

ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY

An athletic philosophy is based upon a belief in Excellence in Athletics, Academics, the School and the Community.

The athletic program is an integral part of the total school educational program, more appropriately called Educational Athletics. The important point is for the Student/Athletes, the Coaches, Administrators and Community to realize the student/athletes are to be students first and athletes second.

The Educational Athletic Program must NOT be judged on wins and losses. Athletics is a privilege requiring an understanding of obligations and responsibilities to that end. ALL Vassar students, regardless of race, sex, abilities, etc., are invited to become involved in the Vassar Athletic Program, and will receive equal opportunity to participate in all programs. At the lower levels, especially Middle School, every attempt will be made to run a “No Cut” program. Each student/athlete will have the opportunity to improve through proper training—physically, psychologically and socially.

The Educational Athletic Program helps the student body to develop a meaning of school morale, leadership, good sportsmanship, and improvement of the quality of fair play and courtesy.

The community receives through the Educational Athletic Program, the opportunity to be involved and view the need to have athletics as an integral part of the school. To attain this philosophy, all administrators, coaches, student/athletes, family members and spectators must be positive role models in their attitudes, conduct, enthusiasm for the program and their sport, making the athletic experience an enjoyable and rewarding one for all involved. All members of the Athletic Program should always be striving to involve ALL of the student/athletes in every way possible in the Vassar Educational Athletic Program.

VASSAR PUBLIC SCHOOLS MISSION STATEMENT

The Vassar Public Schools will use the best practices to promote excellence for all students in a safe, dynamic and supportive environment.

Some best practices are timeless—being literate, being able to think critically, being able to reason mathematically, being aware of the past, and the current, being able to organize one’s time and effort, as well as learning to practice civility, courtesy, responsibility, fairness, and pride in one’s work are fundamentals that define success in every generation. Some best practices however are dependent on the future, and the needs of students far after they will leave the Vassar Public Schools.

Our schools, curriculum and programs will be focused on practices that teach and reinforce mastery of the timeless skills student will need as well as the skills that will help them succeed in *their* future.

VASSAR ATHLETIC GUIDELINES FOR ATHLETES

The athlete is an ambassador of the school at interscholastic athletic activities. In this important capacity, these standards should be practiced. Gross violation of these standards may result in a suspension from participation in the Vassar Athletic Program by the Vassar Public Schools Administration.

1. Know and adhere to the athletic code/policies of the school.
2. Exceed all attendance and academic requirements as practical evidence of loyalty to school and team and a proper philosophy of school sponsored athletics.
3. Observe completely, all policies regarding conduct, doing so as a duty to school, team and self.
4. Counsel with the athletic director over questions of eligibility.
5. Practice and play fairly, giving complete effort in all circumstances and credit in victory to teammates and opponents in defeat. **ALWAYS DISPLAY GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AND HUMILITY!!**
6. Accept favorable and unfavorable decisions, as well as victory and defeat, with equal grace. **AGAIN, GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AND HUMILITY!**
7. Demonstrate respect for opponents, peers, spectators, coaches, administrators and officials before, during and after contests.
8. Demonstrate self control and avoid physical or verbal abuse (any form of “taunting”) of team members, opponents, officials, spectators, peers, administrators, etc.
9. Students transferring in to Vassar Public Schools must meet MHSAA transfer rules. Refer to MHSAA.com for more details.

ATHLETICS OFFERED AT VASSAR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Middle School	High School
Cross Country	Cross Country
Volleyball	Volleyball
Football	Football
Sideline Cheer	Sideline Cheer
Boys/Girls Basketball	Boys/Girls Basketball
Wrestling	Wrestling
Competitive Cheer	Competitive Cheer
Track	Gymnastics
	Softball
	Baseball
	Track
	Golf

CHAIN OF COMMAND

If the student/athlete or the parent perceives a “problem” with the coach or on the team they are involved in, the proper “chain of command” to rectify the “problem” is as follows:

1. The Coach of the team participating on
2. The Head Coach of the program involved in
3. The Athletic Director
4. The Principal at the level they are involved in
5. The Superintendent
6. The Board of Education

Please follow this “chain of command” to alleviate any “problems” the athlete or parent may be seeing or experiencing.

PLEASE DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CONFRONT A COACH BEFORE OR AFTER PRACTICE OR AT AN EVENT. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. A **24 hour No Contact Period** is enforced! Coaches and parents need this time to cool down, meetings of this nature do not promote resolutions.

DISTRICT POLICY REVIEW PROCEDURE

The Extra-Curricular Review Board would serve as a “check and balance system” for cases of conflict or interpretation involving policy and procedure. The following members comprise the Review Board:

Permanent Members:

1. Superintendent
2. Board Member
3. Member of High School/Middle School Faculty

Members for Athletic Review:

1. President of Athletic Boosters/ or parent
2. Head Coach in season, but not current coach involved in activity
3. President of Student Council (High School Only)

Members for Non-Athletic Review

1. Extra-Curricular Advisor, but not currently involved in activity
2. President of the Student Council (High School Only)

The review request must be given to the Athletic Director/or Advisor in charge of the activity by the student.

RULES OF ELIGIBILITY

A. Enrollment: A student must be enrolled in the Middle School or Sr. High School by the fourth

Friday of each semester in which he/she would like to participate.

B. Age:

1. High School: A student must be under the age of 19 years, unless the 19th birthday occurs on or after September 1st of the current school year, in which case the student is eligible for the remainder of the school year. If age 19 is achieved before September 1st, the student is ineligible to participate on high school teams.

2. MIDDLE SCHOOL: A student in the 7th grade must be under the age of 14 years, unless the 14th birthday occurs on or after September 1st of the current school year. If age 14 is achieved before September 1st, the student is ineligible to participate on any 7th grade teams. A student in the 8th grade must be under the age of 15 years, unless the 15th birthday occurs on or after

September 1st of the current school year. If age 15 is achieved before September 1st the student is ineligible to participate on any 8th grade teams. An 8th grade student who will be 15 before September 1st may apply for “advanced eligibility” through the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA). If the “advanced eligibility” is granted, that student may then participate on the high school teams.

C. **PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS:** A student must have passed a physical examination by a physician and have a completed, signed physical card on file in the high school office and paid the VPS catastrophic insurance fee before the first day of participation.

D. **PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT FORM:** A student must have a signed consent form from this athletic handbook on file.

E. **SEMESTERS OF COMPETITION:**

1. **High School:** A student enrolled in grades 9-12 may compete in no more than four first and four second semester seasons of competition.

2. **Middle School:** A student enrolled in 7-8 may compete in more than two first and two second semester seasons of competition.

F. **SEMESTERS OF ENROLLMENT:**

1. **High School:** A student may not be enrolled in more than eight semesters in grades 9-12 to be eligible to participate in any athletics.

2. **Middle School:** A student may not be enrolled in more than four semesters in grades 7-8 to be eligible to participate in any athletics.

G. **TRANSFER STUDENTS:** Please consult with the Athletic Director to determine athletic eligibility status when transferring per MHSAA rules for high school students.

H. **AMATEUR STATUS:** A student may not accept money, gifts, or other valuables from any source for participating in athletics. Students may not have officiated for pay in interscholastic contests or signed any professional contracts.

I. **AWARDS:** Student athletes may not accept any awards for participation that exceed a value of 40.00.

J. **LIMITED TEAM MEMBERSHIP:** A student, who is a member of a Middle School or Sr. High School athletic Team, may not compete in any “non-school” sponsored event or tournament in the same sport during that season. This includes 3 on 3 basketball and other events.

K. **6TH GRADE PARTICIPATION:** 6th grade students are allowed to participate with 7th and/or 8th graders in individual sports (cross country, track, wrestling) per MHSAA. 6th grade students will be allowed to participate in MS team sports only if the 7th or 8th grade teams are below the following minimum numbers of student athletes when the sports season begins;

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 7/8 th Football (15) | 7 th Girls and Boys Basketball (8) |
| 7 th Volleyball (10) | 8 th Girls and Boys Basketball (8) |
| 8 th Volleyball (10) | |

In Volleyball and Basketball (7/8) students may be shifted from one team to the other to meet minimum participation numbers. Participation of 6th grade students on Middle School “team” sports must be approved by the Athletic Director prior to participation.

L. **ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY:** Minimum guidelines established for Extra Curricular Academic Eligibility for students within the Vassar School District.

