

Student Information

ATHLETICS

Interscholastic athletics are encouraged and the school presently has teams in: Football, Soccer, Baseball, Basketball, Volleyball, Softball, Cheerleading, Golf and Cross Country.

Students must adhere to M.I.A.A. rules and regulations as to eligibility to represent the school and must show evidence of good citizenship.

CHEMICAL HEALTH RULE

Part 1 - CHEMICAL HEALTH RULE

RULE 62: Student (and Coach) Eligibility: Chemical Health/Alcohol/Drugs/Tobacco

62.1 During the season of practice or play, a student shall not, regardless of quantity, use, consume, possess, buy/sell, or give away any beverage containing alcohol; any tobacco product; marijuana; steroids; or any controlled substance. This policy includes products such as “NA or near beer”. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the student’s own use by his/her doctor. This rule represents only a minimum standard upon which schools may develop more stringent requirements.

This MIAA statewide minimum standard is not intended to render “guilt by association”, e.g. many student athletes might be present at a party where only a few violate this standard.

If a student in violation of this rule is unable to participate in interscholastic sports due to injury, academics, or otherwise, the penalty will not take effect until that student is able to participate again.

MINIMUM PENALTIES

FIRST VIOLATION:

When the Principal confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next consecutive interscholastic contests totaling 25% of all interscholastic contests in that sport. For the student, these penalties will be determined by the season the violation occurs. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program. It is recommended that the student be allowed to remain at practice for the purpose of rehabilitation. All decimal part of an event will be truncated i.e. All fractional part of an event will be dropped when calculating the 25% of the season.

#of Events/Season	#of Events/Penalty
1-7	1
8-11	2
12-15	3
16-19	4
20 or over	5

SECOND & SUBSEQUENT VIOLATIONS:

When the Principal confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next consecutive interscholastic contests totaling 60% of all interscholastic contests in that sport. For the student, these penalties will be determined by the season the violation occurs. All decimal part of an event will be truncated i.e. All fractional part of an event will be dropped when calculating the 60% of the season.

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#of Events/Season	#of Events/Penalty
1-3	1
4	2
5-6	3
7-8	4
9	5
10-11	6
12-13	7
14	8
15-16	9
17-18	10
19	11
20 or over	12

If after the second or subsequent violations the student of his/her own volition becomes a participant in an approved chemical dependency program or treatment program, the student may be certified for reinstatement in MIAA activities after a minimum of 40% of events. The director or a counselor of a chemical dependency treatment center must issue such certification. All decimal part of an event will be truncated i.e. All fractional part of an event will be dropped when calculating the 40% of the season.

#of Events/Season	#of Events/Penalty
1-4	1
5-7	2
8-9	3
10-12	4
13-14	5
15-17	6
18-19	7
20 or over	8

Penalties shall be cumulative each academic year. If the penalty period is not completed during the season of violation, the penalty shall carry over to the student's next season of actual participation, which may affect the eligibility status of the student during the next academic year.

62.2 Coaches - During practice or competition, a coach shall not use any tobacco product.

62.3 Steroid Use - Anabolic androgenic steroid use at the high school level is of grave concern. Steroids are used by some athletes, and the seriousness of the problem has been well documented. A recent study indicates that over 3% of high school seniors have tried steroids in their lifetime (NIDA, 2004). High school coaches may not be able to prevent the use of steroids altogether, but they can clearly and forcefully discourage their use. Coaches should take a proactive role, learning about steroids, and then providing this information to their athletes.

Steroids can, with proper diet and weight training, increase muscle development; however, as is typical with most "get-rich-quick" schemes, steroid use has serious short and long term consequences.

Normal and equal musculature development can occur without steroid use. Although the natural process takes longer, muscle tone will last longer and does not carry the harmful side effect of steroids.

Most coaches would not promote steroid use intentionally. Total silence by coaches however, condones use in some young people's minds. Even though steroids may not be mentioned when it is suggested to an athlete that his/her success is limited only by a lack of weight and/or strength, without a disclaimer the statement can be a motivation to use steroids. The pervasiveness of the drugs that allow for development of increased weight under the aforementioned circumstances is a coercive power that is difficult for young athletes to resist without knowing what the side effects of the drugs may be.

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The issue goes beyond protecting the integrity of sport. The use of steroids in sports is cheating. We must oppose the use of steroids for both health and ethical reasons.

