



# MOON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT



## ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

### ATHLETICS

The interscholastic sports program consists of varsity teams, which compete in the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (District VII), commonly known as the W.P.I.A.L.

### Complete List of Sports Offerings

Sport	Levels		
<b><u>Fall Sports</u></b>			
Soccer (Girls)	Varsity	JV	7/8
Tennis (Girls)	Varsity	JV	
Volleyball (Girls)	Varsity	JV	7 & 8
Golf (Girls)	Varsity		
Basketball (Girls)			7 & 8
Football (Boys)	Varsity	JV	JVB 7 & 8
Soccer (Boys)	Varsity	JV	7/8
Golf (Boys)	Varsity	JV	
Cross Country (Boys & Girls)	Varsity	JV	7/8
Cheerleading (Football)	Varsity		7/8
<b><u>Winter Sports</u></b>			
Basketball (Girls)	Varsity	JV	7/8
Gymnastics (Girls)	Varsity		7/8
Basketball (Boys)	Varsity	JV	9 7 & 8
Wrestling (Boys)	Varsity	JV	7/8
Swimming & Diving (B & G)	Varsity		
CLUB – Hockey	Varsity	JV	7/8
CLUB – Bowling (B & G)	Varsity		
Cheerleading (Basketball)	Varsity		7/8
<b><u>Spring Sports</u></b>			
Softball (Girls)	Varsity	JV	7/8
Tennis (Boys)	Varsity	JV	
Baseball (Boys)	Varsity	JV	9
Track & Field (B & G)	Varsity		7/8
Swimming (B & G)			7/8
Volleyball (Boys)	Varsity	JV	
CLUB – Lacrosse (B & G)	Varsity	JV	7/8
CLUB – Rugby (B & G)	Varsity		

## ATHLETIC/ACTIVITIES MISSION STATEMENT

Moon Area High School has a rich history of success in high school athletics. Not only are the administration, staff, and community committed to building upon that history, but they are also committed to maintaining a high level of integrity throughout its athletic program and to keeping the tradition of *Tiger Pride* alive!

It is the mission of the Moon Area High School Athletic Department to challenge all student athletes to achieve success and a sense of self-esteem through participation in competitive athletics. Students are encouraged to develop responsibility and commitment, an understanding of the importance of teamwork, and respect for self and others. It is through participation in competitive athletics that students will develop the necessary skills to become productive members of a globally competitive workforce.



## **I. STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**

- a.** The Moon Area School District believes that a dynamic program of student activities is vital to the educational development of the student.
- b.** The Moon Area School Athletic Program should provide a variety of experiences to aid in the development of favorable habits and attitudes in students that will prepare them for adult life in democratic society.
- c.** Athletics plays an important part in the lives of Moon Area students. Young people learn a great deal from their participation in interscholastic athletics. Lessons in sportsmanship, teamwork, competition, and how to win and lose gracefully are an integral part of each team in our athletic program. Athletics play an important part in helping the individual student develop a healthy self-concept as well as a healthy body. Athletic competition adds to our school spirit and helps all students (spectators as well as participants) develop pride in their school.

Before any program of direction can operate effectively and efficiently, a philosophy should be set down to provide a preview of the ultimate ends to be achieved and the guidelines within which accomplishment is to progress.

The major objective of the program is to provide wholesome opportunities for students to develop positive habits and attitudes of social and group living.

Leadership should be of the highest quality so as to exemplify to the participants the desired type of behavior to be developed from the athletic program. Measurement of leadership success should not be in terms of the victory and defeat record, but rather in the personality development factors that are an outcome of the major objectives of the athletic program.

The athletic program will conform to the policies of the school district. At no time should the program place the total educational curriculum secondary in emphasis; the program should constantly strive for the development of the well-rounded individuals, capable of taking their place in modern society.

- d.** We believe that the opportunity for participation in a wide variety of student-selected activities is a vital part of the student's educational experiences. Such participation is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the school, the activity, to the student body, to the community and to the students themselves. These experiences contribute to the development of learning skills and emotional patterns that enable the student to make maximum use of his or her education.

- e. The interscholastic athletic program shall be conducted in accordance with existing Board of Education policies. While the Board of Education takes great pride in winning, it does not condone “winning at all cost” and discourages any and all pressures, which might tend to neglect good sportsmanship and good mental health. At all times, the athletic program must be conducted in such a way so to justify it as an educational experience.
- f. A comprehensive and balanced athletic program is an essential complement to the basic program of instruction. The athletic program should provide opportunities for students to further develop interests and talents in sports. Participation in athletics should provide many students with a lifetime basis for personal values for work and leisure activities.

Every effort should be made to support the activities program with the best facilities, equipment, and with the most qualified staff available. Coaches, directors, and sponsors should teach the specific skills necessary for improvement in athletics and provide guidance in the development of self-realization, good sportsmanship, cooperation, leadership, ethical behavior, and an appreciation for the importance of practice.

The ultimate goals of the athletic program should be: (1) to realize the value of participation without overemphasizing the importance of winning and (2) to develop and improve positive citizenship traits among the programs’ participants.



## II. ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

### Chain of Command

- a. **Board of Education:** The Board of Education is responsible to the residents of the District and is the ruling agency for the Moon Area School District. It is responsible for interpreting the needs of the community and requirements to the professional organization. Additional responsibilities include:
  1. Developing policies in accordance with state statutes and mandates in accordance with the educational needs and wishes of the people.
  2. Approving means by which professional staff may make these policies effective.
  3. Evaluating the interscholastic athletic program in terms of its value to the community.
  
- b. **Superintendent of Schools:** The superintendent is responsible to administer the schools according to adopted policies of the Board of Education, rules and regulations of the State Department of Education, and in accordance with state school code. It is his/her duty to establish a definite school athletic policy and to have an understanding of that policy. The superintendent shall represent the school district as its chief executive officer and its foremost professional educator in its dealings with other school systems, social institutions, and businesses.
  
- c. **Principal:** The principal is the official representative of the school and is directly responsible for the general attitude of the student body and the conduct of the athletic affairs by the athletic director and the coach. By delegation and by established precedent, the school principal is the official school representative in matters dealing with Moon Area High School Athletics and conference affiliations. The principal is solely responsible for any official action taken by his/her school.
  
- d. **Athletic Director:** The athletic director is directly responsible to the superintendent. The primary responsibility of the athletic director is the administration and supervision of the interscholastic athletic program in the Moon Area Schools. The athletic director's duties will be those described in his/her job description and any others as designated. He/she will provide leadership necessary for the day-to-day operations of the athletic department.
  
- e. **Head Coaches:** All head coaches shall be responsible to the athletic director for total operation of their respective sports programs. Head coaches will be responsible for the normal duties required of interscholastic competition, those duties described in the coaches' job description, and/or any duties delegated by the athletic director.

### III. PIAA CONSTITUTION AND GUIDELINES – ATHLETIC COURTESY

#### a. Ethics in High School Athletics

The Code of Ethics pertaining to High School Athletics is to be regarded not only as recommendations but also as rules governing the conduct of schools, the coach, officials, athletic directors, principals, and the public.

Section 1. Athletics should foster clean sports. It is the privilege and duty of every person connected with athletics to exemplify these principles in his/her own actions and earnestly advocate them before others.

1. The rules of the game are to be regarded as mutual agreements, the spirit or letter of which no honorable person would break. The stealing of advantage on sport is theft.
2. No advantages are to be sought over others except those in which the game is understood to show superiority.
3. Unsportsmanlike or unfair means are not to be used, even when they are used by opponents.
4. Visiting teams are to be honored guests of the home team and should be treated as such.
5. No action is to be taken, nor course of conduct pursued, which would seem unsportsmanlike or dishonorable if known to one's opponent or the public.
6. Remember that the student spectator represents his/her school the same, as does the athlete.
7. Any spectator who continually evidences poor sportsmanship should be requested not to attend future contests.
8. Decisions of officials are to be abided by, even when they seem unfair.
9. Officers and opponents are to be regarded and treated as honest in intention. In games when opponents conduct themselves in an unbecoming manner, and when officers are manifestly dishonest or incompetent, future relationships with them should be avoided.
10. Good points in others should be appreciated and suitable recognition given.
11. The practice of "boosing" is regarded as discourteous and unsportsmanlike.

#### **IV. ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS AND RECRUITING**

Student Athletes should conduct a meeting with their high school coach at the end of their junior season. Let your coaches know that you are very interested in participating in collegiate athletics and discuss your potential as an NCAA Division I, II, or III player. Do not be afraid to ask for their help. Your coach will help you, but there are limitations as to how much he/she can do. There are over 3,000 colleges and universities that offer athletics. Contacting each and every one of them is impossible for your coach.

##### Levels of Play:

##### **a. National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)**

NCAA Division I. This is the highest level of play and offers the most significant amount of scholarship aid. These are generally larger schools with large student populations.

NCAA Division II. These are typically smaller, specialty schools that provide scholarships as well as financial aid grants.

NCAA Division III. These schools offer no athletic scholarships, but do offer academic scholarships, financial aid, grants, and jobs on campus, also known as work-study programs.

##### **b. National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA)**

NAIA offers athletic scholarships as well as other benefits to enable a student to attend school.

##### **c. National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA)**

Financial Aid is provided for the cost of tuition and books. If students are not ready physically or mentally to attend a 4-year institution, then a junior college with athletics program may be a good fit.

Are you good enough to compete in athletics at the collegiate level? Build your support groups that can give you sound advice, consisting of your parents, coaches, principals, athletic director, and community members who have participated in collegiate athletics and have seen you compete.

Once you have set your goals for becoming a collegiate athlete, begin to market yourself. In order to receive a scholarship offer, a college coach or scout must have an opportunity to see you perform. You should focus your networking and marketing around your colleges of choice.

Steps:

1. Visit the guidance office, athletic director, or the internet and obtain addresses of the colleges that you are interested in.
2. Prepare a letter of interest to be sent to college coaches (sample letter attached).
3. Prepare a resume of your career (sample attached).
4. Prepare a highlight video and game film to send with your resume (the school has an agreement with HUDL which is a useful tool for highlight clips).

Send the information before your senior season. A great time to send your information is after national signing day, during your junior year.

Many colleges will send you a questionnaire; complete it and return it, or submit it online immediately.

If you are an outstanding student, you may have opportunities to obtain athletic and academic scholarships. Many of the top academic universities have stringent minimum academic entrance standards, which many athletes fail to meet. Discuss with your guidance counselor/coach which universities they feel may be a fit for your academic and athletic qualifications, and may include an athletic scholarship offer. The higher your academic scores, the better position you will be in to obtain scholarship aid.

It is recommended that you attend summer camps to increase your visibility and exposure to collegiate coaches and scouts. You will be given the opportunity to perform in front of college coaching staffs for four (4) to five (5) days. Your high school coach and athletic director can help you obtain summer camp information.

If you do not succeed in gaining an athletic scholarship, there are opportunities to try out as a “walk on” at your college of choice, with the chance to earn a scholarship later in your career. It is very possible to walk on to a team and earn a partial or full scholarship for your remaining years, if you become a regular contributor to the team.

***College coaches are looking for all around athletic ability first. They look for coordination, speed, jumping ability, size, and strength. College coaches recognize that superior all-around athletes are usually good at a variety of sports. By participating in multiple sports, students show scouts that they have some unique abilities – unique because many young athletes fail to excel at one sport, much less two, or even three. If a student is a standout at multiple sports, they are perceived as a special talent.***



## SAMPLE LETTER

Your Address

Date

College Address

Dear Coach \_\_\_\_\_ :  
(Coaches Name)

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am currently a junior at Moon Area High School, in Moon Township, Pennsylvania, just outside of Pittsburgh. I will graduate in the spring of \_\_\_\_\_. I am very interested in (name of university/college) to further my athletic and academic career.

I currently play (position and/or sport) and after a very successful junior season, I am very seriously seeking opportunities to compete at the collegiate level. Would you please evaluate my credentials and offer feedback on my qualifications as a scholarship candidate? I have enclosed my resume as well as highlights and games from my high school career.

Your consideration is greatly appreciated, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

*(your name typed here)*

Enclosures:        Resume  
                          Film

# SAMPLE RESUME

## Personal Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Height: \_\_\_\_\_

Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

40 yd Time: \_\_\_\_\_

## High School Information

Moon Area High School  
8353 University Boulevard  
Moon Township, PA 15108

Coach: \_\_\_\_\_  
Counselor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sport(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Academic Performance

College Preparatory Curriculum

GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

PSAT: Verbal: \_\_\_\_\_

Math: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Taken: \_\_\_\_\_

SAT: Verbal: \_\_\_\_\_

Math: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Taken: \_\_\_\_\_

## College Interests

Academic area you wish to study in college:

Sports that you want to compete in:

## Speed/Fitness Scores:

100 Meters: \_\_\_\_\_

200 Meters: \_\_\_\_\_

400 Meters: \_\_\_\_\_

## Other Athletic Achievements:

## Academic Honors:

## V. GUIDE FOR COLLEGE-BOUND STUDENT-ATHLETES

If you plan to compete athletically at the collegiate level, start asking questions.

Inquire with your guidance counselor, to see if you're on track to meet academic eligibility and core-course requirements. Find out the graduation rate for the athletic programs and the team, at the colleges which you are interested in. Inquire about what academic support services are provided for student-athletes, and what that program looks like at that institution.

Keep in mind that although collegiate athletic participation is the goal, academics are number one priority and an overwhelming majority of collegiate student-athletes become professionals outside of sports. Consider this:

- **There are over one million high school football players, and over 500,000 boys high school basketball players. Of that number, about 150 make it to the NFL and about 50 make an NBA roster.**
- **Of the more than 460,000 NCAA student-athletes, fewer than two (2) percent will go pro in their sport.**
- **The odds of a high school football player making to the pros at all – let alone establishing a professional career – are about 6,000 to 1; the odds of high school basketball player are 10,000 to 1.**

### What exactly is the NCAA?

The NCAA, or National Collegiate Athletic Association, was established in 1906 and serves as the athletics governing body for 1,281 institutions, conferences, organizations and individuals. The NCAA headquarters is located in Indianapolis, IN, but member colleges and universities develop the rules and regulations for eligibility and competition for each of the three (3) NCAA divisions. The NCAA is committed to the student-athlete and to governing competition in a fair, safe, inclusive and sportsmanlike manner.

NCAA membership includes:

- 346 active Division I member schools
- 307 active Division II member schools
- 439 active Division III member schools

Division I & II institutions offer athletic scholarships, where Division III schools do not.

## What is the NCAA Eligibility Center?

The establishment of the NCAA Eligibility Center in Indianapolis, Indiana was first announced by Dr. Myles Brand, former president of the NCAA, in January 2007. Succeeding the current NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse in Iowa City, IA, the eligibility center will certify the academic and amateur credentials of all college-bound student-athletes who wish to compete in NCAA Division I or II athletics. To assist with this process, the eligibility center staff is eager to foster a cooperative environment of education and partnership with high schools, high school coaches and college-bound student-athletes. NCAA regulations are set by NCAA colleges and universities and require all incoming student-athletes to meet a prescribed level of academic performance while maintaining their amateur status before entering college. The eligibility center will collect data from high schools, sport-sanctioning bodies and, most importantly, high school student-athletes in order to make eligibility decisions. Ultimately, the individual student-athlete is responsible for achieving and protecting his or her eligibility status.

## How to find answers to your questions:

The answers to most questions can be found in the College-Bound Student-Athlete guide, at [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net), or by accessing the eligibility center's resource page at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org) and then clicking on "Information for College-Bound Student-Athletes" in the "My Links" section on the right-hand side of the page. If you have additional questions that cannot be answered by this guide or one of the web sites mentioned above, please contact the eligibility center at the address and phone number below. In addition, if you are sending transcripts or additional information to the eligibility center, please use the following address.

NCAA Eligibility Center  
Certification Processing  
P.O. Box 7136  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46207-7136  
[www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net)  
877-262-1492 (customer service Monday – Friday, 8AM – 6PM. Eastern time)

## When to call the NCAA

Please contact the NCAA if you have questions like these:

- What are the rules and regulations related to initial eligibility?
- What are the rules and regulations related to amateurism?
- What are the rules and regulations about transferring from one college to another?
- What are the rules about athletics scholarships and how can they be reduced or canceled?
- I have a learning disability. Are there any other requirements for me?

NCAA  
P.O. Box 6222  
Indianapolis, IN 46206-6222  
317-917-6222 (customer service Monday – Friday, noon – 4PM. Eastern time)

**A guide for college-bound student-athletes and their parents may be found at, and students may register online at [www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net)**

## MOON AREA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Young people can learn a great deal from their participation in interscholastic athletics. Lessons in sportsmanship, teamwork, competition, and how to win and lose gracefully are an integral part of each team in our athletic program. Athletics play an important part too, in helping the individual student develop a healthy self-concept as well as a healthy body.