Students wanting to participate with one or more of the various athletic teams the Vassar School District has to offer must meet the following academic requirements.

1. Student athletes will be evaluated every Tuesday by the teaching staff to determine the current academic grade the student has achieved in class to date.
2. Those students failing more than one class will be given a probationary week to get the grades up to passing. During the probationary week, the student will be allowed to participate in all team activities. This probationary week will be offered only once per athletic season no matter which classes the student may be failing at various times during the season.
3. Students Athletes failing more than one class at any time during the season for the second or third time will be declared academically ineligible for 1 week, Tuesday through Monday each time. During this time, the students may practice with the team but will not be allowed to participate during game situations.
4. A student declared academically ineligible for a fourth time during the season will be dropped from the team for the remainder of the season.
5. No student shall compete in any interscholastic scrimmage or contest who does not have to his or her credit in the official records (Transcript), at least 66 percent of full credit load potential for a full-time student for the last semester during which he or she shall have been enrolled in grades 9 to 12, inclusive. The minimum met would be passing 5 of 7 classes. A student entering the 9th grade for the first time, except those who participated under MHSAA Regulation I, Section 1(D) or who had eligibility advanced under MHSAA Regulation III, Section 2 (C), may compete without reference to his/her record in the 8th grade. The penalty for non-compliance is 60 scheduled school days.

M. **ATTENDANCE:** Attendance in school is crucial. A student **MUST** be in attendance for a full day on the day of a game or contest if the student plans to play in the game or practice (unless excused by administration). Exceptions to this policy are: Doctor or Dentist appointments, Funerals, Court Appearances, School related activities (such as field trips or college visitations). If a contest falls on a weekend, the student must attend school on the last scheduled day.

N. **TEAM MEMBERSHIP:** It is recommended that students be members of only one Interscholastic team at any time. If a student desires to participate on more than one team at a given time, permission must be received from each coach involved, and a definite understanding

of all parties as to what will happen if both teams have a competition on the same day. Students are strongly discouraged from quitting a team once they have become a member. Students who quit one team will not be allowed to join another during that same season. Students who quit are expected to turn in all equipment issued to them at the time they decide to quit.

*Note-Participation in any extra-curricular activity is a “privilege” and not a right and that, infractions listed and penalties itemized are not all inclusive. Further, the district has the authority to interpret and apply the policy as deemed necessary.

ATHLETIC CODE/”TRAINING RULES”

*The Vassar Athletic Code is to be enforced and monitored by the Athletic Director.. All other groups of extra-curricular activities are to be enforced and monitored by the Supervisor/Advisor of each group and building Principal.

A student’s first violation will fall into one of three categories with differing consequences, as defined below. A violation following the initial violation will be considered a second offense resulting in a 1 calendar year suspension from all athletic activities. Any violation after the second violation will be considered a third offense and result in the suspension of participation in all athletic activities for the students career in this school. **This policy is in effect 365 days per year. A student should realize that extra-curricular activities apply at all times throughout the students’ high school career, including off-season and all vacation periods 12 months a year. The rules are not limited to student behavior at school-sponsored activities or on school property.** Participation is established when a student participates in the first practice session in any athletic activity.

CATEGORY “A” VIOLATIONS

Category “A” violations are considered serious acts which could cause injury to self or others. These could occur in school, at school events, away from school, or during the off season. Category “A” violations may include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Possession, use, sale or transfer of controlled substances (including look a-like drugs and substances). (This excludes a medical prescription which the student has and uses for the student’s exclusive use consistent with the prescription).
2. Possession, use, sale or transfer of alcoholic beverages (including “non-alcoholic” beers or other beverages represented to be alcoholic).
3. Possession, use, sale or transfer of a weapon, including, but not limited to, weapons as defined by state or federal law (including items represented to be weapons).
4. Possession, use, sale or transfer of tobacco, vapes and/or electronic cigarettes.
5. Arson (setting a fire without authorization)
6. Gross Misconduct
7. Malicious Destruction
8. Striking or threatening to do specific harm to school personnel, parent, volunteer or other person associated with the School District.
9. Fighting

10. Hazing

CATEGORY “B” VIOLATIONS

Category “B” violations relate to conduct unbecoming a Vassar High School student. Category “B” violations may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Unauthorized use of materials
2. Skipping school
3. Insubordination
4. Cheating
5. Dismissal from class

DISCIPLINARY ACTION FOR CATEGORY “A” VIOLATIONS

FIRST OFFENSE:

After a finding by the administrator of the violation, the student shall immediately lose the privilege of participation in his/her current activity(ies) (or next activity if not in season) for 25% of the season’s scheduled contests or events. If the penalty cannot be reached in the current season, the penalty will carry over to the next activity(ies) or program.

