

D. Public Access to Technology

1. Pursuant to the Michigan Library Privacy Act, each school library offering public access to the internet or a computer, computer program, computer network, or computer system (a “Qualifying School Library”) will limit minors to only use or view those terminals that do not receive material that is obscene, sexually explicit, or harmful to minors. Persons age 18 or older, or a minor accompanied by the minor’s parent/guardian, may access a school library terminal that is not restricted from receiving such material, if any.
2. Only when a Qualifying School Library offers public access as described in subsection D.1., the District must designate at least 1 terminal that is not restricted from receiving such material and at least 1 terminal that is restricted from receiving such material. Library staff must take steps to ensure that minors not accompanied by a parent or guardian do not access the unrestricted terminal. The Superintendent or designee will determine which employees will implement subsection D in each Qualifying School Library.
3. As used in this Policy, “terminal” means a device used to access the internet or a computer, computer program, computer network, or computer system.

Legal authority: 47 USC 254; MCL 397.602, 397.606

Date adopted: June 14, 2021

Date revised:

[Student Device & Electronic Use Agreement](#)

Appendix E: Athletic Code of Conduct

Participation in St. Johns Public School's (the "District") athletics is a privilege, not a right. Student-athletes are students first. When participating in District athletics, student-athletes are District representatives and are held to the highest standards. Accordingly, this Athletic Code of Conduct applies 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Student-athletes and parents should be familiar with this Athletic Code of Conduct. By participating on any school-sponsored athletic team both student-athletes and parents agree to abide by these terms.

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Available Sports

<u>FALL SEASON</u>	<u>WINTER SEASON</u>	<u>SPRING SEASON</u>
<u>Boys:</u> 7th & 8th-grade Football	<u>Boys:</u> 7 th & 8th-grade Basketball 6 th , 7 th & 8th-grade Wrestling	<u>Co-Ed:</u> 6 th , 7th & 8th-grade Track & Field
<u>Girls:</u> 7th & 8th-grade Volleyball	<u>Girls:</u> 7 th & 8th-grade Basketball 6th, 7th & 8th- grade Wrestling	6 th , 7 th & 8 th grade Spring Musical
<u>Co-Ed:</u> 6 th , 7 th & 8 th grade Cross Country		

Communication Protocol

The District has full faith in its coaches to make decisions that are in the best interest of their teams. If parents have questions or concerns about their student-athletes' sports participation, use the vafeollowing protocol:

1. Wait 24 hours before contacting the coach.
2. Schedule a time to speak with the coach, either via phone or in-person, at the coach's discretion.
3. If the issue is unresolved, schedule a time to speak with the Athletic Director, either via phone or in-person, at the Athletic Director's discretion.

Concussion Protocol

The District will comply with the concussion protocol in Policy 5712.

Athletic Code of Conduct

A student-athlete must:

1. Learn and understand the rules and regulations of your sport.
2. Unless otherwise approved by your coach, if school is in session, attend school for the full day to be eligible to practice or play in an event on the same day.
3. Comply with the law, Board Policy, the Student Code of Conduct, the Athletic Code of Conduct, and all team rules. Failure to comply with this provision may result in suspension or removal from a team.
4. Not possess, use, or consume alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, nicotine (including a vape), or controlled substances (other than those prescribed by a physician for the student-athlete).
5. Not engage in conduct that is unbecoming of student-athletes.
6. Maintain academic eligibility as required by the Michigan High School Athletic Association.
7. Notify your coach or District athletic trainer of any injury or medical condition that may affect your athletic participation.

If a student-athlete violates any provision of the Athletic Code of Conduct, practice, game, team, or complete athletic suspension may result. Any disciplinary consequences will be at the sole discretion of the Athletic Director or designee.

If a student-athlete is suspended or expelled from school, the student-athlete is prohibited from participating in any practice or game during the suspension or expulsion.

Philosophy

The St. Johns Middle School athletic philosophy is to help young people develop mentally, physically, emotionally, and intellectually to their fullest potential. Programs are designed to encourage meaningful participation and provide experiences in a variety of activities. While winning is an important part of any athletic event, winning at any cost is not part of the SJMS athletic philosophy.

Academics, participation, and sportsmanship take precedence over winning.

Objectives of the Athletic Program

The SJMS athletic program is dedicated to:

- Providing athletes with quality teaching/coaching personnel will give the athletes a sound basis to build and develop essential skills.
- Providing athletes the opportunity to learn and develop the skills necessary to improve in their sport.
- Providing athletes with facilities that will enhance their skills.
- Providing opportunities for athletes to participate equally with their teammates.
- Building a positive image of school activities of which the community, parents, and students can be supportive and proud.

