

Washington County School District Declaration of Support for Activities

This Declaration is in appreciation of the commitment of many to the children of this community, and the Board's desire to clarify the purpose, and direction, of efforts of the School District relating to secondary school activities, in the following areas:

1. Appreciation:

- Remind all about, and show appreciation for, the incredible commitment of coaches and activity advisors to our youth which goes far, far, beyond monetary compensation.

2. Information:

- Recognize the need of parent and student to be fully informed through timely, and comprehensive disclosure statements - to be distributed at the beginning of the school year (for all 9-12th grade students).

3. Finances:

- Resolve to reduce parental cost. For example: create one sport pack for all sports, adding only t-shirts for additional sports, multiple year use, etc.
- Resolve to follow guidelines for handling of funds from, and for, school-sponsored activities.
- Emphasize activity disclosure statements that accurately identify the financial costs to parents/student of various activities.
- Emphasize that summer, university, etc., camp issues are not District-sponsored and that parents, community, and coaches who are involved do so as individuals, or representing other institutions.

4. Summer Camps:

- Resolve to seek additional support through parent volunteers for coaches who are too heavily impacted during the summer with their sports.
- Relieve expectation that coaches must be with their teams at team camps during the summer.
- Suggest to those sponsoring camps that the number of coaches involved adequately staff the number of students involved, particularly if school is used to announce camp opportunities for other public institutions.

5. Selection:

- Rigorously follow USOE Rule 277-605 (attached) in selection of teams/participants, which reads:

"School personnel, activity leaders, coaches, advisors, and other personnel shall not require students to attend out-of-school camps, clinics, or workshops for which the personnel, activity leaders, coaches, or advisors receive remuneration from a source other than the school or district in which they are employed".

"Required or voluntary participation in summer or other off-season clinics, workshops, and leagues shall not be used as eligibility criteria for team membership, participation in extracurricular activities, or for the opportunity to try out for school-sponsored programs".

"A summer workshop or clinic conducted by a school for any sport or activity shall be scheduled and held consistent with UHSAA bylaws and policies".

6. Balance:

- Continue to emphasize balanced attention to all sports and activities vs. one main sport. Meet expectations of moratoriums, and non-overlap, unnecessarily, of sports.
- Avoid promotion of one sport or activity at the expense of other sports or activities.
- Limit competition to geographical areas referenced in policy 7020 section 7.1.3 and to national events referenced in the policy as 7.1.2.9.

7. Participation:

- Actively seek to engage each and every student in at least one club, co-curricular, or extracurricular activity.

8. Violations:

- Deal with specific issues, individuals, and/or situations rather than generalize issues.