



MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC HANDBOOK

2025 - 2026

Charlestown Middle School

New Washington Middle School

Parkview Middle School

River Valley Middle School

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Charlestown Middle School

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GREATER CLARK COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC PROGRAM

I. Philosophy

The purpose of the middle school athletic program is to provide a program appropriate for the characteristics of the middle school student. The program is well rounded to allow for the exploratory needs of the middle school student. The program emphasizes extensive participation, varied exposure, and skill development. The highest standards of sportsmanship and equal opportunity will be stressed in all associated activities.

II. General Statements and Conditions

- A. For the purpose of corporation unity, uniformity of programs, and equal opportunity for students, all Greater Clark Middle Schools will follow the established guidelines.
- B. Each school is responsible to do its utmost to enhance the educational value of this program.
- C. Each school will actively strive to avoid and to control the tendency to instill stress and pressure in order to win.
- D. IHSAA rules will serve as guidelines in all sports unless amended below.
- E. All officials will be paid according to Clark/Floyd recommendations.
- F. The Athletic Director, in conjunction with the Director of Secondary Education and the coordinator(s) of each event, will make all decisions on inclement weather.
- G. Middle schools will charge \$5 admission for all (including seniors) adults. Student admission will be \$5 unless PRIDE tickets are used to purchase or the ticket cost has been discounted by the individual school. If a high school and middle school event are simultaneously occurring at the same venue, then the high school price will be used for both. Sign-ins will be limited to employees of the school hosting the event, HS coaches of the feeder program, school board members, GCCS administrators, administrators of the other schools involved in supervision of the event, driver of the team bus, and any other approved personnel. No PASS OUTS will be allowed and patrons will be required to pay upon reentry.

III. Interscholastic Sports:

Potential Interscholastic sports are listed by grade level. Some of the sports listed may not be offered at each middle school.

SPORT	# OF TEAMS	TEAM MAKEUP	# OF PRACTICES BEFORE GAME COMPETITION	START DATE FOR PRESEASON WORKOUTS	START DATE FOR PRACTICE
Baseball	1	7th, 8th (NW)	6	First school day of January	March 1
	1	7th, 8th (CMS)	6		
	1	7th (Team Jeff)	6		
	1	8th (Team Jeff)	6		
Basketball	1	6th - Boys	6	6 Grade Boys: Nov 1 6 Grade Girls: Sept 1 7/8 Grade - Sept 1	6 Grade Boys: After Dec Tryouts 6 Grade Girls: After Fall Break 7/8 Grade - Oct 1
	1	6th - Girls	6		
	1	7th - Boys	6		
	1	7th - Girls	6		
	1	8th - Boys	6		
	1	8th - Girls	6		
Cheerleading	3 (max)	6th, 7th, 8th	6	July 14, 2025	First day of school
Cross Country	1	Boys: 6th, 7th, 8th	6	July 14, 2025	First day of school
		Girls: 6th, 7th, 8th	6		
Football	1-2	7th/8th	10	July 14, 2025	First day of school
Soccer	1	Co-ed (CMS & NW)	6	July 14, 2025	First day of school
	1	Boys (Team Jeff)	6		
	1	Girls (Team Jeff)	6		
Softball	1	7th, 8th (NW)	6	First school day of January	March 1
	1	7th, 8th (CMS)	6		
	1	7th (Team Jeff)	6		
	1	8th (Team Jeff)	6		
Swimming	1	6th, 7th, 8th	6	Nov 1	First school day of January
Tennis	1	Boys: 6th, 7th, 8th	6	Boys: July 14, 2025 Girls: First school day of January	Boys: First day of school Girls: March 1
	1	Girls: 6th, 7th, 8th	6		
Track	1	Boys: 6th, 7th, 8th	6	First school day of January	March 1
	1	Girls: 6th, 7th, 8th	6		
Volleyball	1	6th	6	July 14, 2025	First day of school
	1	7th	6		
	1	8th	6		
Wrestling	1	6th, 7th, 8th	6	Nov 1	Dec 1

** Voluntary workouts may be held for all sports 2 days per week at a maximum of 2 hours each during the time period of June 1-30. Additionally, middle school athletics will recognize the designated IHSA moratorium weeks (6/29-7/5/2025 & 7/24-30/2025).