Tryouts/Cuts

There are open tryouts. Anyone interested in participating in an interscholastic sport is encouraged to try out. Because of limited facilities and a limited budget, there may at times, a need to make cuts. Each athlete will be given a skills test. The results of this test will weigh heavily in deciding who will be on the team to represent the school and community.

Athletes cut from any team will be spoken to individually by the head coach. They will be encouraged to improve the skills in which they are weak. Students will be encouraged to try out for the team again

the following year.

Athletic Physical

A physical examination is required to participate in any team tryout or practice. The physical exam certification must be on file in the athletic office. A current year physical is one given on or after April 15 of the previous school year. (MHSAA guideline). If a student-athlete misses the first day of tryouts due to no physical, they will not be eligible to try out.

Eligibility Requirements

1. AGE: Section 2 -- Regulation 3 MHSAA:

(A)--A seventh-grade student who competes in any interscholastic athletic contest limited to seventh graders must be under fourteen (14) years of age, except that a student whose (14th) birthday occurs on or after September 1 of a current school year is eligible for the balance of that school year. Please see the MHSAA website (mhsaa.com) for more information.

(B)—An eighth-grade student who competes in any interscholastic athletic contest limited to eighth-graders must be under fifteen (15) years of age, except that a student whose (15th) birthday occurs on or after September 1 of a current school year is eligible for the balance of that school year. Please see the MHSAA website (mhsaa.com) for more information.

2. ACADEMIC/BEHAVIORAL POLICY: The following statement is a brief overview of the Middle School academic and behavioral eligibility expectations of all athletes participating in interscholastic sports. (Special Education students are subject to the latitude of IEP accommodations.)

Students participating in interscholastic athletics will be evaluated every week on Monday. Students who accumulated 20 demerit points based on the following rubric will be deemed ineligible. Teachers will be required to update their Infinite Campus grade books bi-weekly by 8:00 AM on the Monday of eligibility evaluation. The athletic office will run a report regarding academic eligibility each Monday. Academic standing is calculated as follows:

A, B, C	Work is average or above.	0 points
Ds	Warning. - Work is below average but not failing.	5 points
F	Failing.	10 points

A. Athletes will be ineligible to participate in the week's athletic contests if they accumulate 20 or more points on their weekly eligibility check.

B. Athletes who are eligible and are failing any one class may be excused from the first half-hour of practice at the discretion of their coach to work with their teacher to bring the grade up.

C. The athlete's name on the ineligibility list during the season will result in the following consequences:

1. *The first time on the list will result in loss of privileges to play in the following week's scheduled contests. The athlete may practice and travel with the team at the coaches' discretion but may not dress for or play in the events or wear a game jersey to school on game day.*
2. *The second time on the list will result in loss of practice and game privilege. Athletes may not practice, travel, or participate in the week's event. The focus will be on academic improvement. Students should use the time from practice/games to study, do homework, and participate in any after school supports that are being offered to regain eligibility.*

3. The third time on the list will result in dismissal from the team with a total focus on academic responsibilities to improve grade standing.

Athletes who are ineligible should report to the Information Center after school each day for help and study time to catch up on academics. Athletes sent to the Assistant Principal's office for misbehavior and subsequent discipline may be suspended from participation or dismissed from the team.

Conduct of an Athlete

A student who elects to participate in athletics is voluntarily making a choice of self-discipline and self-denial. Being a member of an athletic team is a privilege. An athlete's conduct should reflect positively upon self, family, school, and community.

- A. On the field of competition, the behavior should reflect good sportsmanship.
- B. In the classroom, good citizenship, the highest individual academic effort, and social responsibility should exemplify the conduct of a good athlete.
- C. The athlete is responsible for equipment and facilities used in performing the activity.
- D. Dropping out of a co-curricular activity is a serious matter. As a courtesy, the athlete and parents should discuss this decision with the coach, counselor or athletic director before making a final decision. Athletes choosing to leave a team in mid-season may forfeit their opportunity to participate on other athletic teams during the school year.
- E. Middle school athletes should use good judgment in emulating only those college and professional athletes who display positive qualities of sportsmanship.
- F. An athlete should respect and adhere to the expectations of the coach as outlined in the sport's written guidelines.