MINIMUM PENALTIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES FIRST VIOLATION:

Penalty-When the principal confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a violation occurred the student should lose eligibility for the next two (2) consecutive interscholastic events, or two (2) weeks of a season in which the student is a participant, whichever is greater. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program, although such participation is recommended. It is expected that the student be allowed to remain at practice for the purpose of rehabilitation.

SECOND AND SUBSEQUENT VIOLATIONS:

Penalty- When the principal confirms, following an opportunity for the student to be heard, that a second or subsequent violation occurred, the student shall lose eligibility for the next twelve (12) consecutive interscholastic events or twelve (12) consecutive weeks, whichever is greater, in which the student is a participant.

If after the second or subsequent violation the student of his/her own volition becomes a participant in an approved chemical dependency program or treatment program, the student may be certified for reinstatement in the MIAA activities after a minimum period of six (6) weeks. Such certification must be issued by the doctor or a counselor of a chemical dependency treatment center.

Penalties shall be cumulative each academic year but a penalty period will extend into the next academic year.

TOOL KITS

To provide you with the utmost in learning opportunities we are suggesting that you have your own basic tool kits. You will then learn to care for, maintain, and appreciate a good tool kit that can be added to over the years.

For the convenience of our students, the shop teachers have compiled a list of hand tools and tool boxes which may be purchased from any supplier, department store etc. These lists may be obtained from the shop teachers.

We will continue to provide an adequate supply of tools for all students enrolled in the shops.

All tools and instruments used in the shops and laboratories are furnished at school district expense. When tools, instruments, or materials are removed from a tool crib, the student to whom they were issued to is held responsible for the return of such items. **STUDENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO BORROW TOOLS TO TAKE HOME.**

STUDENT LOCKERS

Master keys and copies of combinations for lockers are retained by the school. Only school issued locks are to be attached to school lockers. All unauthorized locks will be removed at the student's expense. Certain items may not be stored in lockers (including, for example; weapons, illegal drugs, alcohol beverages, stolen property, etc.) and the school retains the right to inspect lockers periodically for compliance with these rules. Each student will use his/her assigned locker. Sharing of lockers is not permitted.

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SCHOOL LIBRARY (Instructional Media Center)

The business of the IMC consists of two (2) important parts. Not only do we try to supply books for pleasure reading and course enrichment, but also we are now concerned with the newer non-print materials and their machines for viewing.

As each student who comes to us has his/her own unique problem, we appreciate your doing as much as you can for yourself in as quiet and businesslike manner possible.

The library is open from 7:45 a.m. until the close of school each day.

A. Library Conduct

1. The library is intended to be a comfortable, and quiet area for research, study and browsing. Students are expected to respect the rights of others to enjoy a quiet area in which they may read.
2. Any destruction to the facilities will result in immediate disciplinary action.
3. Students are responsible for all materials which they borrow from the library. Lost or damaged material must be paid for.
4. Students abusing library privileges or taking materials without properly checking them out will lose the privilege of using the library in the future.

B. Book and Magazine Circulation

1. Books in the general collection may be checked out for a period of two (2) weeks. If necessary they may be renewed for another two (2) week period unless there is a waiting list for that book.
2. Students are limited to taking out two (2) books at a time from the library.
3. Back issues of magazines may be checked out for one (1) week period. Current magazines may not be checked out.
4. Reserve books may be checked out at the close of school and must be returned before first period of the following day.
5. Reference books may not be taken out of the library without the special permission of the librarian.
6. Pamphlets or pictures from the Vertical File may be taken out for a one (1) week period.

C. Over Due Materials

1. Fines of five (5) cents per day are charged to students for any over due materials, (only school days are counted).
2. Overdue book notices are sent to students via the teachers.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

The eligibility to participate in nonathletic extracurricular activities (i.e. Skills USA) is determined by a student's grades in shop and academics. At the end of the first and second trimesters, students' report cards will be checked by their advisor. If a student is not meeting the eligibility requirement, he/she will not be allowed to participate for the following trimester. At the end of the school year, the cumulative average for the year will be used to determine eligibility for the fall. (Note: Both the Student Council and National Honor Society have their own constitution and eligibility requirements.)

