

# DISTRICT 51 ATHLETICS MISSION STATEMENT

Developing champions for life!

## CORE VALUES

- Participation is a Privilege
- Athletics and Activities programs are education-based/an extension of the classroom
- Participation in Athletics and Activities teach life skills
- Appropriate perspective is taught through participation
- Fun is a primary reason for a student's participation
- Participation supports the development of positive character

## DISTRICT 51 PARTICIPANT EXPECTATIONS

We expect athletes to be a positive role model while maintaining high standards of personal conduct on and off the athletic field. Athletes are expected to treat parents, coaches, teachers, teammates, their school and community with honor and dignity. They will sign a contract to not use alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs. Any conduct considered detrimental to the team, school, or community that includes but may not be limited to citizenship, sportsmanship, or poor representation of the District 51 philosophies of Athletics may be grounds for suspension from activities.

## PHILOSOPHY & VALUES

Athletics are an important part of our education program. Participation in a sound athletic program contributes to good sportsmanship, character, physical development, coordination, and a wholesome interest in team and lifetime sports. Interscholastic sports competition exemplifies the value of the democratic process and of fair play. Through participation, the student/athlete learns how to work with others for the achievement of group goals. Participation in interscholastic sports is a living laboratory of equal opportunity in action where all students are treated without favor or prejudice.

The program of interscholastic sports will be an integral part of the total educational experience. It will, above all else, foster the growth and well-being of the individual student.

Good sportsmanship practices build lifelong values. The student/athlete who acts fairly, observes laws and customs, treats others with consideration, and overcomes adversity with dignity earns respect. Students in today's schools are tomorrow's community leaders and citizens and as adults will demonstrate many of the attributes they learn through their participation in athletics.

The School District is well aware of the importance of athletics. We also recognize that they should not overshadow the emphasis placed on academics and achievement in the classroom. Schools maximize student/teacher contact by minimizing the loss of school time involved in extracurricular activities. It is our expectation that the approach to success in the classroom is equally important to student/athletes and parents as the success we all hope to achieve on the field of competition. **We want our student-athletes to pursue victory with honor and integrity!**