

NANUET PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**Athletic Department
101 Church Street
Nanuet, NY 10954**

**Mark S. McNeill, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools**



**Frank Mazzuca
Director of Athletics
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Dear Parent/Guardian:

This material is presented to you because we believe that participation in sports provides a wealth of opportunities and experiences that assist in developing a well-rounded young man or woman.

At Nanuet, we are concerned with the educational development of boys and girls through athletics, and feel that a properly controlled, well-organized sports program meets the students' needs for self-expression, mental alertness, and physical growth. If your child elects to participate in athletics, it is a voluntary choice of self-discipline.

It is the hope of the Athletic Department that the student-athlete will attempt to discipline his or her mind and body for rigorous competition. We are striving for excellence and do not want our athletes to compromise with mediocrity.

When your child signs up for one of our sports-related programs, he or she commits our staff to certain responsibilities and obligations. They are:

1. To provide adequate equipment and facilities.
2. To attempt to provide the best trained coaches available.
3. To provide an equalized schedule with the best officials available.
4. To provide transportation to and from all athletic competitions.

We also feel that you will be committing yourselves to certain responsibilities and obligations. We would like to take this opportunity to acquaint you with specific policies that are necessary for a well-organized athletic program.

It is the role of the Athletic Department, in conjunction with the school administration and coaching staff, to make rules that govern the spirit of competition for the school community. These rules need a broad basis of community support, which is achieved only through communication with you. It is our hope to accomplish this objective through this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank Mazzuca".

**Frank Mazzuca
Director of Athletics**



NANUET ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT



Your child has indicated a desire to participate in our athletic program at Nanuet. Please take a few minutes to read and review the seventeen areas listed below before you sign the athletic consent form.

1. Athletes are expected to work up to their capacity in the classroom at all times. Your child is first and foremost a student, and then an athlete. The Nanuet Public Schools take great pride in their academic and athletic programs with the idea of producing good student-athletes. Our students must work very hard in the classroom to enhance their reputation as student-athletes. Should your child experience difficulty in any of his or her subject areas, please contact the athletic office immediately to discuss this important matter.
2. Every student must have the following forms on file with the nurse:
 - Physical
 - Update
 - Consent Form
 - Emergency Card
 - Request For Administration of Medication

In addition to the pre-season physical given by the school physician, any student whose safe participation is in question as a result of the health history questionnaire, injury, or absences due to illness or injury, must be requalified by the school physician prior to participation. All of the above information is vital in case of an emergency. These forms may be picked up at the athletic office or from the nurse. All forms must be returned to the nurse.

**Injuries or accidents must be reported to the nurse by the student and the coach within 48 hours. Failure to report accidents may result in loss of coverage by the insurance carrier.*

3. Training and conditioning are beneficial aspects of our athletic program. Athletes should strive to maintain their body and athletic skills throughout the season.
4. There may be some practices and/or games on Saturdays, holidays, and other school vacations. The student-athlete must attend all practice sessions and athletic contests. Athletes who miss a practice or game must have prior approval from the coach. Unauthorized absence from practice or a game may result in sitting a game or suspension from the team.
5. ***All athletes must be in school by the beginning of 1st period on a given day in order to be eligible to participate in a contest or practice.***

6. The student is expected to demonstrate good conduct at all times in or out of school. Conduct "unbecoming an athlete" (acts of stealing, willfully damaging facilities, or properties of the school or community, etc.) will result in appropriate disciplinary action by the coach, Dean, Director of Athletics, Assistant Principal, or Principal (parents will be notified of such behavior). Any in-school or out-of-school suspension will result in suspension from all school-related activities including practices, contests, and athletic banquets. Our student-athletes are expected to demonstrate good conduct during all athletic contests. Individual players who commit willful or serious violations of their responsibilities as participants shall, after due process, be subject to the following penalties:

1 a. Removal from a contest - Game officials and coaches will enforce all rules as they pertain to player conduct. Players committing acts serious enough for ejection from a contest must be ejected. A two-game suspension may result from a game ejection.

b. Any member of a team ruled out of a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, including taunting, or for a flagrant foul, shall not participate in that sport in the next previously scheduled contest with a member school or in NYSPHSAA tournament play. Disqualifications from one season carry over to the next season of participation.

c. Any member of the team who strikes, shoves, kicks, or makes other physical contact with the intent to annoy, harass, or intimidate an official shall be expelled from the game immediately and banned from further participation in all sports for a period of time to be determined by the section not to exceed one year from the date of the offense. A member of the team includes players, managers, scorekeepers, timers, and statisticians.