IV. Eligibility

A. Age requirements

1. A sixth grade student who is or will be 14 years of age prior to or on the scheduled date of the IHSAA State Finals in a sport will be ineligible for inter school athletic competition in that sport; a sixth grade student who is 13 years of age on the scheduled date of the IHSAA State Finals in a sport shall be eligible as to age for inter school athletic competition in that sport.
2. A seventh grade student who is or will be 15 years of age prior to or on the scheduled date of the IHSAA State Finals in a sport will be ineligible for inter school athletic competition in that sport; a seventh grade student who is 14 years of age on the scheduled date of the IHSAA State Finals in a sport shall be eligible as to age for inter school athletic competition in that sport.
3. A eighth grade student who is or will be 16 years of age prior to or on the scheduled date of the IHSAA State Finals in a sport will be ineligible for inter school athletic competition in that sport; an eighth grade student who is 15 years of age on the scheduled date of the IHSAA State Finals in a sport shall be eligible as to age for inter school athletic competition in that sport.

IHSAA STATE FINALS DATES BY SPORT

Girls		Boys	
<u>Sport</u>	<u>Week of State Finals*</u>	<u>Sport</u>	<u>Week of State Finals*</u>
Golf	13th	Tennis	16th
Soccer	17th	Soccer	17th
Swimming	32nd	Cross Country	17th
Cross Country	17th	Football	21st
Volleyball	18th	Wrestling	34th
**Basketball	35th	Swimming	34th
Gymnastics	37th	**Basketball	38th
Track	48th	Track	48th
Tennis	49th	Golf	50th
Softball	49th	Baseball	50th

*Week 1= 7/8 - 13 (2024-25)

** The Sixth Grade season does not correspond with the IHSAA season.

B. Minimum Academic Requirements

1. A student must pass all classes to participate in interscholastic competition.
2. A student who has failed a subject is on academic probation. While on probation, the student may practice in interscholastic competition. The probationary period lasts for three weeks. If the student continues to fail the subject(s) at the end of the probationary period, the student may not compete for the remainder of the grading period.

	Quarter Dates	Mid Term Dates	Probationary Period
Quarter 1	July 31 - Oct 3	Sept 1 - 5	Oct 13 - 31
Quarter 2	Oct 13 - Dec 19	Nov 10 - 14	Jan 6 - 23
Quarter 3	Jan 6 - Mar 13	Feb 2 - 6	March 23 - April 10
Quarter 4	March 23 - May 20	April 20 - 24	TBD

3. Exceptions are allowed only with the approval of the administration. All such exceptions must be considered individually.
4. In determining the eligibility of 7th and 8th grade students in fall sports for the first grading period, his/her fourth nine weeks grade from the previous school year are to be used.

C. Additional Eligibility Guidelines

1. Sixth graders may not compete against eighth graders in basketball.
If a scenario arises which would necessitate the need for a 6th grade student to compete against 8th grade students, a written request would need to be submitted to the Director of Secondary Education.
 2. Seventh and eighth graders may compete together if teams are structured as "A" and "B" teams (per handbook guidelines) or if the school is represented by only one team in a particular sport.
- D. The use of an ineligible team member in interscholastic competition will result in forfeit of all such contests for team sports and forfeit of individual points in individual sports.
- E. Pending Principal approval, students who receive shared-time instruction in a school may participate in the extra-curricular program of that school provided there is no program available at their home school.
- F. The student must be present half of the school day to participate in an after school contest. The principal may exempt a student for extenuating circumstances.
- G. Students assigned In-School or Out-of-School Suspension are excluded from participating in and/or attending extracurricular and school-sponsored activities for the duration of their suspension.
- H. Any student assigned to home incarceration and wearing an ankle monitor will not be eligible to compete.

V. Awards

All students participating in extra-curricular sports will receive recognition of participation for each of the sports in which they participate.

VI. Sixth Grade Programs

A. General Rules for sixth grade interscholastic athletics.

1. Sixth graders who are 14 before their sport's state finals are ineligible for sixth grade interscholastic competition. (See page 5)
2. Practice will be limited to a maximum of 2 hours.

