

1. The Athletic Director is to provide documentation regarding membership or change in membership in any leagues, associations, or conferences to the School Committee.
2. The Athletic Director is to present evidence/information to the School Committee during budget presentations if there is a need for a new interscholastic sport or a new level of an existing sport.
  - a. The School Committee reviews the recommendations made by the Athletic Director and considers funding for the next fiscal year.
  - b. The School Committee reserves the right based on reviewing of the entire school budget, whether to fund or not to fund an additional sport or level of sport.
  - c. If a sport or level of sport is funded, the Athletic Director is to set up schedules, provide transportation, review physicals, hire new coaches, and inform athletes of rules and regulations.
3. A formal permission form is required for all students participating in athletic programs and will be kept on file by the Athletic Director.
  - a. Coaches distribute permission forms to student-athletes for their parents/legal guardians to review and sign.
  - b. Coaches collect permission forms and return to Athletic Director by the first contest/game.
  - c. Student-athletes who neglect to return a signed parent/legal guardian consent form by the first contest are not allowed to participate in interscholastic athletics until the coach receives a signed consent form.
4. A current physical is required for every student-athlete who wishes to participate in interscholastic sports.
  - a. Physicals are effective for 12 calendar months.
  - b. If a physical is to expire, it must be renewed prior to expiration.
  - c. The Athletic Director is to maintain accurate records of physicals for all student-athletes within the respective season of play (fall, winter, spring).
  - d. Physical guidelines must meet the minimum requirements of the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA).
  - e. A student-athlete without a current physical is not be allowed to practice or participate in games/contests.

MIAA Rule 56.1 All students must pass physical examination one year of each day of athletic participation. A sports physical terminates 365 days subsequent to administering and must be renewed immediately (should the athlete be in season) to maintain eligibility. Physical examinations must be performed by a duly registered Physician, Physician's Assistant and Nurse Practitioner.

**PENALTY:** A student in violation shall be suspended for the number of contests in which he/she participated without a proper physical.

5. Participation/eligibility is outlined in the Westford Academy Student Manual and the Westford Academy Student-Athlete Handbook for the secondary level, and in the Middle School Handbook for the middle school level.
  - a. Student manuals are reviewed by parents and students on an annual basis and signed by the parent/legal guardian and student-athlete. Acceptance forms are kept on file by the school administration.
  - b. The Westford Academy Student-Athlete Handbook is reviewed by each coach with their respective teams, in their respective season of play.
6. The following items are taken into consideration for students to continue being involved in interscholastic athletics

**Secondary Level:**

- a. Academic requirements (minimum of 25 credits)
- b. Citizenship
- c. Attendance (a student must attend four class periods per day)
- d. Chemical health wellness

**Middle School:**

- a. If a student fails one course, they may not participate in interscholastic sports until the next report card.
- b. If a student receives a 3 in conduct or effort, they are placed on monitoring for fifteen (15) days.

Policy Adopted:  
Policy Reviewed:  
Policy Revised:

WESTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Westford, Massachusetts 01886