A student's physical and mental health is just one of many concerns that the administration, coaches and teachers have for your child's total well-being. **Although there is no set policy against a student participating in more than one sport during any given season, we believe that students should be aware of the demands placed by participating in multiple sports simultaneously.** This is largely due to the grueling practice and academic workload for high school students. Students must remember that they are students first and athletes second. Trying to do too much will affect a student's health and also his/her academic and athletic performance.



## VI. COMMUNICATIONS

### Administrators:

Dr. Maureen Ungarean	Superintendent	412-264-9440 x 1106
Mr. Barry Balaski	Principal	412-264-9440 x 2001
Mr. David Gallup	Assistant Principal	412-264-9440 x 2003
Mr. Brendan Hathaway	Assistant Principal	412-264-9440 x 2002
Mr. Ron Ledbetter	Director of Athletics	412-264-9440 x 1142
Mrs. Maureen Spezialetti	Athletic Secretary	412-264-9440 x 1143
Mr. Jarrod James	Athletic Trainer	412-264-9440 x 1145
Mrs. Alyssa Hoffee	Athletic Trainer	412-264-9440 x 2650

Coaches and athletic director are responsible for communicating information regarding the athletic program to parents. Parents are responsible for understand the athletic program's rules, regulations, and requirements and coaches' expectations.

### Communication/Information Coaches Should Provide to Parents:

- Eligibility and playing criteria
- Coach's expectations of players and their parents
- Locations and times of all practices and contests
- Team requirements (i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning, etc.)
- Team rules and guidelines
- Lettering requirements
- Disciplinary procedures
- Information regarding procedures to contact coaches

### Communication/Information Parents Should Provide Coaches:

- Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
- Specific concerns in regard to the coach's philosophy and/or expectations
- Information regarding student injuries or medical conditions

### Appropriate Concerns for Parents to Discuss with Coaches:

- Treatment of their child
- Ways to help their child improve
- Concerns over their child's behavior

### Issues NOT Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches:

- Playing time/positions/assignments
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Other student athletes

### Procedures for Discussing Parental Concerns:

- Parents will not confront coaches or engage in discussion with coaches, either in person or via telephone, immediately before or after a practice or on game day. Discussions during time of increased emotions do not promote resolution of issues.
- If a parent meeting is desired, the parent should call the coach to schedule an appointment in advance. Plan on your child being in attendance at the meeting.
- If the coach cannot be reached, the Athletic Director should be contacted to facilitate the meeting.
- If the meeting with the coach does not provide satisfactory resolution, the parent may schedule an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation. Plan on the coach, and your child being in attendance at the meeting.

## VII. STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN EVENTS

When a student becomes a member of a team or group, he/she is committing to all the rules and expectations of that team/organization and coach/advisor.

These rules, regulations, and expectations are published prior to the season and signed by the student and his/her parents/guardians at that time. **Although a parent and/or student may not agree with every rule, it is understood that as a member of that team, all rules will be followed during that season.**

Full participation in extracurricular activities by any student requires skillful time management and prior planning for involvement in multiple events and activities. This is part of the skills and advantages that participants develop and nurture through membership in extracurricular activities.

Acknowledging that students by nature of their youth and inexperience are still developing life skills which include time management and prioritization of responsibilities, the Board of Education, Administration, Activity Sponsors, and Coaches shall encourage each extracurricular activity participant to strive to achieve the highest academic as well as extracurricular activity standards as an individual and as a team or organization.

All coaches and sponsors will reinforce the premise that the student has the responsibility to maintain sound academic standings.

If, during the course of planned season activities, a situation develops which places an academic or school sponsored activity at risk, it is **the student's responsibility** to bring the issue to the **attention of their immediate team head coach or sponsor with a proposed resolution prior to the start of the activity.**

Full participation and attendance at all competitions, practices, and events is expected of all participants. In the event of an extreme personal or family emergency and/or a conflict with academic demands, at the request for the parents/guardians and with the approval of the immediate team head coach or sponsor, participation may be excused or abbreviated. This may only be arranged at the discretion of the team head coach or sponsor prior to the event. The head coach or sponsor may also grant these exceptions when the schedule presents an undue burden or academic strain on the students as a result of competitions/events being schedule on two or more consecutive school evenings. **All arrangements must be made prior to the start of the competition/event.**

In the case of an emergency and the head coach is unavailable, the building principal and/or athletic director have the authority to approve the student's participation or excused absence.