B. Basketball – General

1. The girls' season will start after fall break and run until Christmas Break. The boys' season will begin after Christmas break and run until the end of the 7th/8th grade season (mid-February). Due to scheduling conflicts, seasons may start earlier than the outlined dates with prior permission from the school principal and the Director of Secondary Education.
2. Girls' tryouts will be held after Fall break and boys' will be held between Dec 1 and Christmas break. Each school will have one girls and one boys team. In situations where a lack of participant numbers warrant, 6th graders may play with 7th grade.
3. Preseason workouts for 6th grade Girls may begin Sept 1 and 6th grade Boys may begin Nov 1.
4. Preseason workouts & practices will be a two (2) hour maximum.
5. Practice for 6th grade Girls may begin after Fall Break and 6th grade Boys may begin after Dec tryouts .
6. The tournament will resemble the Clark/Floyd format used in 7th/8th grade.
 - a. Random Draw
 - b. Single Elimination
 - c. The girls' tournament will be played the week before Christmas break. Boys' tournament will be played the week of the 7th/8th grade Clark/Floyd.
 - d. The host athletic director will be responsible for hiring officials.
 - e. The tournament winner and runner-up will be awarded a team trophy.
7. Administration of games:
 - a. All scheduled game times will be communicated through EventLink.
 - b. The athletic director of the host school is responsible for hiring officials and rescheduling cancellations for regular season games.
 - c. Time during game
 - (1) 10 minute warm-up
 - (2) 6 minute quarters
 - (3) 2 30/3 Full Timeouts
 - (4) 7 minute halftime
 - (5) 3 minute overtimes

C. Boy's & Girl's Basketball – Special Rules

1. IHSA rules apply unless amended below.
2. Intermediate size ball is the official ball.
3. There are no playing time requirements. Coaches may substitute freely.

VII. Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grade Programs

A. Cheerleading

1. Sixth Grade
 - a. Cheerleading squads will be selected by the cheerleading coach prior to the season.
2. Seventh and Eighth Grades
 - a. Seventh and eighth grade squads will be made up of seventh and eighth graders.
 - b. The cheerleading squad will be selected by the cheerleading coach and serve for one year.
3. Cheerleading is considered a sport. Members are considered athletes and must meet all standards established for athletes. Cheerleaders must maintain the same grade and citizenship standards as other athletes. Failure to do so will cause dismissal from the squad.
4. Preseason workouts may begin July 14, 2025.
5. Preseason workouts & practices will be a two (2) hour maximum.
6. Practice may begin on the first day of school.
7. Summer camps may be attended. Funding for summer camps will be a parental responsibility.
8. A uniform will be provided by the school.
9. Items such as shoes, camp outfits, bodysuits, etc. are the responsibilities of the cheerleader and/or cheerleader's family.
10. Cheerleading competitions may be allowed by the principal.
11. Emphasis on cheerleading is on sideline cheers rather than gymnastics. Cheerleading formations are restricted to two (2) tiers.
12. It is recommended that all cheerleading coaches receive the proper training in order for the cheerleaders to include stunts as part of the team's routines. See building principal and/or athletic director for further information.

B. Cross Country

1. There will be one combined team for boys and girls. No one will be cut.
 - a. Boys and girls will normally compete together.
 - b. Separate races may be run if both teams can field separate teams.
2. Each team may run a maximum of nine (9) meets, including invitationals.
3. The competitive season runs from August to mid October.
4. Preseason workouts may begin July 14, 2025.
5. Preseason workouts & practice will be two (2) hours maximum.
6. Practice may begin on the first day of school.
7. The usual distance is 3,000 meters but this will vary.

C. Soccer

1. There will be one combined co-ed team with the exception of River Valley and Parkview, which will have a combined Team Jeff and separate teams for boys and girls. Cutting should be kept to a minimum if possible.
2. Each team will have a maximum of ten (10) matches and one (1) invitational/tournament.
3. The competitive season runs from August to mid October.
4. Preseason workouts may begin July 14, 2025.
5. Preseason workouts & practice will be two (2) hours maximum.
6. Practice may begin on the first day of school.
7. Additional Rules:
 - Contests will consist of A & B team matches when appropriate. Both A & B team matches will consist of (2) 30 minute halves with a running clock. B team matches may be reduced in time if appropriate due to numbers or time.
 - During the regular season, contests may end in a tie. During tournament play, a tie breaker will be utilized.
 - A size 5 ball will be used.

