Paola

MIDDLE SCHOOL



ATHLETIC HANDBOOK 2019-2020

**Physical Packets and Pay to Participate**

The following must be completed for your child to participate on an athletic team at Paola Middle School. Complete packets with this information are available on the school website or in the office.

* KSHSAA Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation completed by a physician
* KSHSAA Eligibility Checklist
* KSHSAA Concussion & Head Injury Form
* Paola Middle School Student Insurance Form
* Medical Consent Form
* $50 Pay to Participate Fee – payable to: Paola Middle School

# Tryouts

Paola Middle School offers opportunities for all students to participate in athletics and activities. Depending on the activity, our teams are divided into two categories- Varsity and Junior Varsity. Some teams such as: Cheer, Volleyball, and Basketball have a cut policy. Some teams have a no-cut policy such as: Dance, Cross Country, Football, Wrestling and Track. At Paola Middle School we encourage all of our students to participate in extra-curricular activities.

# Absences

Students must be in attendance at school in order to participate in games that given day. Students participating in Saturday activities, or activities following a day when school is not in session must have been in attendance for the last two instructional hours of the preceding school day.

## Excused Absence:

* + When you are at school, but you do not attend practice, you must inform the coaches prior to the end of the school day to have the opportunity for the absence to be classified as excused. ie. Make-up work, Appt., etc.
  + Any absence for illness, appt., etc. that prevents a participant from attending a game or practice that is approved by the coach or administration in advance.

## Unexcused Absences:

* + When you are at school all day, but you fail to contact a coach prior to the end of the school day.
  + Absences for appointments, vacations, conflicting school events that are not approved by the coach and administration in advance.
  + Absences that result due to behavior consequences as assigned by school administration. ie: detentions, Friday Night School, Out of School Suspensions.

(In-school suspension during an athletic season: Discipline will be at coach’s discretion)

* + - 1st unexcused absence--Playing time will be reduced on the next competition date..
    - 2nd unexcused absence--Student will miss the next competition day.
    - 3rd unexcused absence--Student will be dismissed from the team.

# Grades

* At Paola Middle School we believe in the concept of Student-Athletes. Student academics first. Coaches will be made aware of their Athletes grades and will monitor their progress.
* If a student is required to attend Friday Night School, this is considered an unexcused absence due to Failing Grades.
* If a student has missing assignments that must be completed, he or she is encouraged to attend Panther Power Hour to complete and turn in their assignment. A parent must contact a coach requesting this and it will be considered an excused absence if the student shows up at practice at 3:45 when PPH concludes. There will be a limit of two (2) excused tardies due to PPH, per season.

We are members of the Kansas State High School Activities Association, which requires us to maintain a plan whereby students must maintain academic standards in order to be eligible. The Paola Middle School requirements for eligibility are as follows:

1. *Enrollment – The student shall be enrolled in and attending a minimum of five subjects of unit weight (or its equivalency) during the present semester.*
2. *The student must be in good standing. Students who have been suspended out of school may not participate in or attend any extracurricular activities during any part of the day or days they are suspended.*
3. *If a student has an “F” in any core, related arts, physical education, and/or band class as a nine week quarter grade, he/she is considered ineligible for the following nine weeks in the activities listed below:*
   * Participation in interscholastic athletic events.
   * Performance in music contests where students are ranked or rated to achievement standards. NOTE: Students who are academically ineligible can still be in band and/or choir and participate in concerts and league music festivals.
   * Cheerleader performances.
   * Dance Team performances.
   * Scholars’ Bowl participation. A Scholars’ Bowl is defined as an academic contest in which subject matter of at least three of the five academic disciplines required by the State Board of Education for High School graduation are used for competition.
   * Student Council – attending meetings and being active officers and/or members.

# Away Games Transportation

All students are to ride to and from away games on the bus. If parents go to away games, they may take their own son/daughter home, as long as they inform the coach prior to leaving. In the event a parent is not present, a handwritten note or phone call from the parents must be made prior to the event to confirm alternate transportation arrangements.

# Participation on Athletic Teams Outside of School

Kansas State High School Activities Association states that a student who is a member of a school athletic squad may not participate as a member of an outside team or as an independent competitor during the season of the same sport.

# Sportsmanship

If a player, coach, spectator, student, or parent is observed acting inappropriately, the administration expects it to be stopped. That individual may be asked to leave by an official, school personnel, administrator, or police officer. If the person resists leaving, the police may be called and he/she will be escorted out. The individual may forfeit his/her privilege of attending future contests – home or away. If removed from a game, the individual will be required to meet with school administration to discuss the issue. If the individual shows up at future contest without resolving the issue, he/she may be charged with trespassing.

# Uniforms

Uniforms and equipment will be checked out to athletes prior to the first games of each activity. USD368 approved uniforms will be worn by all athletes representing Paola Middle School, *no exceptions*. Athletes will be required to pay for any lost or damaged uniform.

If your child is on the Paola Middle School Dance or SPIRIT squad, these uniforms are purchased by the individual athletes each year and are the property of that student.

