

Cherokee Christian Schools



Parent-Athlete Manual

2014/2015

Cherokee Christian Schools admit students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities made available to students of the schools. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational and admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS.....	4
1.1	Educational Goals.....	4
1.2	Godly Character	4
1.3	Biblical Values	4
2.0	PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS.....	5
2.1	Cherokee Christian Academy Sports Program (Recreational)	5
2.2	Cherokee Christian Academy Sports Program (Middle School)	5
2.3	Cherokee Christian High School Sports Program (Junior Varsity)	5
2.4	Cherokee Christian High School Sports Program (Varsity)	6
3.0	ATHLETIC PERSONNEL.....	7
3.1	Chain of Command.....	7
3.2	Duties of the Athletic Coordinator.....	7
3.3	Duties of the Coach and Assistant:	8
3.4	Head Coaches for 2014-2015.....	8
4.0	ATHLETIC FACILITIES.....	9
4.1	Indoor Facilities	9
4.2	Outdoor Facilities	9
4.3	General Facility Policies.....	9
4.4	Provisions for Study Time or Weight Room.....	10
4.5	Building Rules for Home Volleyball and Basketball Games	10
5.0	ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT.....	11
5.1	Uniforms.....	11
6.0	HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ATHLETES.....	12
6.1	General Procedures.....	12
6.2	Athletic Team Dismissal Guidelines	12
6.3	Transportation to Competition	12
7.0	STANDARDS OF ELIGIBILITY.....	14
7.1	Student Eligibility	14

7.2 Academic Eligibility 14

7.3 Sportsmanship/Discipline 16

8.0 ATHLETIC AWARDS.....17

8.1 Sports Banquet..... 17

8.2 Sports Awards 17

8.3 Varsity Letters, Pins, and Letter Jackets..... 17

9.0 SPECIAL PROVISIONS.....18

9.1 Quitting 18

9.2 Hoodies 18

9.3 Away Game Locations 18

9.4 Growth Care 18

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 3-1. Athletic Department Chain of Command 8

1.0 PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS

Sports are an extra-curricular activity that support the educational system and is intended to honor and glorify God. Sports are a tool that influences the student to conform to the image of God in character and action. During an athletic contest the player's testimony becomes transparent; therefore, sports need to provide the player with Biblical principles that equip him/her to be a testimony for the Lord Jesus Christ. Principles are taught that reinforce a balance between physical and spiritual victories. Students strive to win on the scoreboard by doing their best. This is accomplished through the players developing their God-given abilities.

1.1 Educational Goals

- Academic eligibility requires the player to put academics as a priority.
- Players are required to learn the rules of the game and play fairly by those rules.
- Players are to learn the skills of the game, and they are to become highly skilled in them.

1.2 Godly Character

- **Love** – Athletes are provided the opportunity to develop their own skills while also placing the good of the team before their own personal gain. (1 Corinthians 13:3, Philippians 2:4)
- **Humility** – Players glorify God by acknowledging that He alone has given them the skill and ability to win the competition or has allowed the loss. (Galatians 6:14, James 4:6)
- **Endurance** – Training and competition provides times of testing in which an athlete can learn that through perseverance God brings great reward and personal growth. (Galatians 6:9)
- **Wisdom** – Using God's frame of thinking, the player learns how to respond in various situations. (James 1:5, Proverbs 9:10)

1.3 Biblical Values

- **Obedience** – The player learns obedience by responding to officials and coaches as God appointed authorities. (Romans 13:1)
- **Faith** – Faith is learned by the players, when they recognize that God teaches them lessons through winning and losing on the scoreboard. (Hebrews 11:1-5)
- **Diligence** – The player strives to do his best to win, but he does not forfeit his testimony in winning. (Proverbs 12:27, Colossians 3:23)
- **Motive** – The player is directed by Christian values that transcend earthly materialistic gain. (1 Corinthians 9:24-27)

2.0 PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

2.1 Cherokee Christian Academy Sports Program (Recreational)

- Students in grades K to 5th grade may participate in this area of athletics.
- There will be no more than one practice per week and one game per week for recreational sports.
- This program will emphasize fundamental skill development and instruction in the basic rules of play.
- Teams are formed based on skill level and grade level in order to increase each participant's coach/player interaction. All players will receive playing time during each game and practice.
- Practice times will be limited to one hour and will consist of fundamental drills, basic conditioning, and introduction to game situations. Games times will be limited to one hour and will be played as per the weekly schedule. Games will be played in the CCS gym or on the CCS soccer field.