D. Swimming

1. Cutting should be kept to a minimum if possible.
2. Each team may compete in a maximum of ten (10) meets, including no more than two invitationals.

3. The competitive season runs from the middle of January to Spring Break.
4. Preseason workouts may begin Nov 1.
5. Preseason workouts & practice will be a two (2) hour maximum.
6. Practice may begin on the first school day of January.
7. River Valley and Parkview will use the Jeffersonville High School pool for their combined team and will be called Jeff Swim Team.

E. Tennis

1. There will be separate teams for girls and boys. Cutting should be kept to a minimum if possible.
2. Each team can play no more than 10 matches in the regular season.
3. Each team can also participate in the Clark-Floyd tournament and one additional tournament.
4. Girls season will run in the spring.
 - Preseason workouts may begin the first school day of January.
 - Preseason workouts & practice will be a two (2) hour maximum.
 - Practice may begin March 1

Boys season will run in the fall.

- Preseason workouts may begin July 14, 2025.
- Preseason workouts & practice will be a two (2) hour maximum.
- Practice may begin the first day of school

F. Track

1. There will be separate teams for girls and boys. Cutting should be kept to a minimum if possible.
2. Each team may have a maximum of ten (10) meets, including invitationals.
3. The competitive season runs from late March to mid-May.
4. Preseason workouts may begin the first school day of January.
5. Preseason workouts & practice will be a two hour maximum.
6. Practice may begin March 1.

G. Wrestling

1. There will be one team for sixth, seventh, and eighth grades. Cutting should be kept to a minimum if possible.
2. Each team may have a maximum of twelve (12) meets, including invitationals.
3. Competitive season runs from December to early March.
4. Preseason workouts may begin Nov 1
5. Preseason workouts & practice will be a two hour maximum.
6. Practice may begin December 1.

VIII. Seventh, and Eighth Grade Programs

A. Baseball – 7th and 8th Grade

1. There will be one combined team with the exception of River Valley and Parkview, which will have a combined Team Jeff and separate teams for seventh and eighth graders. Cutting should be kept to a minimum if possible.
2. Each team may have a maximum of twelve (12) games and one (1) invitational/tournament.
3. The competitive season runs from late March to mid May.
4. Preseason workouts may begin the first school day of January.
5. Preseason workouts & practices will be a two (2) hour maximum.
6. Practice may begin March 1.
7. Games will consist of 7 innings or a time limit of 2 hours; with no new innings starting after the time limit.
8. Games will also utilize a 10 run rule after 5 innings.
9. Additional Rules:
 - IHSA/NFHS rules will be followed unless specified otherwise.
 - Bat Restrictions: 7th grade team players are encouraged to use no more than -8 bats. 8th grade team players are encouraged to use no more than -5 bats.
 - Each game will begin with 3 new baseballs.
 - Substitutions: Free substitution if you choose to bat your entire lineup. If a player is removed from the batting order, he can only return to the spot in the batting order. Regular substitution rules apply if you choose not to bat your entire lineup.
 - Courtesy Runners are not mandatory but can be used for pitchers/catchers as a

speed up for game play. If batting the entire lineup, courtesy runner must be the player that was the last batted out. If not batting the entire lineup, courtesy runner must be a substitute not in the game. A courtesy runner can only run once-per-inning.

10. "A" and "B" teams may be established for grades (6-8) if participation/interest warrants and competition can be found. A written request must be submitted and approved by the Director of Secondary Education.

B. Basketball – 7th and 8th Grade Boys and Girls

1. There will be separate teams for seventh and eighth graders. Cutting should be kept to a minimum.
2. Each team may have a maximum of fifteen (15) games and two (2) tournaments (not including the Clark-Floyd Tournament).
3. The competitive season runs from early November to February.
4. Preseason workouts may begin Sept 1
5. Preseason workouts & practices will be a two (2) hour maximum.
6. Practice may begin October 1.
7. No player may play more than five quarters a night. (Exception – If the same team plays two (2) tournament games in one day).
8. "A" and "B" teams may be established for both grades if interest warrants and competition can be found. A written request must be submitted and approved by the Director of Secondary Education.