2. Removal from a subsequent contest - Players ejected from any contest for instigating a fight or other violent conduct, or for physically or verbally assaulting an official, may not participate in the next two contests. A second violation of this type may result in a much greater penalty.

7. The following violation of training rules will result in disciplinary action:

** Use or possession of alcohol, tobacco products, or illegal drugs, including steroids.*

Any athlete, who after proper investigation is found to have been in possession of, used, or consumed tobacco products, alcohol, or illegal drugs, including steroids, in the public sector (school and community or camp) will have violated our training rules and the result will be:

a). First Offense - suspension from the next two (2) athletic contests. The athlete must continue to attend all practice sessions and contests.

b). Second Offense - suspension from the team for the remainder of that sports season. If this violation occurs in the final three (3) weeks of the season, the athlete will be suspended for the first three (3) weeks of their next sports season. Parents will be notified of such violations.

8. It is understood that the administration has the prerogative of exceeding any of the aforementioned steps depending upon the seriousness of the situation.
9. Your child is asking to participate for the complete sports season. It must be understood that not every athlete is a starter. All teams need a full team for practices, contests, and the development of future starters. Make sure your child completes the entire season.
10. Try-outs will be held at all high school level teams. Coaches will notify athletes of team selection.
Going to camp with your team or any other sports' athletic camp does not guarantee becoming a team member.
11. Transportation to Away Contests: All athletes must travel to and from school in buses provided by the Nanuet School District. In special cases, a parent or guardian may request (in advance) to provide transportation for their child only. In such cases, the request must be made in writing (in advance) to the Director of Athletics.
12. Athletic equipment and uniforms become more costly each year. Our athletes are equipped with the best we can obtain within our budget. No one should have any equipment or uniforms at home after the season has ended. Your child is financially responsible for all equipment and uniforms issued to him or her. All athletes must sign for the equipment and uniforms given to them and sign again upon returning the equipment and uniforms to their coach. Should he or she fail to return an item issued, it must be paid for, and by your signature, you are guaranteeing that the equipment and/or uniform will be returned or the Nanuet School District will be reimbursed by you for its replacement value. Failure to comply will result in your child not being allowed to begin his or her next sports season.
13. It must be realized that participation in all sports, contact and non-contact, involves a certain amount of risk of injury. Please talk these risks over with your child.
14. Please make sure that all information is correct and that you sign both forms and the emergency card in the appropriate places.
15. Jewelry, including pierced body parts and body gems, is not permitted in athletic practices and/or contests.
16. All rules are subject to change by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association or Section One without prior notice or warning.
17. Athletes are discouraged from bringing in any valuables. It is the athlete's responsibility to secure any valuables.

Please read and complete the attached forms and return them to the nurse immediately. Please keep this correspondence for future reference.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

TEAMWORK

It is the nature of our society to work as a team, which requires discipline, respect for authority, hard work and sacrifice, and to place the team and its objectives higher than personal accomplishment.

IMPROVEMENT

It is important to establish a realistic goal and continually strive to reach it, at which time it should be set even higher.

SPORTSMANSHIP

It is important that we treat others as we would have them treat us.

ENJOYMENT

We should always strive to do better ourselves, yet we should enjoy the opportunity to just be involved.

CONDUCT OF AN ATHLETE

As an athlete in Nanuet, you are looked upon in somewhat of a different light than the average student, so it is important that your behavior is above reproach in all of the following areas:

ON THE FIELD

A class athlete does not use profanity or unfair or illegal tactics, understands that losing is as much a part of the game as winning, and that the athlete is able to handle both with a degree of dignity.

IN THE CLASSROOM

A good athlete is also a good student. This does not necessarily mean top of the class, but rather that attendance is good, participation is acceptable, and work is always up-to-date. If a student is lazy or inattentive about his or her school work, there is a tendency for that student to perform the same in athletics.

ON AND OFF SCHOOL GROUNDS

The way you act in the public eye is very important. Remember when wearing the Nanuet uniform, you represent the Nanuet School District and the Nanuet community. Athletes should be leaders, and fellow students will respect and follow them.

