

ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY

Athletics are an integral part of the educational process of Comstock Park Public Schools. If our athletic program is to be successful, it must encourage individual fitness, develop a knowledge and appreciation of sports, teach athletic skills and cultivate a competitive nature with good sportsmanship. To this end, the athletic program is designed to stress that:

The student-athlete learns the value of teamwork, self-discipline, hard work and personal sacrifice, all of which prepare the student-athlete for success in a democratic society.

The student-athlete learns in a positive manner to cope with the competitive nature of society. The student-athlete learns the value of success, realizing that s/he will not always win, but s/he can succeed when they continually strive to improve.

The student-athlete learns to be a good sport. Through participation in athletics, the student-athlete must develop emotional control, honesty and cooperativeness and learn to be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.

The student-athlete learns the importance of having a sound physical body. To enjoy life and to be a contributing citizen, one must develop good health habits and must maintain a high degree of physical fitness.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

Comstock Park follows the guidelines established by the Comstock Park Board of Education and the M.H.S.A.A.

Previous Semester Record: In order to maintain academic eligibility for the current semester, the student must earn credit in five (5) out of six (6) classes or six (6) out of seven (7) classes (depending on student-athletes schedule) at the end of the semester. Failure to meet this requirement will render the student-athlete to be ineligible to participate on any athletic team for one full semester.

Athletic eligibility may be reinstated at the discretion of the Athletic Director once credit has been earned.

Current Semester Record: Powerschool will be used to check eligibility weekly. Eligibility is cumulative from the first day of each semester to the last day of each semester. The following criteria will determine eligibility:

- Student-athletes with any failing (E) grades
 - Student-athletes with more than two D's
- Student-athletes who do not meet the above criteria will be declared ineligible for a minimum of one (1) week (Monday through Sunday). If at the end of the first week, the ineligible student-athlete passes the previous failing class and or does not have more than two D's, he/she will be deemed eligible by the Athletic Director.

AGE

A student who competes in any interscholastic athletic contests must be under nineteen (19) years of age, except that a student whose nineteenth (19th) birthday occurs on or after September 1 of a current school year is eligible for the balance of that school year.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

Students will not be eligible to represent/participate if a current physical is not on file in the offices of the superintendent or principal or athletic director. A current physical is interpreted as any physical examination given on or after April 15 of the previous school year.

Panther Pride



PLAYING TIME PHILOSOPHY

Comstock Park Public Schools is committed to offering an athletic program that will benefit our students in many ways throughout their careers and into life. This program should be an extension of the classroom. Consequently, we have developed a philosophy for team sports playing time that will best enhance our athletic program and service our students athletes simultaneously.

Developmental Stage—Middle School: The Middle school athletic program addresses the unique needs of our students. Our approach to athletics is less competitive and opportunities to participate are expanded in recognition of the physical, mental and social changes Middle School students experience. In order to encourage and enhance student participation in the Middle School athletic program, the program provides for the following:

- Coaches are encouraged to play all team members in each contest.
- Many sports have modified rules which allows for more individual participation.
- Participation in practices during vacation periods is voluntary.
- League standings are not maintained and team championships and all-scholastic honors are not awarded.

Post Developmental Stage—9th/JV: The sub-varsity program functions as a transition between the developmental and varsity stage. Coaches should balance student-athlete participation with the success of the team in this stage. Fundamentals in practice and sportsmanship are still goals for all participants. During games, personnel strategies can be made by the coaches to aid the success of the entire team. However, every effort should be made to provide as much playing time to all participants as possible

Varsity Stage—Varsity: The success of the team is the main goal at this stage. Student-athletes should learn that in varsity athletics all participants are working together for the good of the TEAM. This is a lifetime skill. Game participation is handled exclusively by the coaching staff and although playing time will be provided for as many student-athletes as possible, the success of the TEAM will be paramount. Coaches should stress to all participants that each is an important contributor to the team in many ways, but playing time cannot be afforded equally to all. Maximum student-athlete game participation is stressed but not mandated at this level.

- Practices are often scheduled on weekends and during vacation periods. Athletes are required to participate in all practices/contests unless excused by the coach.
- Excessive unexcused absences will result in disciplinary action, which might include dismissal from the team.
- TEAM selection is based on ability and “cuts” are made at the discretion of the coach.
- “Playing Time” is based on ability, attitude, effort and substitutions are made at the discretion of the coach.

“Team work is the ability to work to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.”

- Author Unknown



Comstock Park Public Schools TEAM

ATHLETIC STAFF

Student Services	Chris Sposaro
Assistant Principal	Tony Petkus

PRINCIPALS

High School	Steve Gough
Middle School	Gus Harju

SUPERINTENDENT

Ethan Ebenstein

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Terry Benjamin
 Michael Brown
 Denise Clement
 Thomas Egeler
 Kevin McLellan
 Christy Nowak
 Ted Spangenberg

COMSTOCK PARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS



2015-2016

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

“IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE”