Public Schools.
- D. The final recommendation by the Superintendent for additional offerings will be forwarded to the Board of Education for budget consideration and adoption or denial.