

**KAIROS PUBLIC SCHOOL
ATHLETIC HANDBOOK**



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Kairos Public School Athletic Program is to enhance and expand the learning environment for all students. We can achieve this by creating an additional experience for students who wish to compete in and support athletics. Our program is committed to the safety and growth of all our student athletes and strives to instill an awareness of health and fitness through physical conditioning, hard work, and a commitment to one's self.

PHILOSOPHY

It is the philosophy of the program to encourage and support participation by any student at all levels of competition. Our goal is to focus on the development of the whole student. In the quest to become a student athlete, academics must come first. Kairos believes the key to becoming a good athlete includes being a good student. We aim to promote character, sportsmanship, leadership, commitment, self-discipline and responsibility on and off the field.

SPORTS OFFERED*

FALL

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
BOYS CROSS COUNTRY
GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

WINTER

GIRLS BASKETBALL
BOYS BASKETBALL

SPRING

GIRLS SOCCER
BOYS SOCCER
GIRLS TRACK
BOYS TRACK

*If there is not sufficient interest in any sports listed above, Kairos reserves the right to not offer the sport for the season.

ELIGIBILITY

Student's academics is the first priority. In order for students to be a member of an athletic team, he/she must meet all academic standards set by Kairos. Athletics is a big commitment and will take a large part of time after school and students must be prepared to accept the time and effort it will take to maintain high academics and become a successful student athlete.

Students must maintain a **2.0 GPA** to participate in any athletic sport or activity. He/she must have a GPA of 2.0 before trying out for any athletic team and must maintain his/her GPA throughout the season. If for any reason, a student's GPA drops below a 2.0 during the season, he/she will not be able to practice or play with the team until his/her

GPA is above a 2.0. The students will only be allowed to drop below a 2.0 one time during the athletic calendar year. (**Note:** if any student is carrying an “F” in any class, he/she will not be able to practice or play with the team). Students will be subject to two progress reports during an athletic season where not only their grades will be evaluated, but also their homework, class participation, and behavior.

Athletes who have received a *Second Warning Letter of Non-Compliance* at any time during the school year or who are on *Probationary Enrollment* will not be able to try out or continue playing on the team. After their probation is served the student will be eligible to participate in athletics.

Athletes that receive **detention** have an obligation to serve the detention. Failure to serve a detention will result in the student becoming ineligible for the next game prior to serving the detention.

Our goal is to help and support the student athlete any way possible. This can be achieved via progress reports, grade checks, mentoring, and parent contacts so he/she can be a successful student athlete.

PARTICIPATION

Kairos encourages a student’s athletic participation to instill in him/her the skills needed to be successful in life. These skills include responsibility, communication, cooperation and most importantly, teamwork. Additionally, the Athletic Program supports the academic mission of Kairos and encourages students to perform well in the classroom.

Positive participation plays a very important role in team sports. Student athletes are expected to attend all practices and games. Coaches can develop an attendance policy that goes beyond that of the schools participation requirements.

If a student athlete is absent from school for any “unexcused reason” for any portion of the school day, he/she is not eligible to participate for that day. If a student athlete is absent from school for a “school excused” reason for four periods or more, he/she is not eligible to participate in athletics that day.

Team members have the responsibility to themselves, their teammates, and their coaches to learn their role on the team. Teamwork requires the development of many interpersonal skills such as listening, following directions, accepting constructive criticism, and supporting coaches and teammates. If a student is involved in athletics, he/she has an obligation to participate in practice and games with full commitment and enthusiasm.

All student athletes must have completed and turned in all participation forms required by the school and athletic program.

SCHEDULES

Schedules will be posted on the sports web page or in the front office prior to the athletic season. All schedules and games are subject to change. Weather will be taken into consideration in all outdoor events and could result in cancellations or make-up

games. Contact the front office or the athletic web page to see updated conditions. Coaches will be informed of any changes and the Coaches are responsible for letting athletes and parents know of those schedule changes.

PERMISSION PACKETS

Complete Permission Packets must be turned in to the coach **prior** to tryouts. If all permission forms are not turned into the coach the first day of tryouts, the student will not be able to participate in tryouts and may forfeit any consideration for the athletic activity. Permission packets will contain an Athletic Clearance Form (permission slip), Emergency Medical Treatment form, Sports Physical Examination form, School Driver Certification form, General Rules form, and an athletic contract. Coaches may supplement the permission packets with additional forms they deem necessary.

TRANSPORTATION

Buses will not be provided through Kairos. Parent volunteers' are needed to transport athletes to and from games. **Parents must be cleared volunteers and fill out insurance forms and have on record their insurance policies with the Student Services Office in order to drive students athletes.** Parent hours will be given to any driver that helps with transporting any other athletes besides their own son or daughter to the game. Driving to and from the game will result in 1 ½ parent hours. **Parents who do not complete the necessary paperwork may not drive other students to/from games.**

Additionally, students must have a "Field Trip Permission Form" completed in order to ride with other parents, as those parents are considered chaperones.

LOCKER ROOM/CHANGING AREAS

All codes of conduct and related consequences that are articulated in the student handbook apply in the locker room/changing areas. The locker room/changing area is a facility used to change into and out of practice clothes or uniforms. It is not a place to socialize or hang out before practice. The consequence of breaking any locker room/changing area rules will result in loss of locker room/changing area privileges and be referred for disciplinary consequences. Students coming to practice late will have to coordinate with the coach to access the locker room/changing area.

COACHES

Coaching is a very challenging and rewarding commitment. Coaches are one of the most influential members of the Kairos Athletic Program and are considered leaders on and off the field. All coaches must be interviewed and meet certain security clearances. We strive to find coaches who have a passion for and a background in the sport he/she is coaching. All coaches and assistant volunteers must have background and fingerprint checks and be cleared through the business office before contacting students or starting tryouts.