C. Football

1. Team will be made up of seventh and eighth graders. Cutting should be kept to a minimum.
2. Each team may have a maximum of ten (10) games, not including the tournament and every effort is to be made to limit participation to one game per calendar week.
3. The competitive season runs from the beginning of school to early October.
4. Preseason workouts may begin July 14, 2025.
5. Preseason workouts & practices will be a two (2) hour maximum.
6. Practice may begin on the first day of school.

7. An individual may not play more than four quarters on any day or eight quarters in any week. A school must forfeit any game in which such a violation occurs.
8. 7th Team
 - a. Each football school should try to have a 7th team to provide game participation for all interested athletics.
 - b. Each game will consist of six (6) minute quarters with no overtime.
9. 8th Team
 - a. The 8th team will consist of eighth graders.
 - b. Each game will consist of (8) minute quarters with no overtimes.
10. "A" and "B" teams may be established for both grades if interest warrants and competition can be found. A written request must be submitted and approved by the Director of Secondary Education.


D. Softball – 7th and 8th Grade

1. There will be one combined team with the exception of River Valley and Parkview, which will have a combined Team Jeff and separate teams for seventh and eighth graders. Cutting should be kept to a minimum if possible.
2. Each team may have a maximum of twelve (12) games and one (1) invitational/tournament.
3. The competitive season runs from late March to mid May.
4. Preseason workouts may begin the first school day of January.
5. Preseason workouts & practices will be a two (2) hour maximum.
6. Practice may begin March 1.
7. Games will consist of 6 innings or a time limit of 1 hour 30 minutes; with no new innings starting after the time limit.
8. Games will also utilize a 10 run rule after 4 innings.
9. Additional Rules:
 - IHSA/NFHS rules will be followed unless specified otherwise.
 - Each game will begin with 3 new softballs.
10. "A" and "B" teams may be established for grades (6-8) if participation/interest warrants and competition can be found. A written request must be submitted and approved by the Director of Secondary Education.

E. Volleyball – Girls (6th, 7th & 8th)

1. There will be separate teams for 6th, 7th and 8th graders. Cutting should be kept to a minimum if possible.
2. Each team may compete in a maximum of fifteen (15) matches and two tournaments (not including the Clark-Floyd Tournament).
3. The competitive season runs from August to fall break.
4. Preseason workouts may begin July 14, 2025.
5. Preseason workouts & practices will be a two (2) hour maximum.
6. Practice may begin on the first day of school.

IX. Parent/Student Responsibilities

- A. The medical form must be signed by the student's parent/legal guardian and a physician's signature stating that the student has had a physical examination between April 1 and his/her first team activity and has pronounced the student fit to participate in all or in all with specified exceptions of the sports in the middle school athletic program.
- B. The cardiovascular pre-preparation screening and concussion forms must be signed by the parent/legal guardian stating that parents/legal guardians are aware of screening tests that can be conducted for early detection of cardiovascular or other abnormalities.
- C. All athletes must have such form(s) on file before trying out and/or participating in any inter-scholastic competition.
- D. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to pay the replacement cost for any equipment lost or damaged by neglect or abuse.
- E. Athletes must travel to and from contests in transportation provided by the school. The only exceptions are:
 - a. Injury to a participant, which would require alternate transportation.
 - b. Prior arrangement between the participant's parent/ guardian and the coach for the student to ride with the parent/guardian.
 -  Travel Release
- G. A student must attend at least one-half of the school day to be eligible for an activity on that day. An exception will be made for medical appointments, funerals, or any emergency that has been cleared in advanced through the athletic director and substantiated in writing or phone call from parent/guardian or physician.
- H. Athletic/Activity Conflict Policy:
Greater Clark County School students are encouraged to participate in as many

extra-curricular activities as their time and schedule allow; however, this sometimes leads to conflict when activities occur on the same dates and times. Coaches, sponsors, and students should work together to try to solve these conflicts before they occur. It is the student's responsibility to inform the coach and/or sponsor at the first of the season of his or her intention to be involved in more than one activity. Students, coaches, sponsors, and the athletic director will meet to solve practice, game and performance conflicts. In the event of a conflict, participation in games should take priority over practice. It will be the decision of the student and parent in the event of game conflicts. In those rare cases where a large number of conflicts cannot be avoided, the student may need to make a choice regarding participation.

