

# Middle School ATHLETICS

The purpose of the middle school athletic program is to have fun, learn the value of physical activity, improve their athletic skills, prepare for future upper school competition, and learn to win and lose gracefully. The middle school athletic program is a fully developed interscholastic program. All students who meet both the academic and behavioral criteria set by the Lafourche Parish School Board are eligible to try out or participate in an athletic contest.

## Criteria:

All athletes participating in any type of middle school athletics must have a physical by a licensed physician, a signed waiver of insurance, a signed drug screening consent form, and an emergency/parent consent form on file at the school. Coaches must carry the emergency/parent consent form with them to all athletic events.

The age limit for middle school athletes is 15 on the first day of school for students of the current school year. This makes any student whose 15<sup>th</sup> birthday is before the first day of school for the current year ineligible.

A student entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade will have 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive semesters of eligibility.  
No student may participate in middle school athletics for more than 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive semesters

An athlete in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade is not eligible to participate in athletics for the next grading period (nine weeks) if he/she fails two (2) core subjects or one (1) core subject and two (2) minor subjects. The core subjects are reading, language, math, science, and social studies. Any 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grader who is retained must reestablish his/her academic eligibility.

Eligibility for participation in middle school athletics will be on the day of issuance of report cards by the school board each nine weeks.

A student has to have been in school 80 days during the preceding semester to remain eligible.

A student must be present for 176 minutes, according to State Law for Attendance, in order to be eligible to participate in an athletic activity that day/evening.

Each individual school may have separate rules and policies in place for each sport in addition to the information covered in this handbook.

A mandatory parent meeting should be held prior to each sport in order to review all necessary forms located in back of this handbook. Forms include: emergency information/parent consent, insurance waivers, drug screening consent, informed consent for football, risks and prevention, and risk acknowledgement for each sport (football, volleyball, basketball & track), quitting a sport, sports participation agreement.

The Middle School Athletic Association By-Laws can be accessed by visiting the LPSD website. *Please click on the following: Departments, Middle Schools, Athletics, By-Laws*