If following a first offense and before school officials have been informed of a violation, a student or that student’s parent voluntarily informs school officials of the violation, the disciplinary action will be reduced by half. If the incident is alcohol or drug related the student will complete a school approved counseling program at their own expense.

During the disciplinary period the student must participate in all practices. They will attend games/events (home or away) with the team but, not participate.

Upon completion of an approved community service schedule by a building administrator of 25 hours the student will receive 10% off the 25% suspension of privileges.

SECOND OFFENSE:

After a finding by the administrator of the violation, the student shall immediately lose the privilege of participation in his/her current activity(ies) (or next activity if not in season) for six (6) months (excluding the period from the second Sunday in June through the second Sunday in August. If the incident is alcohol or drug related the student will complete a school approved counseling program at their own expense.

Upon completion of an approved community service schedule by a building administrator of 50 hours the student will receive (2) months off the (6) month Suspensions of Privileges.

THIRD OFFENSE:

After a finding by the administrator of the violation, the student shall immediately lose the privilege of participation in his/her current activity(ies) (or next activity if not in season).

If the incident is alcohol or drug related the student will complete a school approved counseling program at their own expense.

Upon completion of an approved community service schedule by a building administrator of 100 hours the student will then go before an Athletic Review Committee who will determine any additional service hours, loss of privileges, etc.

Note: If circumstances warrant, the School District reserves the right to impose more severe disciplinary action for any offense, up to and including suspension or expulsion from school pursuant to the Revised School Code.

Category “A” sanctions will remain on file for two calendar years.

Disciplinary Action For Category “B” Violations

First Offense

Disciplinary action from the school will dictate the loss of privileges. Student will attend practice and participate. Student will attend competition but, will not participate. Example 5 days in school suspension student will attend practice and participate but will not participate in any competitions during those five days. Out of school suspensions will result in loss of all privileges of practice and competition for the duration of the suspension.

Second Offense

Disciplinary action from the school will dictate the loss of privileges. Student will attend practice and participate. Student will attend competition but, will not participate. Example 5 days in school suspension Student will attend practice and participate but will not participate in any competitions during that five days. Out of school suspensions will result in loss of all privileges of practice and competition for the duration of the suspension.

Third Offense

Loss of privileges for up to 20% of that seasons games. Students will attend practice or competition but, will not participate.

Category “B” sanctions will remain on file for one calendar year.

***GROSS MISCONDUCT:** As deemed by the administration, to include but not limited to: vandalism, theft, physical or sexual assault, or felony charges. Administration is not required to wait for a court decision on pending charges to administer suspensions for legal infractions. A plea bargain or reduced sentence does not constitute a “not guilty” verdict.

***HAZING:** Hazing involves conduct such as but not limited to: illegal activity, such as drinking or drugs, physical punishment or infliction of pain, intentional humiliation or embarrassment, dangerous activity, activity likely to cause mental or psychological stress, forced detention or kidnapping or undressing or otherwise exposing initiates.

***AWARDS:** If a student/athlete during the course of the season is suspended from a team for a violation of the Athletic Code the athlete upon his/her reinstatement will only be eligible for his/her certificates of participation and/or letters or numerals for the season/activities in which the violations occurred and only if all consequences have been fulfilled. This means, that students in violation of the above code may not be eligible for nominations to post-season honors such as all league, all-area, all-state, most improved, most valuable, etc.