## Parent/Coach Communication

Be supportive of the coaching staff in front of your son/daughter. Encourage your child to discuss the issue with his/her coach first. *All students on a team are valued; however, individual playing time at the middle school level is not guaranteed equal and will not be discussed*. If you would like to visit with your child’s coach please call him/her to arrange an appointment. To reach a coach, call the main school number (913-294-8030) and leave a voice-mail message with your name, number, and the reason for your call. Additionally, you may contact the coach by email. This is on the school’s website under the staff directory.

Please contact the athletic director, Amy Wright, by phone at (913-294-8030) or by email at [amy\_wright@usd368.org.](mailto:amy_wright@usd368.org.)

## Injuries

If an athlete is injured at practice or during a game, the coach may require a note or verbal confirmation from the parent indicating it is okay for the athlete to resume physical activities. If an athlete is injured and removed from a practice or game due to concussion related symptoms, the athlete will not be allowed to resume practice or game participation until the coach is given a note from the doctor indicating the athlete can resume physical activities. Student Athletes will then go through a 5 step process with our district Athletic Trainer before returning to practice.

## ImPact Concussion testing

The Paola School District takes student injury very serious. We offer free to our student athletes the ImPact concussion screening test. Parents may opt into this test for their student. If a student is suspected to have a concussion, parents will be directed to an ImPact certified Dr. in our area to follow up on.

## Concussion Screening Protocol

What to do when a student athlete needs to be screened for a possible concussion during practice or a game.

* + - Players showing symptoms of a concussion should immediately be removed from the practice or game field.
    - SCAT2 test should be administered. Students that show ANY signs of a possible concussion are not allowed to return to practice/play for the remainder of the day. Football players should have their helmet taken away as a precaution so that they are not accidentally returned to play.

## Post-Concussion Protocol

When a participant is removed from practice or a game due to displaying symptoms of a concussion:

* + - Parents should be notified by one of the following; coaching staff, training staff or school administration as soon as possible.
    - Players must be picked up by a parent/guardian or their designee.
    - Parents should be encouraged to take their child to a physician the same day as the injury occurs. A concussion can digress rapidly in some instances.
    - Parents should be notified about the Impact Testing program offered by Paola as a resource. This is an optional program that they may or may not want to participate in. If they choose to have their child take a post-concussion test that can be compared to their original baseline exam this should be arranged with school administration the next day.
    - Players must visit an MD or DO before they can begin the *5 Step Program* that allows them to return to play. \*Step #5 requires a controlled environment and cannot be completed by participating in a game.
    - The 5 Step Program will be administered under the direction of our school trainer.
    - The player can only return to play after the following conditions have been met:
      * Clearance has been granted by an MD or DO **~AND~**
      * The school trainer has cleared the individual for play after successful completion of the 5 Step Program.

**Directions to Games** *(Also found on www.usd368.org)*

**Baldwin City: 400 Eisenhower Rd., Baldwin City, KS** Take 68 Hwy, turn right onto Highway K33. Stay on 33 through Wellsville. Turn left onto N 200th Rd/US-56 W. Continue to follow US-56 W about 6 miles. Turn right onto Eisenhower Rd .

**Eudora: 2635 Church, Eudora, KS**. Take 68 Hwy, turn right onto Highway K33. Stay on 33 through Wellsville. Turn left onto N 200th Rd/US-56 W. Turn right onto E 2200th Rd/County Hwy-1061 Continue to follow E 2200th Rd. E 2200th Rd becomes Church St/County Hwy-1061

**Gardner/Pioneer Ridge: 16200 Kill Creek Road, Gardner, KS 66030 -** Take US-169 N/KS-7. Turn left on W 175th St, stay straight to go onto E. Main St/US-56 W. Turn Right onto N Center St., turn left onto W 167th St., Turn right onto Kill Creek Rd.

**Gardner/Trail Ridge: 495 E. Grand, Gardner, KS** US-169 N/KS-7. Turn left onto W. 199th St, turn right onto S. Gardner Rd. S. Gardner Rd becomes S Center St. Turn Left onto W. Grand St.

**Gardner/Wheat Ridge: 318 E. Washington, Gardner, KS 66030.** US-169 N/KS-7 N, Turn left onto 175th Street. Stay straight to go onto E Main St/US-56 W. Turn right onto N. Mulberry St. Take the 2nd left onto E Washington St.

**Louisburg: 505 East Amity, Louisburg, KS** Take K-68 East to Louisburg. At the stop sign, turn right (south) and go 3 blocks. Watch for a Middle School sign and turn left (east) to go to the Middle School.

**Ottawa: 1230 S. Ash, Ottawa, KS** K-68 Hwy West. Turn left onto W 7th St., Turn Right onto Ash St

– your destination is .1 miles past W. 11th St.

**Spring Hill**: **301 E. South St, Spring Hill, KS US-**169/KS-7 N. Take exit toward Spring Hill/Bucyrus. Turn right onto W 223rd Street, take 1st left onto Old Kansas City Rd. Old Kansas City Rd becomes S. Webster St. Turn right onto E South St.

**Spring Hill/Woodland Spring**: **17450 W 167th Street, Olathe, KS US-**169/KS-7 N. Turn right onto W 175th St, turn left onto S Ridgeview Rd, turn left onto W 167th St