2.2 Cherokee Christian Academy Sports Program (Middle School)

- Students in grades 6th to 8th may participate in this area of athletics. MS teams will be formed based on participation levels.
- For the benefit of the player and team, some athletes may be invited to compete on both the MS and JV squads. In this case, game time will be limited for the protection of the athlete.
- This program will emphasize a whole team effort toward winning games. It is important to note that a spot on the team does not guarantee equal playing time. The Middle School athletics is a play to win program in accordance with the school Philosophy of Athletics.
- Practice times will vary per sport and will be determined by the coach. Practice times will be limited to a maximum of two hours.
- Games will be played as per the schedule with MS games generally playing first in the evening schedule.

2.3 Cherokee Christian High School Sports Program (Junior Varsity)

- Students in grades 9th and 10th may participate in this area of athletics.
- If room is available, 8th graders may be able to compete on the JV teams.
- For the benefit of the player and team, some athletes may be invited to compete on both the JV and Varsity squads. In this case, game time will be limited for the protection of the athlete.
- This program will emphasize a whole team effort toward winning games. It is important to note that a spot on the team does not guarantee equal playing time. The High School athletics is a play to win program in accordance with the school Philosophy of Athletics.
- Practice times will vary per sport and will be determined by the coach. Practice times will be limited to a maximum of three hours.

- Games will be played as per the schedule with JV games generally playing second in the evening schedule.

2.4 Cherokee Christian High School Sports Program (Varsity)

- The teams will consist of 7-12 players for basketball, 8-12 players for volleyball, and 11-15 players for soccer. Golf limits will be determined by the coach.
- The team will consist of 10th-12th grade students. For the benefit of the player and team, some athletes may be invited to compete on both the JV and Varsity squads. In this case, game time will be limited for the protection of the athlete.
- This program will emphasize a whole team effort toward winning games. It is important to note that all players will not receive equal playing time.
- There will be no more than five practices a week.
- The team will be under the direction of the head coach.

3.0 ATHLETIC PERSONNEL

3.1 Chain of Command

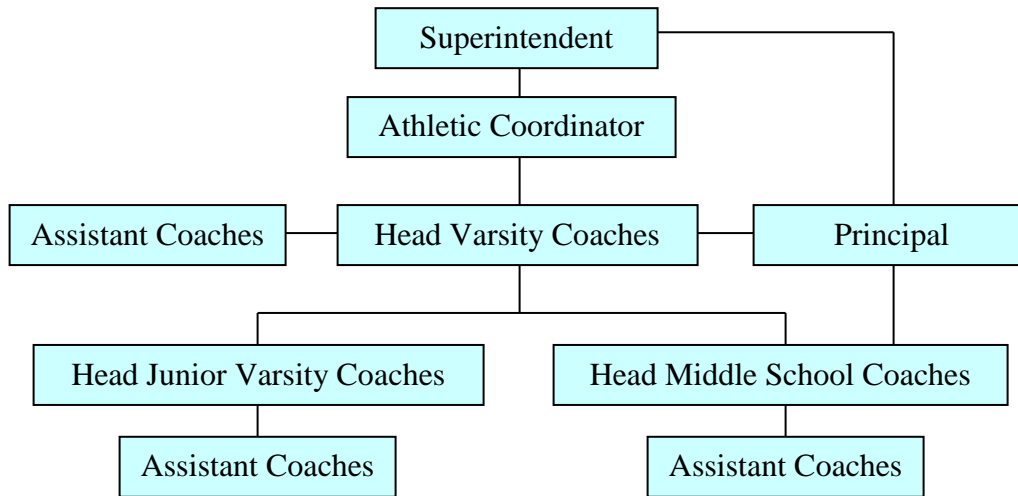


Figure 3-1. Athletic Department Chain of Command

3.2 Duties of the Athletic Coordinator

- Seek to have a spiritual influence with assistants and players.
- General oversight of the entire school's sport program.
- Maintain and detailed and comprehensive budget.
- Approval of necessary sport equipment.
- Avoid conflict with schedules.
- Supervise personnel under him. (Consult chain of command diagram.)
- Keep all personnel informed of programs and changes within the program.
- Assign all coaching responsibilities.
- Special game arrangements:
 - Make out team schedules and contracts.
 - Work with coaches to provide for travel to away games.
 - Work with the CCS Booster Club to see that concessions are sold at each game and assign needed personnel such as concession workers, gatekeepers, and announcers.
 - Schedule officials for all home events.
 - See to the condition of the stadium, bleachers, and gymnasium.
 - See that the public address system is working properly and turned on.
 - Provide for health and safety of players.
 - Care for and maintain athletic equipment.
 - Keep adequate records.