School Suspension

Athletes who are suspended from school for violation of school rules and/or policies will adhere to the following disciplinary guidelines:

- A. First Suspension (1-10 days): Athletes may *not practice* during the suspension period. The athlete may *not participate* in games/events during the suspension period. The athlete may resume practices when reinstated to classes.
- B. Second Suspension (1-10 days): Loss of interscholastic sports privileges for the current season.
- C. Third Suspension (1-10 days): Possible exclusion for the remainder of the year depending on the degree of the violation.

Use of Tobacco, Drugs, Steroids, and Alcohol

Students may not possess and/or use any tobacco products including electronic cigarettes, vaping devices, paraphernalia or supplies, drugs, including drug paraphernalia, steroids, and/or alcoholic beverages.

Consequences for violating rules pertaining to the use and/or possession of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, including drug paraphernalia, steroids or tobacco substances, including electronic cigarettes, vaping devices, paraphernalia, or supplies:

1st offense: Suspension from all extra-curricular activities for 40% (2/5) of the contests or competitions in

the current season and/or the next season of competition. **Alternative Penalty:** The Students/parents may choose a 20% loss of the contests or competitions plus 20 hours of community service to be completed *before* the student may resume competition.

2nd offense: Suspension from all extra-curricular activities for 60% (3/5) of the contests or competitions in

the current season and/or the next season of competition. **Alternative Penalty:**

The student/parent may choose a 40% loss of the contests or competitions plus 40 hours of

community service to be completed *before* the student may resume competition.

3rd offense: Suspension from all extra-curricular activities for one calendar year. If one calendar year passes without any participation in extracurricular activities, the suspension for an activity code violation is negated.

4th offense: Suspension from participation in all arranged competitions at St. Johns Middle School for the remainder of the student's high school career.

NOTE: A scrimmage with another school may not count as a scheduled inter-scholastic competition.

NOTE: A student suspended from interscholastic competitions must continue to demonstrate the qualities of sportsmanship outlined in this Handbook.

NOTE: If a suspension cannot be completed in the present season, the suspension will be carried over to the student's next sports season. The amount of dates to be suspended will be determined by the Activities Director.

NOTE: Offense for steroid use: Any student suspected of steroid use will be required to submit to a drug test. Failure to take or pass this test will cause removal from the team for the balance of the season. Any further participation in high school athletics must be approved by the Athletic Council.

NOTE: Suspensions for Activity Code Violations assessed by other school districts will be carried over to St. Johns Middle School for transferring students.

NOTE: Actions displayed on the internet are considered a source of evidence in determining a violation of the Activity Code of Conduct.

NOTE: Parents of students involved in any drug, alcohol or tobacco-related offenses, including the use of electronic cigarettes, vaping devices, paraphernalia or supplies that may result in a suspension will be notified prior to the suspension of the student-athlete. Any student or parent has the right to call for a hearing with the Athletic Director on any of the above steps. Proof of notification or attempts to notify the parents will be documented in writing. Within three (3) school days following the assessment of a penalty, a student or student's parent/guardian may file an appeal in writing with the student's principal.

Reinstatement

A. Suspended students may not participate in practice activities while serving a suspension.

B. A student violating any substance rule will be required to attend a substance abuse program approved by the school and arranged and funded at the student/parent's expense.

C. Once a student has violated the activity code of conduct, the student may not join an athletic team if 20% of the season has elapsed including practice time.

Attendance Requirements

Athletes must be in school during the day the athletic event is scheduled unless they are participating in school-sponsored functions. If there are extenuating circumstances to an athlete's attendance, the school attendance office/athletic director will determine eligibility. Athletes absent or late the day following a contest will report the reason to their coach in writing before participating in practice or contests. Playing time in the next scheduled game or meet may be affected by this violation at the discretion of the coach. Athletes who accumulate two unexcused absences from team practice or game(s) on a scheduled school day may be dismissed from the team. ***Athletes who miss practice may miss a portion or all of the playing time in that week's contest.***

Sportsmanship

Athletics in St. Johns schools has earned an outstanding reputation for good sportsmanship. Athletes and fans (students and adults) have always conducted themselves commendably. Everyone is proud of this reputation and works hard to uphold it. Please review the following:

- A. A student spectator represents the school the same as the athlete.
- B. The good name of the school is more valuable than a game won by unfair play.
- C. Accept decisions of officials without dispute.
- D. Recognize and show appreciation of fine play and good sportsmanship by opponents.
- E. Advocate those spectators or athletes who continually demonstrate poor sportsmanship be excused from the athletic program.

Transportation (Bus Conduct)

Athletes are required to travel to and from athletic events using transportation provided by St. Johns Public Schools. Athletes leave as a team and return as a team, win, lose or draw. This requirement may be waived by the parents submitting a completed transportation release form to the athletic director's office one day (mandatory) before the event. No handwritten requests will be accepted. Transportation Release forms are available on our SJMS website and from the coach.