X. Dismissal From Team

A. A student athlete may be in jeopardy of dismissal from the team for any of the following reasons.

- Failure to meet academic standards
- Creating continuous problems for a teacher or coach
- Refusing to obey a coach's instructions
- Fighting
- Misconduct on team bus
- Vandalism
- Theft.
- Locker room problems.
- Poor sportsmanship by athlete or parent
- Possession or use of drugs, tobacco, or alcohol.
- Other conduct recognized as being unacceptable in accordance with the Greater Clark County Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

B. Drug and Alcohol Policy

A student athlete will not possess, use, or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogen, any other controlled substance, or any alcoholic beverage except as prescribed medically by a licensed physician. There will be sufficient grounds to prove transmitting, possessing, or use of a substance governed by this policy if the student athlete transmits, possesses, or uses a material which he/she represents to be such a substance (look-alike drugs). Violation of the above rule will result in the following disciplinary action:

First Violation- Exclusion from participation in all athletic contests for a total of 20% of their teams' games once the Principal, Athletic Director, and Coach have met with the athlete concerning the violation. No participation will be permitted until a meeting is held, and the suspension will begin with the athletes next scheduled contest.

Second Violation – Exclusion from participation in all athletic contests for a total of 50% of their teams' games along with enrollment in a substance abuse program of assessment, counseling, screening and/or indicated therapy (the cost of the program shall be the responsibility of the student and/or his/her parents or guardian) once the Principal,

Athletic Director and Coach have met with the athlete concerning the violation. No participation will be permitted until a meeting is held, and the suspension will begin with the athletes next scheduled contest. Successful completion of a substance abuse program and a written appeal to the principal may reduce this penalty.

Third Violation – Suspension from participation in athletic events for one calendar year. (Further violations will result in the loss of the student's athletic eligibility)

C. Use or Possession of Tobacco/Nicotine Products (any form) Policy

First Violation-Exclusion from participation in all athletic contests for a total of 10% of their teams games (minimum of one game or event) once the Principal, Athletic Director, and Coach have met with the athlete concerning the violation. An athlete shall not participate before a meeting is held, and any suspension will begin with the athletes next scheduled contest.

Second Violation-Exclusion from participation in athletics a total of 25% of their teams games (minimum of two games) once the Principal, Athletic Director, and Coach have met with the athlete. An athlete shall not participate before a meeting is held.

Third Violation-Suspension from athletics for one calendar year along with enrollment in a substance abuse program of assessment, counseling, screening and/or indicated therapy (the cost of the program shall be the responsibility of the student and/or his/her parents or guardian) once the Principal, Athletic Director and Coach have met with the athlete concerning the violation. No participation will be permitted until a meeting is held, and the suspension will begin with the athletes next scheduled contest. Successful completion of the substance abuse program and a written appeal to the principal may reduce this penalty.

The following explanation provides further details:

- a. If the sport in which the athlete participates is not in season at the time of the infraction, the suspension will take effect during the first one-half (1/2) of his/her next sport participation period.
- b. The number of season contests to be suspended will be calculated by using the number of scheduled season contests plus one postseason contest (if applicable). Suspensions will be for entire games. In calculating the number of games an athlete is suspended, a fraction of a game will be rounded up to the next whole number. For example: 10% of 21 games equals 2.1 games, which will result in a three (3) game suspension.
- c. If the suspension occurs toward the end of a season and there are not enough contests, the suspension will carry over to the next sport in which the student participates.
- d. If the percentage cannot be satisfied, then the suspension will carry into the

next sport.

- e. If the suspension occurs while the athlete is unable to participate, the athletic suspension will not start until the athlete is eligible or cleared to participate in the sport.