3.3 Duties of the Coach and Assistant:

- Seek to teach Christian attitudes and school spirit through a spiritual influence with each team member.
- Mastery in the principles of improving his teaching and coaching.
- Complement the educational system.
- Be a competent teacher.
- Be concerned with the entire athletic department and not merely his own sport.
- Respect and follow the chain of command.
- Interact appropriately with the public.
- Read and be able to explain the updated rules handbook of his particular sport.
- Insist upon high scholarship and enforce the rules of eligibility.
- Provide careful attention to the physical condition of players at the time of each contest.
- Be fair and have an unprejudiced relationship with the students.
- Teach athletes to win by use of legitimate means only.
- Exercise proper discipline over the players.
- Aid and support the Athletic Coordinator in performing all duties.
- Issue uniforms through sign out procedures, and see that uniforms and equipment are returned in good condition.
- Assistants will be under the direction of the head coach in all sports.

3.4 Head Coaches for 2014-2015

Ladies Varsity Soccer	Dale Crowell
Ladies Middle School Soccer	Andy McCann
Men's Varsity Soccer	Travis Hanenburg
Men's Middle School Soccer	Andy McCann
Ladies Varsity Volleyball	Dale Crowell
Ladies Middle School Volleyball	TBD
Ladies Varsity Basketball	Dale Crowell
Ladies Middle School Basketball	Sean Jerguson
Men's High School Basketball	Dale Crowell
Men's Middle School Basketball	Ben Peacock
MS Baseball	Rick Atkinson
Golf	TBD

4.0 ATHLETIC FACILITIES

We are thankful for the fine facilities that the Lord has given to us. Through the past years these facilities have grown and are continuously being upgraded and maintained. It is necessary to keep these facilities in proper condition for longer service to our ministry. Therefore, we ask all who use these facilities to help keep them clean. The following will give a description of the facilities and some guidelines to follow in the use of them.

4.1 Indoor Facilities

- Gymnasium
- Weight Room
- Athletic Program Storage
- Physical Education Storage
- Athletic Office

4.2 Outdoor Facilities

- Multi-purpose field behind the school

4.3 General Facility Policies

- There are to be no street shoes worn while playing on the gymnasium floor. (Black sole, dock-siders, etc.) Supportive athletic shoes with adequate traction are recommended for safety and optimum performance.
- Dress Standards – Guidelines for athletic practice attire and PE classes should reflect a desire for modesty and safety in all areas. All attire must meet the school uniform guidelines for length, fit, style, and design. All jewelry must be removed.
- After using the gym one must give it a general cleaning. The gym and restrooms should be cleared of clothing and debris, and lights turned off.
- No student is permitted to use the weight room unless he is under direct supervision of coaching personnel. Exception is made for high school students if they have a working partner.
- Students are not permitted into either the athletic or physical education storage rooms unless approved by coaching personnel.
- No student is allowed to play in the gymnasium during school or after school hours unless approved by the Athletic Coordinator.
- All personnel should be aware of unsafe conditions of the facilities. Health and safety are of primary concern.
- No students are to take food or drink from the kitchen, refrigerators or freezers.

4.4 Provisions for Study Time or Weight Room

- High School students may use the fitness room for 45 minutes before the scheduled team practice time or use the tech lab for homework without supervision. The privilege will be removed if abused in any way.
- Junior Varsity athletes will be permitted to use the tech lab for homework from 3:20 until their practice time with parental supervision.

4.5 Building Rules for Home Volleyball and Basketball Games

- Visiting teams are encouraged to change before they arrive, otherwise teams will change in the gymnasium area restroom and meet in an assigned location.
- CCS teams will change in the middle school wing and use a classroom for their meeting.
- No cheerleading practice in the lobby. They may use the far end of the gym to practice and warm up.
- All music must be pre-approved by the Athletic Coordinator.
- Concessions, gate, timekeeping, and scorekeeping: For the 2014-2015 volleyball and basketball seasons parents will handle the scheduling and coverage for all games.
- Admission fees are \$5 for adults and \$3 for non-CCS students. CCS students and children under age 5 are free.