GROOMING AND DRESS

A member of an athletic team is expected to be neatly dressed and well groomed. Appearance, expression, and actions always influence peoples' opinions of athletes, the team, and the school. Once you have chosen to be a member of a team, you have also made a choice to uphold certain standards expected of athletes in the community.

GUIDELINES REGARDING ABSENCES FROM PRACTICES AND/OR GAMES DURING VACATION PERIODS

We are concerned with the educational development of boys and girls through athletics, and feel that a properly controlled, well-organized sports program meets the student's needs for self-expression, mental alertness, and physical growth. If your child elects to participate in athletics, it is a voluntary choice of self-discipline.

We view interscholastic sports as an extension of our regular teaching program in which we seek to promote teamwork, self-discipline, cooperation, and firm commitment.

The following guidelines are to be followed by each coach before the start of each season:

1. Instruct the potential team members that there may be games and/or practices during certain holidays and vacation schedules.
2. Advise the students that if any of them are faced with the possibility of missing practices and/or games during these times, they must meet with the coach to obtain approval. Unauthorized absences may result in the student being removed from the team.
3. During the meeting with the student-athletes, the coach must attempt to ascertain the following:
 - a.) The dates of intended absences.
 - b.) Reasons for the absences. The student-athletes should be advised that there may be reasons beyond the athlete's control which will permit them to legitimately miss practices and/or games. Each case will be judged on its own merits. Some examples are as follows:
 - doctor's appointments which must be scheduled at a particular time
 - death in the family
 - sudden personal or immediate family illness
 - other specific unavoidable causes of conflict
4. In the event the coach approves the athlete's request for absence, the athlete should be aware that there is a strong possibility that he or she could miss games upon his or her return to the team. Reasons of safety, as well as team continuity and the philosophy of a coach, will govern the duration of suspension from active participation in games.



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ATHLETIC CONSENT FORM

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

SPORT: _____ **GRADE:** _____

I have received and read the preceding correspondence that is considered part of the Athletic Consent Form for the Nanuet Public Schools.

I understand that my child is responsible for all equipment and uniforms issued, and if any of the issued equipment or uniform is not returned, I will reimburse the Nanuet School District at its replacement value. I also understand that my child will not be issued another uniform until he or she meets this responsibility.

I agree to the terms of this form, and will support the Athletic Department in assuring that my son or daughter adheres to the training rules.

Both this form and the completed medical update form, along with the medical emergency card, must be returned to the nurse's office before my child may begin participation in the sport of his or her choice.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT: _____

DATE: _____

SIGNATURE OF STUDENT-ATHLETE: _____

DATE: _____

The school district provides student accident insurance for all participating in interscholastic sports.

STUDENT'S NAME: _____ **SPORT:** _____

SCHOOL: _____ **GRADE:** _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

ADDRESS: _____ **TOWN:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

HOME PHONE #: _____ **CELL PHONE #:** _____

WORK PHONE #: _____

My participation in interscholastic athletics in the above sport is entirely voluntary on my part and is made with the understanding that I have not violated any of the eligibility rules or regulations of the New York State Public High School Athletic Association.

SIGNATURE OF ATHLETE: _____ **DATE:** _____

To provide every possible safeguard for the health and safety of our students, we must have a health update at the start of each sports season (within 30 days). The following information is to be completed by the parent or guardian:

Is the above student under a physician's care?	Yes	No
Does he/she take any medication?	Yes	No
Has he/she had an injury requiring medical attention within the past year?	Yes	No
Since his/her last sports' physical, has he/she had any illness or injury requiring hospitalization or medical treatment?	Yes	No

Please explain any "Yes" answers: _____

Furthermore, I understand that there is a potential for accident or injury (maybe permanent) that is involved in the interscholastic sport listed above in which my child has my permission to participate.

I know of no health problems that should prohibit my child, _____, from participating in and maintaining himself or herself in sports.

If for any reason, he or she should not participate, I shall notify the school office and/or Director of Athletics immediately.

I hereby give my consent for the above student to have the privilege of participating in NYSPHSAA approved athletic activities as a representative of the Nanuet Public Schools, and I also give my consent for the above student to accompany the team on its out-of-town trips.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN **DATE:** _____