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A student must be passing shop to be academically eligible. In addition, a student must be passing sufficient courses in their academic cycle to accumulate the equivalent of 13.5 credits out of the possible 18.5 credits.

5.0 credit course: English, Related Courses (Grades 11 & 12) and Math

2.5 credit courses: Math, Social Studies, Science, Business, Spanish, Study Skills Support and Related Courses (Grades 9 & 10).

1.0 credit courses: Physical Education and Health

Students wishing to run for any office in any organization, interested in serving in an advisory council, or acting as a school representative in any program, must complete a nomination form available from the advisor. This form will include the recommendation of at least two teachers.

SEX EDUCATION: PARENT/GUARDIAN NOTIFICATION POLICY

M.G.L. Chapter 291

Ninth and tenth grade students participate in Health Education and Biology Classes. A section of the health curriculum involves human sexuality issues. Topics addressed include: Growth & Development; Decision-Making; Postponement/Abstinence; Reproduction & Birth Control; Communicable Diseases; Relationships; Sex vs. Sexuality; Sexual Harassment; and Prevention/intervention of Date Rape. Students will participate in a voluntary Student Health Behavioral Survey relating to these topics. The survey is a requirement for State/Federal funding.

Parents/Guardians and other interested parties may schedule an appointment to inspect and review the curriculum and instructional materials by contacting the Principal at (508) 763-8011 during school hours.

Parents/Guardians may exempt their children from any portion of the curriculum pertaining to human sexuality issues through written notification to the Assistant Superintendent-Director. Students formally exempted by their parents will not be penalized in any manner.

WORK PERMITS

According to law, any person under the age of eighteen (18) must obtain a working permit from the Office of Superintendent-Director whenever he/she obtains a position for the first time or is making a change in employment. He/she must apply in person.

Applicants must have a legal job in the State of Massachusetts, proof of age and residence in the city or town where applying.

Students must also have a social security number. Social security numbers may be obtained by applying at your local social security office.

SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

Students may purchase school meals through the school lunch program on a daily basis. Financially eligible students may also qualify for a free or reduced price lunch. Students should apply for reduced rate lunches through the guidance office.

MCAS INFORMATION

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has changed the criteria for earning a high school diploma by requiring that students either meet or exceed the proficiency score of 240 on both grade 10 MCAS English Language Arts and Mathematics Tests, or meet or exceed a scaled score of 220 on both tests and fulfill the requirements of an Educational Proficiency Plan (EPP). In addition, students must attain a scaled score of 220 on the MCAS Science Test.

An Educational Proficiency Plan (EPP) is an educational planning tool to be developed for the subject area(s) in which students did not score at least 240 and includes:

- A review of the student's strengths and weaknesses based on MCAS and other assessment results, coursework, grades, and teacher input;
- The courses the student will be required to take and successfully complete in grades 11 and 12 in the relevant content area(s); and
- A description of the assessments the school will administer to the student annually to determine whether s/he is making progress toward proficiency.

School districts have the option of including additional EPP requirements for individual students, such as school day attendance and participation in academic support programs.

A student's EPP should be reviewed annually and modified or updated as needed. Students and parents/guardians are encouraged to be active participants in the development of the EPP.

The high school principal or designee is responsible for determining whether a student has successfully fulfilled all the requirements of an EPP. Students can "fail" by not successfully completing required courses in the relevant content area(s) and/or not participating in the annual assessment identified in their EPP.

Old Colony's Educational Proficiency Plan (EPP) & Diploma Requirements

- Meet the Old Colony graduation requirements per the Student Handbook.
- Comply with the Old Colony Attendance Policy.
- Successfully complete (attaining at least a C average) the ELA and/or Mathematics required course(s).
- Participate in the District's Pre and Post Course Assessment(s) to demonstrate measurable progress toward Proficiency.
- Participate in the MCAS EPP/MCAS Retest Test(s) to demonstrate measurable progress toward Proficiency and/or to demonstrate Proficiency.
- Mandatory participation in Support Program(s) for students who scored below 240 on their 10th Grade MCAS/MCAS Retests/EPP MCAS test(s).

ACADEMIC SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Students scoring below 240 on the English Language Arts and/or Math MCAS tests are eligible to participate in the following Old Colony Programs:

- Title I Before School English Language Arts and Math Programs
- Summer English Language Arts, Math, and Science Programs
- Saturday English Language Arts, Math, and Science Programs