

1      **Policy 5.61 – Eligibility Requirements Including Physical Examination for**  
2      **High School and Middle School Interscholastic Athletics**

3      **Purpose**

4      1. This Policy sets forth eligibility and physical examination requirements  
5      before a student can participate or engage in middle school or high school  
6      interscholastic athletics.

7      **Policy**

8      1. Before a student can begin practice or competition in interscholastic sports  
9      at the middle, middle/senior or senior high school level, the student must  
10     provide signed parental consent to participate in the activity. The student  
11     shall also provide undergo, unless exempt by statute, an annual physical  
12     evaluation ~~and shall be certified~~ certifying the student is as being physically  
13     fit for participation in interscholastic athletic practice, tryout, workout,  
14     conditioning or competition or other physical activity associated to the  
15     student's candidacy for an interscholastic athletic team. All students must  
16     submit a parental consent form, physical evaluation and other forms  
17     required by the District prior to participation in any physical activity related  
18     to an interscholastic athletic program. before being allowed an opportunity  
19     for such participation. As required by Fla. Stat. § 1006.20 (2) (c), this the  
20     annual physical evaluation must be administered either by a licensed  
21     physician, a licensed osteopathic physician, a licensed chiropractic  
22     physician, a licensed medical assistant, or a certified advanced registered  
23     nurse practitioner and who is in good standing. The evaluation shall be valid  
24     for a period not to exceed a calendar year from the date of the practitioner's  
25     signature. The Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) Form EL 2  
26     or any other form approved by the FHSAA must be completed. This is  
27     incorporated herein by reference as part of this policy. Notice of and the  
28     conducting of the physical examination must be in compliance with 20 U.  
29     S.C. § 1232h.

30      2. Interscholastic athletic practice shall be considered to include any and all  
31      forms of physical conditioning, both aerobic and anaerobic, in which the  
32      student is permitted to participate regardless of whether such conditioning  
33      occurs in the preseason, off-season, or during the period of permissible  
34      organized practice.

35      3. The District shall comply with the eligibility Bylaws of the Palm Beach County  
36      Middle School Activities Association ("PBCMSAA"), including the provisions  
37      relating to equitable participation, for middle school students.

4. The District shall comply with the eligibility Bylaws of the Florida High School Athletic Association ("FHSAA"), including the provisions relating to equitable participation, for high school students.
5. For interscholastic athletics eligibility, all forms required by the FHSAA or by the District, ~~including but not limited to FHSAA Form EL 5 (the academic performance contract for certain 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students), PBSD Forms 1588HS (for high school), 1588MS (for middle school) and 1589~~, must be completed and timely submitted to the school. ~~FHSAA Form EL 5 and PBSD Forms 1588HS, 1588MS and 1589 are incorporated herein by reference as part of this policy.~~ FHSAA forms can be located on its web site; or, on the school's campus as part of the hard copy athletic packet; or, on the online registration system for student-athletes as approved by the District. The PBSD forms can be found on the District's forms web site; or, on the school's campus as part of the hard copy athletic packet; or, on the online registration system for student-athletes as approved by the District.
6. Each year, the student will complete and provide the school with the required documents relating to the physical examination to be eligible to practice for or compete in athletic competitions. These documents will be on file ~~in~~ with the school for the duration of that participating student's eligibility at that school.
7. This policy shall be considered along with School Board Policy 5.60 and the requirements of the FHSAA or PBCMSAA, as applicable, to determine a student's eligibility to participate.

RULEMAKING Fla. Stat. §§ 120.81 (1) (a); 1001.32(2); 1001.41  
STATUTORY AUTHORITY: (1) & (2); 1001.42(28); 1001.43(1); 1006.15

LAWS IMPLEMENTED: Fla. Stat. §§ 1001.32(2); 1001.42(10); 1001.43(3), (7) & (8); 1002.20 (17) & (18); 1006.15; 1006.20; 20 U.S.C. § 1232h; 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; **F.A.C. 6A-10.085, 6A-10.089**

HISTORY: New: August 21, 1985; 9/1/2010; 1/23