

Wrightstown Middle School

"Together... transforming our school from VERY GOOD to REALLY GREAT."

Mr. Steve Gromala, Principal

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June 22, 2010

Dear Morrison Zion Lutheran School:

On June 16, 2010, the Board of Education of the Wrightstown Community School District met to review and discuss various proposed changes to the Wrightstown Middle School Athletic Policy and Student Code of Conduct. After much discussion at this meeting and over the past several months, the Board unanimously approved the new policy and code. I am sending this to you as many of your students often participate in our athletic programs.

If you should happen to have any students in grades 5-8 who are interested in participating in WMS athletics, please make them aware that a new policy and code is now in effect. They can access the new policy by visiting our webpage located at www.wrightstown.k12.wi.us/middle. Click on the "Athletics" link followed by the "Athletic Policy" link.

All parents and students are required to attend at least one Athletic Code Meeting per year under the new policy. A meeting will be scheduled for August and at least twice thereafter throughout the school year. Parents can find the dates for these mandatory meetings also on our webpage.

The new policy also requires that students obtain and successfully pass a physical performed by a licensed physician. Students will need an Athletic Permit Card signed and returned to their coach before being allowed to participate. I have enclosed some copies in the event that parents are looking for them. I also have copies available in our office and on our webpage.

Please also announce to your parents and students that information regarding the start of the fall sports season can be found online. This includes the dates for equipment handout and first practices. The schedule for games can also be found at the same place online.

As you can tell, much of our information is now only available online. If a parent should not have access to the internet, please have them call me and I would be happy to send them the information they need.

If you should have any questions about the new Athletic Policy or Student Code of Conduct, please feel free to contact me at 532-5553. Have a terrific summer!

Your Partner in Education,



Steve Gromala
Principal

www.wrightstown.k12.wi.us

"QUALITY EDUCATION FOR EVERY STUDENT"

Wrightstown Middle School Athletic Policy and Student Code of Conduct

Highlight of Some Specific Changes/Additions

The following includes some of the specific changes and/or additions to the Athletic Policy and Student Code of Conduct approved at the June 16, 2010 Board of Education meeting. Please review the entire policy for all other changes and/or additions.

No-Cut Policy/Participation (Section I – Page 2)

Unlike the previous Athletic Policy adopted in 2000, the new policy permits the Activities Director and Principal to make the necessary adjustments to accommodate large squads. An additional paid coach will be hired if numbers warrant another team. Coaches will be asked to work with the new AD to help secure additional coaches if needed.

No-Cut Policy/Participation (Section I – Page 2)

5-6 Playing Time – Coaches must work to provide for playing time in each competition that is as close to equal as possible based on the number of student athletes on any given team. This addition to the new policy is really no different from the previous middle school philosophy.

7-8 Playing Time – Coaches must work to provide for playing time that equals at least 25% of each competition for each student athlete.

Code of Conduct (Section II – Page 5)

All parents and student athletes must annually attend a mandatory athletic code meeting prior to participating in any athletic program. Athletic code meetings will be set at least three times throughout the school year before each sport season.

Participation is not allowed without attendance at a code meeting and without a signed copy of the Code of Conduct.

Our new Activities Director will work with the building Principal to schedule these meetings for our fall sports as soon as possible. Dates and times will be posted on the website.

Residency/School Attendance (Section II – Page 5)

Only students that attend a school that lies within the WCSD or attend a school which serves students who reside in the WCSD are eligible to participate in the WMS athletic program. These include the following schools: Wrightstown Middle School, St. Clare Catholic School, Wayside Zion Lutheran, Morrison Zion Lutheran, and St. John's Lutheran.

Physical (Section II – Page 5)

All student athletes participating in the WMS athletic program must successfully pass a physical performed by a physician once every two years. This must be completed BEFORE being able to practice or compete. A physical card must be obtained by the parent (copies will be sent home to all parents this summer). Physical cards should be turned into coaches, who will in turn give them to the AD.

Academics (Section II – Page 5)

All middle school student athletes are now subject to academic requirements. Student grades will be checked at the beginning of each sports' season by the AD or Principal. Any student who is NOT earning a passing grade in every class will be placed on academic probation. Students may participate in practices and contests during the probationary period. Grades will again be checked at the season's midpoint. If the student is still not passing all classes, he or she will remain on probation and will only be allowed to participate in practices until he or she is passing all classes.

Communication with Parents (Section V – Page 14)

Team expectations set by coaches must be pre-approved by the Activities Director. All coaches must hold a parent meeting prior to the season in conjunction with the AD and school calendar.

Conflict of Interest (Section V – Page 14)

In order to provide well-rounded student athletes with a variety of coaching experiences and to clearly separate athletic opportunities, WMS coaches may NOT coach both a school team and a club team consisting of the same student athletes during the school season for the same sport. Any potential conflicts of interest should be discussed with the AD before the beginning of the season.

Coaches' Orientation Meeting (Section V – Page 14)

All paid and volunteer coaches must attend an annual meeting prior to the start of their athletic season. Practices and contests will not be allowed until attendance at this meeting takes place.

Roster of Players (Section V – Page 15)

Coaches must turn in a roster of players by the end of the first week of practice. A copy of the roster is available on page 16 of the policy.