***COACHES/ADVISOR DISCRETION:** Coaches/Advisors have the discretion of increasing the above consequences and the authority to establish additional rules and consequences for their individual sport with the approval of administration. **If or when coaches increase consequences the required consequences from the Vassar Athletic Code will be credited accordingly.**

***COACH:** Practice and regulations are to be determined by the coach.

***SUSPENSIONS:** Any student receiving home-suspensions will not be allowed to attend or participate in practices/rehearsals, competitions, or any school related activities for the duration of the suspension. For in-school suspensions only, students may attend and participate in practices but may not participate in competitions/performances. This is to ensure that the team, squad, or group is not at a disadvantage when said student is reinstated, and also allows for physical conditioning to continue (as court cases have deemed necessary). Suspensions go to midnight on the final day of that suspension. **Athletic suspensions not fulfilled will carry over to the next season of participation and be counted only if the season is completed.**

***SUSPENSIONS DURING SPECIAL EVENTS:** All students elected to homecoming or ice fest court (or chosen escorts) must not receive any disciplinary referrals which result in a suspension the week of the event. If a discipline referral is written which results in a suspension, the student will not be allowed to participate. In addition, students must meet athletic academic eligibility the week of balloting to be considered for Homecoming or Icefest Court.

***PERSISTENT DISOBEDIENCE:** Students who persistently (3 or more full-day suspensions of one or more days, to include in-school suspensions) disobey or violate school policy (including but not limited to behavior such as skipping, fighting, insubordination, cheating, not following classroom policy), will be subject to discipline in accordance with this policy. Each additional suspension will be dealt with on an individual basis.

***DISCIPLINARY ACTION:** All disciplinary action for violations of the extra-curricular policy shall be treated as separate experiences at the middle school and the high school. These actions shall be cumulative at each school. Once a student moves from the Middle School to the high school, he/she starts the cumulative progression on disciplinary action from the beginning.

EQUIPMENT, TRANSPORTATION, AND FACILITIES

A. Equipment is issued for the use of team members ONLY. It remains the property of the school district, and is to be maintained and cared for. Equipment that is damaged beyond normal wear and tear or is lost or stolen will be charged to the student at its replacement cost. Uniforms

are to be cleaned or washed before being turned in. School issued equipment is to be worn only for practices and contests, or as permitted by the coach.

B. Athletic teams will use school transportation to and from all contests, and all team members are expected to ride with the team unless otherwise authorized. A signed note from the parent(s) must be turned in to the coach before players may ride separately from the team. This note must be signed by the athletic director or his/her representative. Team members are only allowed to ride with their parents when prior arrangements have been made, not with siblings, friends, or other parents. **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES ARE STUDENTS TO TRANSPORT THEMSELVES TO ANY CONTEST.** Coaches have the right to deny a student's request to travel separate from the teams if it is not deemed appropriate. When traveling to and from contests, all bus rules are to be followed.

C. All school facilities (ours and the schools we visit), are to be treated with the utmost respect. Coaches, bus drivers, parents, spectators, and athletes all have a responsibility in caring and maintaining all facilities. When leaving any facility, our goal should be to leave it in as good of shape as when we arrived, or even better. Always police, (clean up) any facility that has been used.

PRACTICES AND GAMES

A. Practice schedules will be determined based on facility and availability, with Varsity teams having first priority. No required practices will be held on Saturdays, Holidays or when school has been cancelled. **THERE ARE TO BE NO PRACTICES ON SUNDAYS** unless cleared by the athletic director. No practice session is to be held without proper coach supervision. When school is cancelled due to inclement weather, a determination will be made by the athletic department by 1pm. Practices and contests will be voluntary.

B. Attendance at practices is an absolute must! **FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE MORE IMPORTANT REASONS FOR BEING AT PRACTICE EVERY DAY:**

1. Conditioning
2. Learning of the plays
3. Skill Development
4. Teamwork
5. Camaraderie
6. To learn anything new discussed during the week in preparation for the contest.

CONSEQUENCES FOR MISSING PRACTICE IS DETERMINED BY EACH COACH IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR.

SPORTSMANSHIP

All members of the Vassar Athletic Teams and their fans are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will reflect positively on the school and community. Poor sportsmanship and negative behaviors will be disciplined appropriately. **TAUNTING OUR OPPONENTS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED BY THE EVENT PERSONNEL OR OUR SCHOOL!!**

VASSAR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

The Vassar Athletic Association is a major source of funding and support for all of our athletic programs and is the single most important support group of the Vassar Athletic Department. By having a child participating in the athletic program, you are considered a member of the VAA. As parents, we need your attendance at meetings and volunteer help throughout the Fall, Winter, and Spring sports seasons to help make a great group of people even greater. The Athletic Association is a special organization that has done so much to support Vassar High School athletics. Some of their recent fundraising efforts are listed below:

The VAA is a very active group of people who work tirelessly to continually help to improve our athletic program and provide our student-athletes with the best possible facilities for competition. New members are always welcome! If you would like to become involved with a special group of people who do so much for Vassar High School athletics, please contact Athletic Director at 989 823-7505.