Each coach should distribute to his/her athletes a written set of team rules for that sport. This should include practices, games, day of game procedures, and travel etiquette rules. Signatures from the athlete and parents are required and are to be turned in to the coach. Coaches are encouraged to keep as many players as possible on the roster and try their best to distribute play time equally and fairly. Coaches will use a rubric to evaluate all athletes before any cuts are made and are asked to submit a copy of the rubrics to the Administration.

It is our goal in team placement to find opportunities not only for participation, but also for success. Placing each student at the level where he/she can contribute physically and gain positive feelings from their efforts is important to the coaching staff. Hopefully, our students will learn the value of being on a team and the contributions that each member must make.

At no time should a coach(s) leave an athlete unsupervised. This includes situations such as gym, fields, or locker room/changing areas. The coach is responsible for locker room/changing area management and security. The last coach to leave will make sure doors are locked. At the end of practice or competition, the coach will stay until all students have been picked up by a parent or guardian.

PRACTICE

Practice times are determined by the coaches. Practice schedules and times will be distributed to parents and posted on the web site after the team has been selected. Practice should not run more than 2 hours or result in more than three practices per week or a total of two practices and two games per week.

INJURIES

Unfortunately, injuries are a part of any game. All injuries must be taken seriously. Any injury must be reported to the coaching staff, administration, and the front office in order to document the nature of the injury. If any injury occurs during a game, the coach is responsible to fill out an accident report immediately. If a player discovers an injury during the school day, he/she should inform the front office immediately. No athlete will be allowed to return to participation from an injury without written clearance from a physician (who is not related) once he/she has been restricted from participation or diagnosed by a physician. It is imperative that all medical and insurance forms are filled

out correctly and are current in the event that medical attention is needed during the game.

EQUIPMENT

Kairos provides the majority of sports equipment, but personal items such as shoes, socks, practice clothes, and protective padding are the responsibility of the student. Students are responsible for any school-issued uniforms during the season and should be prepared to return them during the checkout meeting the week after the end of competition. Students will be responsible for any damaged or lost uniform/equipment. Students may purchase uniforms before the season and will be able to use that uniform in future athletic teams. Not all uniforms are the same for each sport. When team members step into the playing arena for a contest, they must appear uniform in dress. Shirts must be tucked in and similar attire must be enforced. This is a time for students to represent our team and school, not to express their individuality.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Kairos is proud of the behavior and sportsmanship displayed by its players, coaches, and fans. We value spirited and fair play, as well as spirited and positive support for our players and teams. Every student-athlete represents our community as well as his or her own team. Therefore, it is imperative that each athlete upholds all rules of sportsmanship and follows proper conduct at all times. All players are to sign and abide by the Code of Conduct presented in permission slip packets. Coaches will distribute this contract at the beginning of the season.

HONORS & AWARDS

A recognition ceremony may be held at the end of the athletic season, not at the end of the school year, to recognize athletes for their participation in the Athletic Program. Players receive various forms of recognition, and not all players receive awards. The coaching staff decides on the following special awards: Most Valuable Player, Most Improved Player, Coach's Award, and Sportsmanship Award. The coaches will award one overall Student Athlete Award for the top student athlete of the season.

COMMITMENT POLICY

Commitment and hard work are two of the valued aspects of playing on a team. It is vital that these are not compromised in the course of a season, as team play will be adversely affected. The Athletic Program strongly urges all student athletes and coaches

to work together to find a solution (other than quitting or dismissal) when faced with a difficult situation. In order to have consistency, any student may leave a team by notifying the coach prior to the start of athletic competition. Once the athletic season has begun, coaches and players must adhere to the following “roster change” guidelines:

1. A meeting must take place between the coach and student to discuss the situation. This meeting must be taken very seriously and be attended by team captains. Parents may be invited to this meeting at coaches discretion.
2. Communication will then occur between the administration, the student, and the coach to further discuss the situation.
3. The coach will communicate with the parents.

While every parent has the right to withdraw his/her student for athletics, the Athletic Program would like to remind the involved student that middle school level may be the last opportunity for that student to play organized sports. It should also be noted that national statistics say that over 70% of children quit organized sports by the age of 13; therefore, it is a crucial age in developing positive habits and benefiting from hard work, commitment, and being part of a team.

PARENTS

In order to ensure that the educational experience your daughter or son has is positive while participating in our Athletic Program, we feel that it is important for you to read and abide by the following guidelines:

- Practice appropriate sportsmanship.
- Respect the officials and their authority during games.
- Do not question or confront the coach at the athletic venue. Make an appointment directly with the coach or through the Administration to respectfully air grievances.
- Remember that the game is for the athletes to have fun. This program is for the youth, not the adults.
- Reinforce with your child that competing as hard as one can is more important than winning or losing.
- Demand that your child treat opposing players, officials, coaches, and spectators with respect and dignity.
- Promote the physical and emotional well-being of student athletes.
- Do not encourage any behavior, which could endanger the health and well-being of the student athlete.
- **Please understand that it is a privilege, not a right, for your child to be a member of the athletic program. Therefore, it is also a privilege for you to be a spectator. Failure to abide by the aforementioned expectations may be cause for removal from that event and future events.**

Parents are encouraged to communicate with the coach regarding their son or

daughter's participation in Athletics. The Athletic Program requests that any questions about coaching philosophy and/or expectations be expressed during a private conference and never publicly before or after a contest or practice. It is not appropriate for parents to discuss team strategy and student athletes other than their own son or daughter. If a resolution is not reached between a parent and a coach, the administration will be involved in a subsequent meeting to come to agreement among parties.