INSTRUCTION

Student Participation in Intramural and Interscholastic Athletics

In accordance with School Board Policy 648, Prince William County Public Schools shall follow the rules and regulations for intramural and interscholastic athletics as follows:

I. Intramural and interscholastic athletic programs shall be conducted in accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

II. Elementary schools are restricted to intramural competition only.

III. Middle schools shall subscribe to the rules and regulations developed by the Middle School Athletic Council, composed of the middle school principals and the Supervisor of Student Activities. The rules and regulations shall be published in the Prince William County Middle School Interscholastic Athletic Handbook. The rules established shall be in the best interest of the student athlete, and will be based on the concepts of the Virginia High School League and the best available information from organizations such as the American Medical Association, SHAPE America, and the National Association for Girls and Women in Sports.

A. Due to differences in social, emotional, and physical development, and difficulties in logistics such as the scheduling of practices and competitions due to differing school time for attendance, it is not recommended that middle school students participate in high school club sports or interscholastic athletic activities. However, eighth grade middle school students may take advantage of the Virginia High School League rule allowing participation on sub-varsity teams, only at the high school of their attendance zone. In order to participate, eighth grade students must meet eligibility requirements. Eighth grade students may not miss any school time in order to participate in practices and or games. Transportation related to the eighth grader participating in high school activities, from the middle school to the high school, is the responsibility of the student and his or her parent or guardian.

B. Interscholastic competition is restricted to middle schools in Prince William County unless otherwise approved by the Superintendent. Rules established by the Athletic Council are subject to review by the Associate Superintendent for Student Learning and Accountability.

IV. Intramural activities at high schools and middle schools shall be part of the middle school and high school site-based plan.

V. Interscholastic athletics at the high school level shall be conducted in compliance with the rules and regulations established by the Virginia High School League and with the policies,
regulations, and procedures approved by the Prince William County School Board and/or the school administration.

The Associate Superintendent for Student Learning and Accountability (or designee) is responsible for implementing and monitoring this regulation.

This regulation and related policy shall be reviewed at least every five years and revised as needed.