



## Collegiate Charter School of Lowell

Dear CCSL Parents,

We are excited to begin the new school year and we are excited to provide your student the opportunity to participate in athletics. I have provided our athletic philosophy for your review.

SABIS® believes that interscholastic athletics are a valuable component of a student's education and, therefore, attempts to provide avenues for all students who want to take part in them. The entire program is based upon these precepts:

- Winning isn't everything, nor is it the only thing. Young athletes cannot possibly learn from winning and losing if they think the only objective is to defeat their opponent. However, to engage in competitive athletics without striving to win is to be a dishonest competitor. Every student can experience the true success that comes from trying his or her best to win. The opportunity to strive for success is a right of every young athlete.
- Failure is not the same as losing. Athletes should not view losing as a sign of failure or as a threat to their personal self-worth. Time, space, equipment, personal preference and other factors will place limitations on the most effective squad size for any particular sport.

The Collegiate Charter School of Lowell believes that the athletic program philosophy must mirror the academic philosophy at our school. If a conflict were to exist between the two, it could become a detriment to our high academic standards. A student-athlete allowed (or encouraged) to cheat on the field might be tempted to cheat in the classroom. A student-athlete who believes that he/she can get by on natural ability alone could try to slide through their academic experience.

When a school's athletic policies mirror its academic policy, each enhances the other. A student taught in the classroom that effort in class brings rewards will learn that effort on the field will also bring its share of rewards. A student-athlete taught that booting a groundball isn't the end of the world will relax and make the play the next time; he/she will also take exams in their proper perspective'.

Our inter-scholastic athletic program is neither a "frill" nor an "outside activity." They have an enormous impact upon every student who participates. Our school has the absolute responsibility to make certain that the effect is a positive one.



## Goals of the Interscholastic Athletic Program

The common goals of the athletic program at ALL LEVELS of play are for student-athletes to:

- Develop physical, emotional, social and mental skills.
- Develop respect for authority, teammates, opponents and themselves.
- Develop pride in themselves, their school and their team.
- Develop leadership qualities.
- Develop the self-discipline skills needed for success in society.
- Learn to work together to attain a common goal.
- Develop team responsibility and dedication.
- Learn the rules of a particular sport.
- Develop the skills necessary to play the sport.
- Have fun.

There is a possibility that some students may be cut during tryouts. Whenever possible, these students will be encouraged to tryout for another sport that does not have "cuts". There are many decisions made on a regular basis by members of the coaching staff. These include playing time, positions and the starting lineup. Members of the coaching staff make these difficult decisions after weighing many factors. The most competitive, the most skilled team members will play the major portion of the varsity contests. It is important to remember that teams cannot be successful without committed substitutes who push the starters and make the team more competitive.

Sincerely,

Amy Harriman  
Director of Athletics