Insurance Coverage

Parents or guardians of athletes are required to obtain adequate medical insurance coverage for their children. All students participating in athletic events must carry some health and accident insurance.

- A. The St. Johns Public Schools Board of Education does not assume liability for injuries suffered by students while participating in athletic activities. The responsibility for the expenses incurred in athletics for doctors, ambulance, or medical expenses for injury must be assumed by the parent or guardian.
- B. The athlete's family's employer's insurance must provide coverage in the case of any injury suffered while participating in athletics in the St. Johns Public School system.
- C. The school district offers the opportunity for athletes to purchase reasonably priced insurance coverage from an independent carrier. Inquire at the middle school's student activity office.

Illness and Injury

Student athletes that leave school sick and are not in attendance the full school day may not participate in scheduled practices or games. Students absent from practice due to extended illness or disabling injury must be recertified in writing by their physician for re-admittance to practice, scrimmage, and contests. Students excused from Physical Education Class due to illness or injury with a note from parent or physician may not participate in the game, scrimmage, or practice on the same date.

Equipment and Responsibilities

Anyone who fails to return, in good condition, any equipment issued shall be ineligible for any award and for any other sport until equipment is returned or the Athletic Department reimbursed. The theft of school equipment is larceny and Michigan law regards larceny as a felony. Practice equipment and game uniforms will be worn and displayed properly at all times and as directed by the coach.

Uniform Responsibilities

Athletes are to be responsible for the care of the school-issued uniform at all times. Uniforms are not to be taken home for any reason. All school-issued uniforms will be collected at the end of each competition and laundered by school personnel. Parents and/or guardians are not to alter or attempt to repair uniforms in any way. Please report any issues to the coaching staff or athletic director.

Student-athletes may be subject to replacement cost if uniforms are altered and/or damaged beyond repair and repair costs may be assessed if deemed necessary.

Snow Day Procedure

If school is called off during the school day, no athletic games or practices will be held. Tournament games may be held if weather conditions allow. If school is called off before the start of the day (first day), no athletic games or practices will be held. If school is called off before the start of the school day (second day or more), all teams may practice following the gymnasium snow day schedule, unless otherwise notified by the administration.

Athletic Council

The SJMS Athletic Council will be composed of the Athletic Director, the Middle School Principal, all Head Coaches, and a non-coaching faculty member (teacher or counselor). The Athletic Council has the authority to review all cases involving the behavior of student-athletes that is considered detrimental to the reputation of the team, school, or community.

Athletic Boosters

Parents of students who are members of SJMS athletic teams are automatically members of the Middle School Athletic Boosters Club. Consequently, they will be asked to assist with concession sales at least once during an athletic event per season that their child is participating in. It is important that Booster Concession Stands be made available during each season, as the money raised is our primary source of revenue to purchase new uniforms and update sports equipment for the Middle School Athletic Program.

Participation Fees

Each middle school student participating in athletics will be required to pay a \$110.00 one-time fee with a family cap of \$200.00 at SJMS. This will be assessed for the first time of participation per school year. Students who receive free and reduced lunch will pay a \$25.00 one-time fee with a family cap of \$50.00.

Each middle school student participating in the spring musical will be required to pay a one-time fee of \$35.00. If the student has paid an athletic participation fee during the current school year, the \$35.00 fee will be waived.

The “pay to participate” athletic fee must be paid on or before the first day of practice in sports that do not have a “cut” process. All sports with a “cut” process will expect payment of the fee once the teams have been established prior to the first competition. All fees will be collected by the Athletic Director’s office with checks made payable to St. Johns Public Schools.

No student will be ineligible to participate in athletic or musical programs solely due to the inability to pay the registration fee. Parents may apply for the fee waiver or an alternative form of payment by contacting the Athletic Office directly. Fee waiver information and alternative payment arrangements shall be confidential in nature.

Condition for a refund for Middle School Only

The Middle School Athletic Director must approve all participation fee refunds for a student as follows:

Student-athlete quits the squad: First day of practice: 100% refund. The remainder of the season: 0% refund	Student-athlete transfers out of district: First day of practice to the first contest: 50% refund After the first contest: 0% refund	Student-athlete drops for a disciplinary reason and/or Code of Conduct violation: 0% refund <i>Absolutely no exceptions.</i>
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Payment of the registration fee does not guarantee a specific position on a team nor imply that a student-athlete will receive equal playing time.