5.0 ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT

5.1 Uniforms

- Uniforms will be distributed to the team after tryouts are completed. Each player is responsible to take proper care of the issued uniform. Players will sign statements requiring them to be financially responsible if uniforms are lost, damaged, or not returned by specified times.
- Uniforms must be cleaned and returned to the coach or a designated location, in good condition, within two weeks of the season's end. Parents will be charged at a rate of \$75 per home or away set for any lost, missing or damaged uniforms.
- Report cards will be held until the issue is resolved for any students failing to return their uniform or pay the lost uniform fee.

6.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ATHLETES

6.1 General Procedures

- Sports Physicals - Prior to the start of each school year, students shall be required to undergo a medical examination and furnish a statement signed by a medical authority, which provides clearance for athletic participation. All required forms are available on the Athletics page of the website.
- Parental Consent and Liability Waiver - Prior to the start of each school year, students shall furnish a statement signed by the student's parents granting permission for the student to participate in interscholastic athletics as well as acknowledging assumed risk of injury in athletic participation.
- Physical exams and consent forms are to be completed before practicing in any interscholastic sport.
- No official practice may be conducted without authorized personnel present.

6.2 Athletic Team Dismissal Guidelines

- Home Games - Team members will change into athletic uniforms and meet for games at a time and place designated by the coaches.
- Away Games – In the event that team members need to be dismissed early from classes (Early Release), athletes are responsible for missed classwork and should get class assignments for those classes in advance (per the Student Handbook).
 1. At the appointed time, athletes will change into their athletic uniforms and go directly to the gym taking all belongings in preparation to leave directly from the gym.
 2. In some cases, the team may change into athletic uniforms upon arrival at their destination; therefore, team members should stay in their school uniforms for the trip to the game.
 3. Unless otherwise arranged by the coach, teams will depart from the rear gym exit - not through the front lobby or High School wing. Once the team is ready to leave, the coach or parent representative will dismiss the team to the bus or assigned cars.
 4. Departing team members should not be disruptive, change into non-uniform clothes or congregate in the front lobby, halls, bathrooms, Tech Room, or parking lots.

6.3 Transportation to Competition

- If the CCS bus is being used, all team members must ride the bus. Only team members, coaches and trainers will be allowed to ride the bus.
- When teams are not using the CCS bus, the coach will complete a roster of team members traveling to the game and designate which driver each member is riding with.

- Players must travel with the team to and from away games unless a parent gives written permission to the coach in advance for other means of travel.
- Players may not drive themselves to team events. A parent or other designated adult approved by the coaching personnel must drive.
- All approved drivers must have a Driver Authorization form, a copy of driver's license, and proof of insurance on file in the school office.
- No team member may ride with anyone without specific authorization from the coach at the time of departure. Team members may ride with other team members with the approval of the coach. Parental permission is required **in writing** prior to approval of such arrangements.
- Even if riding with their own parent, team members must inform the coach before departing. In this way, all team members, coaches and student trainers will be accounted for.
- Since teams will depart from the rear of the gym, all authorized drivers should park in the back CCS parking lot by the gym.
- Everyone who drives team members to a game is responsible for making sure their passengers have a ride back to school or home. Athletes may depart a game with another authorized driver, but those who drove to the game should not assume that someone they took will get a ride back.
- Any questions regarding these guidelines should be directed to the Cherokee Christian Schools Athletic Coordinator.