*****This policy will not be in conflict with the school district's drug and alcohol policy.*****

D. The athletic director, coach of that sport, and the principal are responsible for dispositions of all cases.

XI. Student Managers

- A. They will be considered as any other athlete and will be expected to meet all standards of conduct for all athletes.
- B. The head coach of a sport will select the student managers for that sport.

XIV. Travel

- A. The athletic director will arrange for appropriate transportation.
- B. All athletes, including cheerleaders and managers must travel to and from contests in transportation provided by the school. The only exceptions are:
 - a. Injury to a participant, which would require alternate transportation.
 - b. Prior arrangement between the participant's parent/ guardian and the coach for the student to ride with the parent/guardian.
 - o  Travel Release
- C. Students may be expected to provide their own transportation to events held inside their high school attendance area.

XV. Duties of Staff

- A. Coordinator of Middle School Athletics
 - 1. Interpret athletic guidelines and rules when requested by a middle school building committee chairperson. If interpretation is not satisfactory, middle school building committee chairperson may appeal to the Athletic Council.
 - 2. Serve as liaison between the middle school program and the elementary and the high school programs.
 - 3. Fulfill other responsibilities associated with coordinating the system-wide athletic program.
- B. Athletic Director
 - 1. Handle contacts/contracts with other schools and with officials for home events.

2. Provide a schedule for each sport to the principal, assistant principal, school secretary, and coaches of that sport as soon as possible.
3. Provide to the ticket taker at each event a list of people to be admitted free.
4. Approve any purchases to be made from the athletic fund and sign appropriate purchase orders. Collect receipts for such purchases.
5. Keep on file eligibility, medical and insurance forms collected by coaches.
6. Prepare and administer the athletic budget throughout the year.
7. Supervise, oversee the maintenance of, and coordinate the use of all athletic facilities.
8. Coordinate the intramural program if needed.
9. Supervise the performance and conduct of all individuals associated with the athletic program, including both students and staff.
10. Keep on file inventories of equipment and supplies for each sport as prepared by the coaches.
11. Supervise equipment storage and replacement.
 - a. The most convenient storage place will be given to the sport(s) in season.
 - b. Athletes must pay the replacement cost for any equipment which they fail to turn in as requested by the coach or which they damage through neglect or abuse
12. Prepare facilities and provide adequate helpers and staffing for home inter-scholastic events. Maximum cooperation is expected of coaches involved in such events.
13. Postpone, cancel, and/or attempt to reschedule any athletic event as circumstances dictate (i.e. weather). The principal and involved coach should have input when possible.
14. Work cooperatively in building and maintaining a well balanced system wide program, while establishing an autonomous identity for the middle school athletic program.
15. Identify coaching needs and make recommendations on filling vacancies before new coaches are selected.
16. Act as a liaison between principal and coaching staff.

17. Represent his/her building at the regularly scheduled athletic director meetings.
18. See that practices and competitions on days when school is not in session are approved by the principal.
19. Hold pre-season meeting with coaches to review Athletic Handbook and Code of Ethics.
20. Assume other administrative and supervisory duties associated with athletics as the need arises.

C. Head Coaches (including Cheerleading)

1. Sign and have on file with the athletic director a Coaches' Code of Ethics, Conduct Form and Certification of required Final Forms courses.
2. Attend and participate in any GCCS sponsored coaching clinics.
3. Be in charge of his/her team.
4. Report any actions involving poor sportsmanship or flagrant misbehavior by an individual associated with their sport to the physical athletic director and principal.
5. Report any offenses listed in the pupil discipline section of the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook to the principal.
6. Conduct practice every school day except game day during the season with minor exceptions.
7. Remain in the building until their last player or manager has left.
8. Conduct practice in a manner promoting healthy participation, good sportsmanship, and skill development.
9. Select team members and managers.
10. Provide input in selecting their assistant coaches.
11. Prepare an inventory of equipment before and after the season and turn in both to the athletic director. Notify the athletic director of dangerous, damaged, or lost equipment.
12. Report equipment that has been lost or damaged by neglect or abuse to the athletic director.
13. Collect and turn in to athletic director money for things such as practice packages (socks, trunks, mouthpieces, etc.)

