

St. HOPE Public Schools Athletics Policy

St. HOPE Public Schools (SHPS) recognizes that an athletic program constitutes an integral component of the educational program and helps to build a positive school climate. The athletic program also promotes the physical, social, and emotional well-being and character development of participating students.

The district's athletic program shall be designed to meet students' interests and abilities and shall be varied in scope to attract wide participation.

All athletic teams shall be supervised by qualified coaches to ensure that student athletes receive appropriate instruction and guidance related to safety, health, sports skills, and sportsmanship. Athletic events shall be officiated by qualified personnel.

Eligibility (9th – 12th Grade)

At the official grade check deadlines (published each year), a student must meet the following criteria to be eligible to participate in any athletic and/or specified activity:

- Earn a 2.0 overall weighted GPA
- No more than one (1) NCR (no credit) in their current classes. NCRs result from an overall grade below 80% in Advisory and 70% in all other courses.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee shall ensure that students participating in interscholastic athletics governed by CIF satisfy CIF eligibility requirements.

In addition, prior to participation, a student-athlete must complete the proper athletic clearance procedures as outlined in the current year Athletic Handbook. Student-athletes are expected to read and abide by the Athletic Handbook at all times.

The Superintendent or designee may revoke a student's eligibility for participation in athletics and other activities when the student's poor citizenship/behavior is serious enough to warrant loss of this privilege.

Sportsmanship

SHPS values the quality and integrity of the athletic program and the character development of student athletes. Student athletes, coaches, parents/guardians, spectators, and others are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play during all athletic competitions. They shall also abide by the core principles of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship, and the Code of Ethics adopted by CIF. Students and staff shall be subject to disciplinary action for improper conduct.

Health and Safety

The Board desires to give student health and safety the highest consideration in planning and conducting athletic activities. Students shall have a medical clearance before participating in interscholastic athletic programs. Care shall be taken to ensure that all athletic trainings and competitions are conducted in a

manner that will not overtax the physical capabilities of the participants. When appropriate, protective equipment shall be used to prevent or minimize injuries.

Coaches and appropriate SHPS employees shall take every possible precaution to ensure that athletic equipment is kept in safe and serviceable condition. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all athletic equipment is cleaned and inspected for safety before the beginning of each school year.

In the event of an injury or a perceived imminent risk to a student's health, such as a concussion or passing out, fainting, or other sign of sudden cardiac arrest, during or immediately after an athletic activity, the coach or any other district employee who is present shall remove the student athlete from the activity, observe universal precautions in handling blood or other bodily fluid, and/or seek medical treatment for the student as appropriate.

Whenever an injury is suffered by a student, the Superintendent or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian of the date, time, and extent of any injury suffered by the student and any actions taken to treat the student.

Nondiscrimination and Equivalent Opportunities in the Athletic Program

SHPS extracurricular, cocurricular, athletics, clubs and other programs and activities are available to all persons without regard to actual or perceived age, ancestry, ethnicity, actual or potential parental, pregnancy, family or marital status that treats students differently on the basis of sex, lactation status, housing or homeless status, color, mental or physical disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, immigration status, medical information, nationality, race, religion, or association with a person or a group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

The district's athletic program shall be free from discrimination and discriminatory practices prohibited by state and federal law, including, but not limited to, the use of any racially derogatory or discriminatory school or athletic team name, mascot, or nickname.

All student athletics, programs, activities, and clubs have equal access to facilities and a fair opportunity to meet. (5 CCR § 4927)

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that equivalent athletic opportunities are provided for males and females, and that students are permitted to participate in athletic activities consistent with their gender identity. Sex-segregated programs, activities, and facilities, including the participation on all sex-segregated athletic teams and in all sex-segregated competitions, shall be available to all pupils on the basis of their individual gender identity, irrespective of the gender listed on a pupil's records. (EC § 221.5(f))

Processing Complaints of Discrimination, Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

SHPS has adopted a process for receiving complaints of and investigating complaints of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on the above listed actual or perceived characteristics. The "St. HOPE Public Schools Uniform Complaint Procedures" is available upon request.

SHPS has designated the below compliance officer. The compliance officer shall receive and investigate complaints and ensure compliance with the law. The Superintendent/CEO may appoint a designee to conduct the investigation.

Equity Compliance Officer/ Title IX Coordinator:

Elisha Ferguson Parsons

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