7.0 STANDARDS OF ELIGIBILITY

7.1 Student Eligibility

- CCS STUDENTS - A student who is a full-time student in grades 6 through 12 are eligible to participate in Cherokee Christian School athletic programs. Students in 5th grade will be eligible to participate in certain cases if it becomes apparent that participation is necessary to field a team in a particular sport.
- NON-CCS STUDENTS – On a case-by-case basis, with the approval of the administration, non-CCS players will be granted permission to participate in Cherokee Christian School Athletic Programs for a \$125 participation fee if it becomes apparent that this participation is necessary to field a team.
 - All non-CCS players must be enrolled in a local school or home school program and will be required to furnish a copy of their report card from the previous school year and throughout the season to ensure academic eligibility.
 - All non-CCS players will be held to the same high standard of excellence in academics, moral character and personal conduct as all CCS athletes.
 - The administration reserves the right to revoke the athletic participation of any non-CCS student.
- A student who is an amateur.
- A student who is not a graduate of a high school or its equivalent.
- A student who has not signed any professional athletic contract.
- A student who has not received any expenses to any professional try-out.
- A player that is called for unsportsmanlike conduct will be benched temporarily. If the offense is deemed extreme, the player may be suspended or expelled from the team.
- Age Limitation
 - Varsity teams – Students in 9th-12th grade, reserving the option to invite 8th grade students for the mutual benefit of athlete and team.
 - Junior Varsity teams – Students in 9th-10th grade, reserving the option to invite 7th or 8th grade students for the mutual benefit of athlete and team.
 - Middle School teams – Students in 6th-8th grade, reserving the option to invite 5th grade students for the mutual benefit of athlete and team.
 - Recreational Sports Programs – All students grades K-5th grade.

7.2 Academic Eligibility

All students who participate in extra-curricular athletics are first and foremost **student** athletes. Maintaining academic excellence is required and expected of all Cherokee Christian students.

When a student falls below the academic requirements, coaches will be notified and the student will be ineligible to participate in any athletic competition or performance until the next athletic eligibility checkpoint at which time eligibility will be restored if the student's grades are not in one of the categories listed below. Ineligible students will *not* be allowed to dress out for games, travel with the Cherokee Christian Schools

team to away games, or be dismissed early from classes. Ineligible students may be allowed to continue to attend practices, at the discretion of the coach or Athletic Coordinator.

Ineligible students will *not* have eligibility reinstated before the next eligibility checkpoint, unless the grades are changed as a result of a mistake on the part of the teacher. Academic grades received during the fourth quarter (spring) will determine athletic eligibility for the next year's fall sports. If students are having difficulty in a subject, they will be encouraged to seek extra help or tutoring.

A student will lose athletic eligibility if he/she falls into *either one* of these categories:

High School (based on the quarterly report card grades)

- If the student's grade average is less than 70 in the five core subjects (Bible, math, science, history, and English), he/she is ineligible.
- If the student fails one class in any subject.

For High School students, eligibility checkpoints occur approximately every 3 weeks. Students declared ineligible in the fourth quarter (or second semester) have the option to regain eligibility for the fall by participating in a course recovery program for which the following guidelines apply:

- Approval must be secured from the principal.
- Only the course(s) receiving failing grades may be made up in summer school.
- Students whose grade average is below 70, but did not fail two or more classes, must contact the principal for course selection.
- The summer school course must be the same in content, and must be taken online through Sevenstar Academy. Regular home school work will **not** be counted for this reinstatement of eligibility.
- The final summer school grade will be averaged with the 4th quarter grade or semester grade (whichever is appropriate), for the purposes of eligibility only. (Both grades will be recorded on permanent transcripts.)
- The recomputed 4th quarter grade average must still be 70 or above for eligibility.

Middle School (based on mid-quarter and quarterly grades)

The initial eligibility checkpoint occurs 6 weeks into the first quarter. Additional checkpoints occur approximately every 3 weeks thereafter. If the student's grade average is less than 70 in the five core subjects (Bible, math, science, history, and English), or the student is failing a single core subject, then he/she will be declared ineligible until the next checkpoint.

Early Release Requirements

Athletes who leave school early for competition are responsible for contacting, in advance, the teachers whose classes they will miss, and making arrangements for missed work. All assignments are to be turned in before the students leave school. Tests are to be taken no later than the next

school day, unless other arrangements have been made with the teacher ***ahead of time***. It is not the teacher's responsibility to go to the student athlete, either to arrange make-up work or to collect assignments; it is the student athlete's responsibility to initiate these arrangements.

Attendance

- Any student that has an unexcused absence from a practice or game may be suspended or expelled from the team.
- Any student that is excused from physical education will not be allowed to participate in the day's inter-scholastic contest.
- Students arriving to school late or leaving school early may not participate in any athletic activity that day if they have missed four or more full class periods. Seniors who do not have a full day of classes must be present for at least half of their classes.
- Students absent from school the entire day will not be allowed to participate in the day's inter-scholastic contest unless absence was due to a school sanctioned field trip/event.

7.3 Sportsmanship/Discipline

Our mission is to enrich the mental, physical and emotional well-being of all student athletes by providing competitive opportunities in which the lifelong values of sportsmanship, individual effort, teamwork, integrity and commitment are emphasized. Parents, coaches and athletes are expected to demonstrate the highest standard of Christian principles and sportsmanship at all times. Our behavior should reflect a positive Christian testimony on the field, floor or in the stands.

