

2013-2014



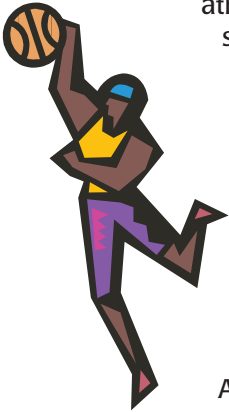
TIGERS

PARENT'S ATHLETIC GUIDE

Provided by Hattiesburg Public School District

The Hattiesburg Public School District's athletic program has approximately 500 student athletes. There are 18 competitive sports with over 40 teams for students in grades 7 through 12. The goal of the athletic program is to promote the physical, mental, social, emotional and moral well-being of the team members while providing educational athletic opportunities for as many young men and women as possible. Our athletic programs are an integral part of the holistic process of educating our students. In addition, we

also believe an important part of athletics is to encourage students to stay in school. Research shows that students involved in athletic activities are happier and less likely to drop out of school. Every year students gain athletic scholarships, which help them continue their education in college. The Hattiesburg Public School District is a member of the Mississippi High School Activities Association and abides by all rules



and regulations as set forth by its governing body.

Athletics are important in helping our students become well-rounded adults. Sportsmanship, commitment and leadership are but a few of the qualities that our young people learn through participation in athletic programs. Many times our athletes learn things on the field that carry over into their academic life as well, in areas such as mathematics, social sciences and physical sciences.

We are very proud of our young men and women student athletes, and the dedication they show each and every week. We hope that the things they learn through participating in our sports programs will help succeed throughout the rest of their life, both on and off the field. ■



Eligibility

- Students must attend the school in the zone in which they live in order to be considered eligible for athletics.
- Students must sit out one year from the date of enrollment when transferring to a school outside their zone.
- Middle School Students must pass five subjects a year. High school students must pass five Carnegie units toward graduation each year.
- Upon entering the 7th grade, students have two consecutive years for participation in middle school.

Upon enrollment in the 9th grade, students are eligible to participate in athletics for four consecutive years.

- Eligible high school students should not reach the age of 19 prior to August 1 of the beginning school year. Eligible middle school students should not reach the age of 15 prior to August 1 of the beginning school year.
- Change of legal guardian requires that a student athlete sit out one year. ■

NCAA Eligibility



The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) regulations regarding college freshman eligibility to receive athletically-related financial aid and to participate in athletics at any Division I and II college or university are as follows:

1. GPA

A minimum of 2.0 G.P.A. (on a 4.0 scale) in at least 16 core courses for students first entering any NCAA Division I college or university on or after August 1, 2008. *NCAA Division II requires 14 core courses, but will require 16 core courses beginning August 1, 2013.

2. CREDITS

For Division I Schools:

ENGLISH: 4 years of English

MATH: 3 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher)

SCIENCE: 2 years of natural/physical science (one must be lab-based)

SOCIAL SCIENCE: 2 years of Social Science

Additional Credit 4 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).

1 year of additional English, mathematics, or natural/physical science

For Division II Schools:

ENGLISH: 3 years of English

MATH: 2 years of mathematics (Algebra I or higher)

SCIENCE: 2 years of natural/physical science (one must be lab-based)

SOCIAL SCIENCE: 2 years of Social Science



Additional Credit 3 years of additional courses (from any area above, foreign language or comparative religion/philosophy).

2 years of additional English, mathematics, or natural/physical science.

3. ACT & SAT

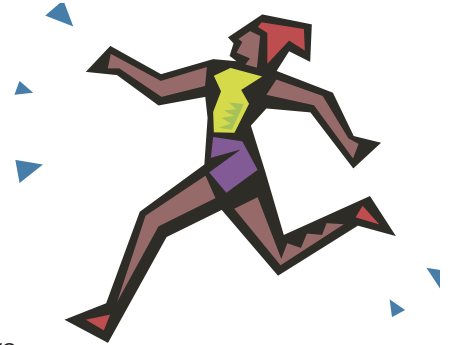
Division I has a sliding scale for SAT and ACT test scores and uses the grade point average of only NCAA approved core courses.

Division II has a minimum SAT score

requirement of 820 (based on Critical Reading and Math sections only) or a minimum ACT sum score of 68 (based on the sum of sub-scores in the English, Math, Reading, and Science sections from a test taken on a National Test date).

All SAT and ACT scores must be reported directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center by the testing agency. When registering for the SAT or ACT, use the Eligibility Center code of 9999 to make sure the score is reported to the Eligibility Center. For more information regarding criteria or approved core courses, please visit the www.ncaa.org website, call NCAA Eligibility Center: Toll-free number (877-262-1492), or make an appointment with your grade-level guidance counselor.

*For the most up-to-date requirements, refer to the **Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete** at the **NCAA's Eligibility Center** web site. ■



Insurance

The athletic fee for each sport will help offset the rising costs associated with athletics, as well as to provide additional medical coverage for student athletes.

Fees **MUST** be paid to be eligible to participate in all sports contests. All athletic fees must be submitted to the appropriate coach for each sport. This will be part of the eligibility process and all paperwork and payments must be submitted in order for the athlete to be declared eligible to play that specific sport for

the season. Athletes who play multiple sports must pay the fee for each sport. The athletic fee will be due once the tryout process is complete, but prior to any sporting contest.

SPORTS FEES PER SPORT:

- Football – \$50.00
- Baseball, Basketball, Cheerleader, and Soccer – \$25.00
- All Other Sports – \$15.00 ■

Sportsmanship

Hattiesburg Public Schools expects each coach, athlete and fan to represent his or her school with the very best sportsmanship. The Mississippi High School Activities Association has stringent rules against unsportsmanlike behavior for all involved in athletic contests. Remember that school athletics are learning experiences for students and that mistakes are sometimes made. Praise student athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes and as people.

- Know that a ticket is a privilege to attend, not a license to verbally degrade others.
- Eliminate all types of baiting and taunting from sports activities. Behavior like angry finger pointing, "pistol shooting," obscene gestures and racially derogatory comments must be avoided and must be penalized consistently when they occur.
- Realize that spectators represent the school just as members of the team do.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups. Treat them as you would treat a guest in your own home.
- Use only those cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.
- Give participants (including cheerleaders) the right to compete in an atmosphere without boos and derisive comments.
- Learn the rules of the game so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
- Respect the judgment and integrity of officials, realizing that their decisions are based upon game conditions as they see them. They are doing their best to help promote student athletes. Respect their willingness to participate in full view of the public.
- Refrain from the use of any controlled substance (alcohol, drugs, etc.) before and during games and afterwards on or near the site of the event.
- Recognize that good sportsmanship is more important than victory, and demonstrate that by applauding the good play of either team.
- Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.
- Schools and coaches may be fined or put on probation for misbehavior before, during and after an athletic contest.
- Schools may be, and have been, reprimanded or put on probation when their fans become unruly or incite behavior deemed to be unsportsmanlike. Also, fans may be banned from attending athletic events for unsportsmanlike behavior. ■

Drug Screening Policy

All students in grades 9-12 participating in extracurricular activities will be subject to random screening for illegal drug use. Extracurricular activities include all athletic programs, cheerleaders, band (all areas) and any program or group that represents students involved in competition and/or after-school-related activities. Students involved in extracurricular activities and parent(s)/legal guardian(s) will be made aware of the drug testing process and the steps/consequences if a student tests positive. Every precaution will be taken to assure and maintain accuracy and confidentiality of the test results, including the maintenance of a documented chain of specimen custody to insure the identity and integrity of the sample throughout the collection and testing process.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the Drug Screening Program is to aid and assist students involved in extracurricular activities. It is not intended to unduly interfere with the students' private lives or to bring hardship, but rather to protect the students' well being and that of others who are associated with extracurricular activities in the Hattiesburg Public School District. Specific goals of the program are as follows:

1. To educate students concerning the dangers and problems associated with drug use/abuse.
2. To prevent drug use/abuse by students of the Hattiesburg Public School District.
3. To identify any student involved in extracurricular activities that may be using/abusing drugs and to determine the identity of the drug(s).
4. To educate any students who may be using/abusing drugs as to the possible effect it may have, both physically and mentally, and the possible adverse effect on the team and its members.
5. To provide opportunities for treatment and counseling rehabilitation for any student involved in extracurricular activities that is determined to be using/abusing drugs.
6. To provide reasonable safeguards that every student involved in extracurricular activities in the Hattiesburg Public School District is physically competent to participate in interscholastic sports and/or any other extracurricular activity such as band, chorus, drama, forensics and show choir.
7. To encourage discussion (with qualified counseling) about any questions students may have, either specifically or generally, concerning the use of drugs.
8. To remove the stigma of drug use/abuse from those students involved in extracurricular activities that do not use/abuse drugs.

(continued on page 4)

Drug Screening Policy

(continued from page 3)

The Athletic Director, coaches and sponsors of extracurricular activities such as the band program, cheerleaders, etc., along with the Board of Education and the administration, strongly believe that the use and abuse of drugs (excluding those prescribed by a physician to treat specific medical problems) can:

1. Be detrimental to the physical and mental health of its students;
2. Seriously interfere with the performance of individuals as students and as participants in extracurricular activities;
3. Be extremely dangerous to the student and other student participants, particularly with regards to the participation in competition or practice; and
4. Create an unfair and damaging stigma for those students who do not use and abuse drugs.
Because of the genuine concern for each student

participating in interscholastic sports/extracurricular activities in the Hattiesburg Public School District and the student's well-being, as well as the obligation to assure that all extracurricular activities are operated in the best interest of all who participate, the Hattiesburg Public School District has implemented this Policy of drug screening, and counseling/rehabilitation to assist and benefit all students involved in extracurricular activities since July 15, 2006. Specifics and permission forms will be provided at registration and throughout the year along with extracurricular activity participation. ■

Questions, concerns, comments or other inquiries should be directed to:

HPSD Athletics Office
701 Stadium Drive
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
(601) 582-4366

HPSD Athletic Programs & Head Coaches



Fall Sports

Football

Tony Vance

Cross Country

Charles Green (girls)
Kevin Daniels (boys)

Volleyball

Tiffany Davis

Swimming

Erika Miller

Slow-pitch Softball

Charles Easley

Cheerleading

Shalanda Kirksey

Winter Sports

Basketball

Caronica Debose-Jackson (girls)
Ernie Watson (boys)

Soccer

Jonathan Rawls (girls)
Jason Harr (boys)

Indoor Track

Charles Green (girls)
Kevin Daniels (boys)

Powerlifting

Stephen Jordan

Spring Sports

Baseball

Joe Hartfield

Track & Field

Charles Green (girls)
Earnest Evans (boys)

Archery

Quin Dungy (girls)
Michael Eubanks (boys)

Bowling

Earnest Evans

Fast-pitch Softball

Lauren Smith

Tennis – Erika Miller

Golf – John Seymore

HATTIESBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Marcus Cathey, *President*
Mary Williams, *Secretary*
Stella Mackabee
David Garraway
Ann Chapman

James Q. Bacchus,
Superintendent

HPSD GOALS

1. **Academic Achievement:** Every child is supported and nurtured with a systemic process to reach their full potential.
2. **Parent and Community Engagement:** School, parents and the community function as a team to support a learning community.

3. **Safe and Orderly Schools:** Maintain a learning environment that is conducive to high performing schools.
4. **Accountability:** Employ effective and efficient accountability systems that evaluate the academic, operational and fiscal performance of the school district.