



## ATHLETIC GUIDELINES

### *Lincoln Junior High Athletics*

Lincoln Junior High teachers and administrators invite all students to participate in our interscholastic athletic program. Participation helps our students become well rounded young adults. Many of the characteristics and values to become successful adults are reinforced through athletics. Our student athletes should be proud to represent our school and are considered outstanding assets to our school and community.

Participation in athletics requires a strong commitment from both students and parents. We ask that both honor that commitment by following school and team guidelines. All of our coaches have been asked to conduct a parent meeting at the beginning of each season to communicate the guidelines and commitments that are required to participate in each sport. We encourage parents to attend these meetings, and to communicate when a concern should arise. The concerns should first be brought to the coaches' attention at an appropriate time. If needed, always feel free to contact the Athletic Director, Ms. Gilbert, or an administrator.

### *Athletic Eligibility*

To be eligible for participation in Lincoln Junior High's athletic program, the athlete must be enrolled as a student in the Plymouth Community School Corporation. A student is considered a student when enrolled in a Plymouth Community School Corporation school for the entire school day or, according to an Individual Education Plan, has been recommended for a partial placement at a school within the corporation.

### *Academic Eligibility*

**Academics.** Eligibility is determined by both report cards and/or mid-term progress reports. Eligibility at the start of a season will be determined by the last report card or mid-term progress report that was issued.

**Full eligibility with no restrictions:** Students who pass all classes are eligible for participation.

**Eligible with restrictions:** Any student who has one (1) or two (2) failing grades on their report card or mid-term report is ineligible to participate in games. However, they may still practice with the team as long as they attend study table for two (2) hours per week. The athlete may regain eligibility after attending four (4) study tables and attaining passing grades in all classes. Athletes who do not regain eligibility after four (4) study tables, must attend two (2) additional study tables before grades will be rechecked. The cycle of two study tables will continue until the end of the season. When a student is classified ineligible, and there is not enough time remaining in the season for the status to change, a coach may elect to dismiss the student from the team. If the season of that sport ends while the student is classified ineligible, the coach and Athletic Director will determine if the athlete will receive an award in that sport.

**Ineligible:** Any student who has (3) or more failing grades on their report card or mid-term report is ineligible and will be released from the team. These students will be given an opportunity to participate in study table. This support will be provided with the hope that their grades will improve so that they can participate in athletics during the next sport season.

### *Behavior Eligibility*

**Behavior:** Student athletes represent Lincoln Junior High School. Athletic participation is a privilege. It is recognized that principals, by the administrative authority vested in them by the Plymouth Community School Corporation, may exclude contestants from representing their school. Athletes are expected to adhere to all rules regarding behavior as outlined by the school handbook. Athletes are also expected to adhere to any team rules established by the coach or athletic department. Intentional acts of disrespect and/or the commission of an act which if committed by an adult would be a crime, will be basis for appropriate discipline.

Students who are assigned to in school suspension (ISS) will not be allowed to stay after school to participate in extra-curricular activities for that day.

**Penalty:** A student guilty of a serious disciplinary infraction may be suspended for a portion of the sport season, or may be removed from participation in athletics for the remainder of the sport season; i.e. fall season, winter season, spring season. Any determination of a loss of eligibility due to poor behavior or a violation of school rules will be made by the Lincoln Junior High Administration. Parents will be notified of any behavior problem that jeopardizes the athletic eligibility of their student athlete.

**Attendance:** Student athletes are expected to make school attendance a priority. Students must be in attendance by 11:00 A.M. and attend all afternoon classes to be eligible for extra-curricular activities that day. Exceptions to this would be a pre-arranged absence or an absence resulting from a school related function.

Students with excessive tardies to school or class may be suspended from a team or placed on an athletic contract. Excessive tardies are defined as more than five (5) for a semester.

### ***Team Rules***

Coaches have the authority to establish team rules that govern behavior and academic expectations. The athletic department encourages the cooperation between parents, athletes, coaches and teachers to ensure that athletes are maintaining high standards in the classroom. A coach may at any time require athletes to attend study table. Education is our first priority.