14. Attend all games and practices of the team for which they are directly responsible unless they notify the principal or athletic director in advance. The coach is responsible for adequate coverage of any and all events they may miss.
15. Cooperate with the athletic director to the utmost to see that the facilities are adequately prepared and sufficient help has been obtained for home events in their sport.
16. Collect and/or check all required forms and submit them to the athletic director. Check eligibility of players. This involves age, grades, attendance (the student must be present one half of the school day to participate if school was in session unless exempt by the principal), and maximum playing limitations.
17. Promote sportsmanship and school spirit.
18. Delegate when appropriate the authority to carry out some of the above functions to assistant coaches. The responsibility to see that the delegated functions are performed rests with the head coach.
19. Schedule use of athletic facilities through the athletic director.
20. All injuries should be reported to the athletic director as soon as possible. The coach is to notify the parent of any significant injuries as soon as possible. All safety protocols need to be followed as it relates to injuries.

D. Assistant Coaches

1. Follow the instructions of the head coach.
2. Attend and participate in any GCCS sponsored coaching clinics.
3. Perform functions delegated by the head coach.
4. Attend games and practices as required by the head coach.
5. Schedule the use of athletic facilities through the athletic director.
6. The athletic director shall serve as mediator in the case of dispute between a head coach and an assistant coach. If the athletic director is one of the coaches involved, the principal shall serve as mediator.

XVI. Intramurals/Clubs/Feeder Programs

- A. Intramural programs may be conducted before and after the school day.
- B. When practical, the intramural program will combine girls' and boys' activities. Every attempt will be made to expand the program in response to student interests.

- C. There will be no specific system-wide season for any particular sport so that each school may best utilize its facilities.
- D. Any award should reward participation rather than winning.

XVII. Spectator Expectations

Good sportsmanship is the attitude and behavior that exemplifies positive support for the interscholastic athletic programs of the Greater Clark County School Corporation, as well as for the individuals who participate. Good sportsmanship is viewed by the National Federation as a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity. In perception and practice, sportsmanship is defined as those qualities which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. The ideals of sportsmanship apply equally to all activity disciplines. Individuals, regardless of their role in activities, are expected to be aware of their influence on the behavior of others and model good sportsmanship.

The following are expectations for spectators of Greater Clark County student-athletic programs/events:

1. Realize that a ticket is a privilege to observe a contest and support middle school activities. It is not a license to verbally assault anyone or act in an outrageous manner.
2. Realize that athletics are part of the educational experience and that its benefits go beyond the final score of the contest. Place the emotional and physical well-being of student athletes ahead of any personal desire to win.
3. Respect the decisions made by officials and learn the rules of the game to better understand their decisions.
4. Participate in positive cheers and refrain from encouraging those who take away from the spirit of the contest.
5. Respect and support the task of the coaches. Respect the coaches' authority during games by not confronting them at the game site. Discuss any issues or concerns with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.
6. Respect opponents as students, and acknowledge them for striving to do their best. Discourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and wellbeing of athletes.
7. Support a drug, tobacco, and alcohol-free sports environment for their child and refrain from their use at all events.
8. Be a spectator/parent your child would be proud of. Be a fan, not a fanatic!

Accordingly, an event supervisor may request any person involved in misconduct at a school-sponsored activity to leave the premises if deemed necessary. The Greater Clark County Schools Board of Trustees has adopted a policy that supports such action by school personnel.

9160 - PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS

The School Board welcomes the attendance of members of the community at athletic and other public events held by the schools in the Corporation, but the Board also acknowledges its duty to maintain order and preserve the facilities of the Corporation during the conduct of such events.

The Board holds the legal authority to bar the attendance of or remove any person whose conduct may constitute a disruption at a school event. School administrators have the authority to call law enforcement officials if a person violates posted regulations or does not leave school property when requested. They are also authorized to use detectors and other devices to better ensure the safety and well-being of participants and visitors.

If a person is asked to leave or is removed from a school event, no admission fees shall be refunded.

Further, if a person is asked to leave or removed from a school even more than one (1) time in a school year, or if the severity of the incident leading to removal warrants, the Superintendent may, after either meeting with the person or offering to meet with the person but the person refuses to meet or fails to respond to the offer to meet, ban him/her from attending school events for the remainder of the school year.