

DICKSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in April	Descriptor Term: <h2 style="margin: 0;">Interscholastic Athletics</h2>	Descriptor Code: 4.301 Rescinds: 4.301	Issued Date: 10-28-21 Issued: 9-21-17
---	--	---	--

- 1 No person shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of,
 2 be treated differently from another person, or otherwise be discriminated against in any athletic
 3 program of the school. Equal athletic opportunities shall be provided for members of both sexes.¹
 4 Student athletes shall only be allowed to participate in athletic activities or events that align with
 5 the student’s sex indicated on his/her original birth certificate.² The Director of Schools/designee
 6 shall require the parent/guardian to provide the student’s original birth certificate prior to
 7 participation in any interscholastic athletics. If the original birth certificate is not available or
 8 does not indicate the student’s sex at the time of birth, the parent/guardian shall provide medical
 9 documentation showing evidence of the student’s sex at birth.
- 10 The Director of Schools shall develop a code of conduct for all coaches to follow in order to
 11 ensure the health and safety of athletes.³
- 12 Interscholastic athletics shall be administered as a part of the regular school program and shall be
 13 the principal’s responsibility. Principals shall ensure that school regulations regarding
 14 participation in a sport are reasonable. Athletic schedules shall be filed in each school principal’s
 15 office. The principal or his/ her designee must accompany an athletic team on trips.
- 16 Bylaws of the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association shall regulate the operation and
 17 control of athletics.
- 18 Prior to participation in interscholastic athletics, every student must complete an annual physical
 19 examination.⁴ The parents/guardians of each student shall be responsible for covering the cost of
 20 the examination, and these records shall be on file in the principal’s office. It shall be the
 21 responsibility of the parents/guardians to provide health and hospitalization insurance for all
 22 students participating in interscholastic athletics.
- 23 No principal or teacher of any school under the control of the board shall dismiss his/her school
 24 or any group of students for the purpose of attending the practice of any interscholastic sport
 25 during the school day without written permission from the Board. This does not prevent the
 26 inclusion of regular physical training lessons in the daily school program.⁵

¹ 34 CFR § 106.41

² Public Acts of 2021, Chapter No. 40

³ Public Acts of 2021, Chapter No. 272

⁴ TRR/MS 0502-01-03-.08(2)(b)

⁵ TCA 49-6-1002

DICKSON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1 Students shall not be required to attend a school athletic event, or event related to participation
2 on a school athletic team, if the event is on an official school holiday, observed day of worship,
3 or religious holiday. The student's parent / guardian shall notify the coach in writing three (3)
4 full school days prior to the event.⁶

5 SEVERE WEATHER⁷

6 Severe weather is any type of weather that could impede the safety of any athlete by
7 compromising the playing conditions for the interscholastic sport. Severe weather includes, but
8 is not limited to, thunder, lightning, and extreme temperatures. When severe weather is
9 forecasted, suspension of play shall be discussed with all players, coaches and officials if
10 applicable.

11 All coaches who oversee or participate in outdoor training, practice or competition shall annually
12 complete a heat illness prevention course approved by the Tennessee Department of Health as
13 well as receive training on activity modifications based on environmental conditions.

14 Coaches, employees, and volunteers of the school district shall not encourage, permit, condone,
15 or tolerate hazing activities.⁸

⁶ Public Acts of 2017, Chapter No 260

⁷ Public Acts of 2021, Chapter No 272

⁸ TCA 49-2-120