- Respect must be shown to coaches, teammates, parents, officials, other teams and fans at all times.
- The following will not be tolerated by any student: theft, profanity, any use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco. Any violation of this policy may impact the student athlete's participation in any sport.

8.0 ATHLETIC AWARDS

8.1 Sports Banquet

The Sports Banquet is a time of celebration and reflection of all that the Lord has taught and provided throughout the school year with our athletic teams. During the ceremony, coaches from each sport will present the Christian Character Award, Most Valuable Player, and Most Improved Player as well as present varsity letters to eligible players.

8.2 Sports Awards

Christian Character Award: The Christian Character Award is an honor bestowed upon one exceptional participant, who by the coach's judgment consistently exemplified Christian character in athletics and in his daily walk throughout the season. (Ephesians 5:1).

Most Valuable Player: The Most Valuable Player Award is an honor bestowed upon one outstanding athlete, who by the coach's judgment made the most significant contribution to the team during competition. (Ecclesiastes 9:10)

Most Improved Award: The Most Improved Award is an honor bestowed upon the athlete, who in the coach's judgment, achieved the most significant improvement overall. Cooperation, attitude, effort, and teachability are essential for a player to receive this award. (Hebrews 12:11-12)

8.3 Varsity Letters, Pins, and Letter Jackets

- Any athlete who participates in more than one half of all varsity competitions while maintaining all standards of eligibility will be awarded a varsity letter.
- The letter will be awarded to the athlete by the coach of the qualifying sport at the sports banquet. Each athlete will only receive one varsity letter during their athletic career at CCHS.
- A sport specific pin will be presented to the athlete for each additional varsity sport in which they have participated in all subsequent seasons and may be displayed on the CCHS letter jacket in addition to the varsity letter.
- CCHS letter jackets are reserved for varsity athletes that have lettered in a sport and are available for purchase through the Athletic Coordinator.
- Non-CCHS athletes will receive a varsity letter and may purchase a CCHS letter jacket provided that all student and academic standards of eligibility have been successfully met.

9.0 SPECIAL PROVISIONS

9.1 Quitting

- A student will not be permitted to quit any team without a parent/coach conference.
- A student that quits any team will not be permitted to play his/her next acquired sport.
- A student that quits a sport will not qualify for a letter in the sport.
- Should it be determined that it is in the best interest of the student to no longer participate on the team, the coach must forward the student's name and specific circumstance to the Athletic Coordinator for documentation.

9.2 Hoodies

Athletes have the option of purchasing an Athletic Team hoodie through the Athletic Coordinator once the team roster has been announced. Gray Athletic Team hoodies may be worn by current MS/HS athletes every day.

9.3 Away Game Locations

Directions to away game locations are available on our website at www.cherokeechristian.org under Athletics. Please remember that some games may not be played at the host school's facility. Coaches will notify individual teams of alternate locations. Many schools charge admission for volleyball and basketball games. Generally the fees are between \$2.00 and \$5.00 per person.

9.4 Growth Care

The middle school sports program is an asset to CCS and we want to make it as easy as possible for your children to participate in the athletic program. All elementary and middle school students must be supervised during school hours of 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Only high school students have the privilege to be unsupervised.

GrowthCare is designed to help parents coordinate the pick-up of their children. If you have an Athlete and you are unable to arrive after school and come back to drop off for practices or for games, GrowthCare is a valuable asset for you. Normal rates will apply.

- All middle school and elementary school athletes who stay after school are required to check into GrowthCare. They will be advised when to change into their uniforms and will be given ample time to get ready to meet their coach. If their games are late in the afternoon, they will be given time to do their homework.

All athletes must be picked up by the end of their game or practice; or arrangements must be made for them to ride home with a friend or to return to GrowthCare. School closes at 6:00 p.m. If the Athlete finishes before 6:00 p.m. and is not picked up at the end of their playing time, they will be placed back into GrowthCare. If not picked up by 6:00 p.m., a rate of \$1.00 per minute will be

charged in addition to incurred growth care fees. No child will be allowed to wait in the parking lot or in the lobby after 6:00 p.m. for a ride. If the Athletes practice or game ends after 6:00 p.m., that student must be picked-up when practice or game ends or arrangements made for an alternative ride home.