## VIII. ELIGIBILITY OF ATHLETES ACCORDING TO PIAA BY-LAWS

- Only **full-time students** may participate in scholastic athletics. A pupil is eligible only at the school at which he/she is enrolled, unless a formal co-operative agreement exists.
- **Semester Rule:** A student shall not represent their school in interscholastic athletics if they have:
  - a. Been in attendance more than 8 semesters beyond the eighth grade
  - b. Played 6 seasons beyond the sixth grade or 4 seasons beyond the eighth grade in any one sport.
- **Age Rule:** Any athlete reaching the age of 19 on or after July 1<sup>st</sup> of that year is eligible to participate for the current school year. For competition in grades 7-8-9 the age is 16 on or after July 1<sup>st</sup> and for competition in grades 7-8 only the age is 15 on or after July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **Suspensions:** An athlete who is suspended from school may not practice or play in any games during the period of suspension. The same applies for in-school suspensions
- A pupil who has been **absent from school** during a semester for a total of 20 days shall not be eligible to participate in any athletic contest until they have been in attendance for a total of 45 days following their 20<sup>th</sup> day of absence except where there is a consecutive absence of five (5) or more school days due to confining injury, death in the immediate family (as defined in Section 1154 of the Public School Code of 1949, as amended), court subpoena, or quarantine, or an absence of five (5) or more school days due to the same confining illness, such absence may be waived from the application of this rule by the District Committee. Attendance at summer school does not count toward the required forty five (45) days. Absence from school for an entire semester, or for several semesters, shall disqualify a pupil for the same period as stated in this section.
  - a. Students must be present in school for five (5) full periods to participate, practice, rehearse, compete, or perform. The Athletic Director and Principal will review exceptions to this policy on a case-by-case basis. If an event is scheduled on a Saturday, the student must be in school on Friday, at least five (5) full periods to be eligible to participate/compete.
  - b. A student who is considered *truant* or has five unexcused tardies will be suspended from participation in all competitions/performances and practices/rehearsals until the beginning of the next semester.



## IX. HAZING POLICY

- The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the district and are prohibited at all times.
- For the purposes of this policy **hazing** is defined as any activity that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health, physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or membership in or affiliation with any organization recognized by the Moon Area Board of School Directors.
- **Endanger the physical health** shall include but not be limited to any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping; beating; branding; forced calisthenics; exposure to the elements; forced consumption of any food, alcoholic beverage, drug, or controlled substance; or other forced physical activity that could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the individual.
- **Endanger the mental health** shall include any activity that would subject an individual to extreme mental stress, such as prolonged sleep deprivation, forced prolonged exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment, or any other forced activity which could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual.
- Any hazing activity, whether by an individual or a group, shall be presumed to be a forced activity, even if a student willingly participates.
- The Board does not condone any form of initiation or harassment, known as hazing, as part of any school sponsored student activity. No student, coach, sponsor, volunteer or district employee shall plan, direct, encourage, assist or engage in any hazing activity.
- The Board directs that no administrator, coach, sponsor, volunteer or district employee shall permit, condone or tolerate any form of hazing.
- The district will investigate all complaints of hazing and will administer appropriate discipline to any individual who violates this policy.
- The Board encourages students who have been subjected to hazing to promptly report such incidents to the building principal.

## X. MOON AREA DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

- Firm and fair enforcement of school discipline policy is necessary to uphold the regulations and standards of the athletic department. The community, school administrators, and the coaching staff feel strongly that high standards of conduct and citizenship are essential in maintaining a sound program of athletics. The welfare of the students is our major consideration and transcends any other consideration.
- All athletes shall abide by a code of ethics, which will earn them the honor and respect that participating and competition in the interscholastic program affords. **Conduct that results in dishonor to the athlete, the team, or the school is unacceptable.** Acts such as, but not limited to, theft, vandalism, disrespect, immorality, violations of law, or violations of school policy, tarnish the reputation of everyone associated with the athletic programs and will not be tolerated.
- **Consequences for inappropriate behavior and/or violation of school policy may be assigned at the discretion of the coach, principal, or both.** It is important to understand that school policy is in effect at all times that our students are involved in school-related activities. It should also be noted that any student who receives any type of suspension (In-School and/or Out-of-School) is not permitted to participate in any extra-curricular activities (practices, scrimmages and/or contests) on the day(s) the suspension is in effect.