*Vassar Athletic Association meetings are always the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 pm in the Vassar High School Library

* Dates and times are subject to change.

Vassar Public Schools-Athletics Parent to Coach Communication Guidelines

PARENT/COACH RELATIONSHIP:

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefit to the children. As parents, when your children become involved in our program, you have the right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

COMMUNICATION PARENTS CAN EXPECT FROM COACHES:

1. Philosophy of the coach.
2. Expectations of your child as well as all players on the squad.
3. Locations and times of practices/contests. Please bear in mind that sometimes posted practice and game times are changed with short notice due to unforeseen circumstances. Efforts will be made to communicate this in the most efficient manner possible.
4. Team requirements (i.e. special equipment, off season conditioning, camps, weight training)
5. Procedure should your child be injured during practice.
6. Discipline that result in the denial of your child's participation. (Team rules)

COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PARENTS:

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
2. Notification of any schedule conflict well in advance. The more prior notice, the better.
3. Specific concerns in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.

As your children become involved in athletic programs at Vassar Schools, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES:

1. The treatment of your child, both mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your child improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.

It can be very difficult to accept when your child does not play as much as was hoped. Coaches are professions. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can be and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as those in the following paragraphs must be left to the discretion of the coach and should not be discussed.

ISSUES NOT APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH THE COACH:

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling
4. Other student athletes

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and parent. These conferences are to be encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

PROCEDURE TO DISCUSS A CONCERN WITH A COACH:

1. Call the school to set up an appointment with the coach at their earliest convenience. Leave a message with the secretarial staff and they will ensure the coach gets the message. The coach will then return your call or set up a meeting with you.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call our Athletic Director at (989) 823-7505, and a meeting will be set up for you.
3. PLEASE **DO NOT** ATTEMPT TO CONFRONT A COACH BEFORE OR AFTER PRACTICE OR AN EVENT. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. A **24 hour No Contact Period** is enforced! Coaches and parents need this time to cool down, meetings of this nature do not promote resolutions.

The Next Step....What can a parent do if the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution?

1. Call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director at (989) 823-7505 to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined.

Since research indicates a student involved in co-curricular activities has a greater chance for success during adulthood, these programs have been established. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant are exactly those that will promote a successful life after high school. We hope the information provided within this article make both your child's and your experience with Vassar School Athletic Program less stressful and more enjoyable. Let's have a great year!

GO VULCANS!!

2019/20 SCHOOL YEAR

**VASSAR MIDDLE SCHOOL AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
ATHLETIC CONSENT FORM**

This form MUST be signed by both the parent and the student, and returned to the coach. After all have been turned in to the coach of a given team, they will then be turned in to the Athletic Director and kept on file.

By signing this form, you acknowledge that you have read, understand, and agree to abide by the policies and expectations set forth in the athletic handbook.

The Vassar Public School District is not liable for expenses incurred for physical examinations or medical treatment of accidental injuries. **Medical insurance is required to participate in interscholastic athletics and is the responsibility of the parent. If insurance is needed, it is offered for purchase for all students at the beginning of the school year and athletic season through the main office in the high school.**

Participation in Interscholastic Athletics carries an inherent risk of injury. These injuries include, but are not limited to: sprains, strains, fractures, brain damage, paralysis, or even death in said participation. By signing this consent form, you acknowledge and accept such risks and give your consent for your child to participate in the Vassar Public Schools Athletic Program.

You also acknowledge that you have read and understand the Concussion Information Sheet that was provided for you.

Print Student Name Here: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date

PLEASE RETURN THIS **SIGNED PAGE** TO YOUR CHILD TO HIS/HER COACH
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!! **KEEP THIS BOOKLET FOR YOUR REFERENCE!!**