

Shrewsbury Borough School District
Pay-to-Participate Interscholastic Athletic Program
September 2011

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Why pay-to-participate for the 2011-12 school year?

Answer: Due to continued budget constraints, non mandated district programs such as the interscholastic sports and extracurricular programs were again not included in the 2011-2012 budget. The district did however budget a minimum monetary allocation in order to contain costs in the athletic program and reinstated several extracurricular programs for the 2011-2012 school year.

Question: Will we continue to see pay-to-participate in future budgets?

Answer: Yes. Since the state put a CAP on the amount that a school budget is permitted to increase from year to year (and the CAP is anticipated to be lowered in subsequent school years) so pay-to-participate will be the only way that the district will be able to continue these programs.

Each year, the Board of Education and the Administration work very hard to develop a budget that maintains programs. Adding or restoring programs in the future will be extremely difficult and unlikely with the current state constraints in place.

Question: What is included in the participation fee?

Answer: The district athletic budget includes costs such as coach's stipends, equipment, league fees, referee fees, transportation and processing fees. The district will still be paying for the insurance associated with the program, field upkeep, maintenance, materials and labor costs specific to athletic playing areas.

Question: Might there be additional costs beyond the participation fee?

Answer: Yes. There could be additional fees for any teams that advance past the regular season. Any costs associated with the playoffs will be paid for directly by the students or through fund raising efforts.

Question: My student plays multiple sports. Is there a discount?

Answer: As the district cut out all of the expenditures associated with the Interscholastic Sports Program, the cost per student per sport is the cost per student per sport. There are no discounts for students participating in multiple sports or if you have more than one student participating in the same sport or other sports.

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Question: What will the funds collected from the students be used for?

Answer: The funds collected will directly be used to pay for the costs associated with each sport in the district interscholastic sports program.

Question: When is the fee due?

Answer: The fee will not be assessed until the student has made the team. When the student makes the team, the coach will submit a team roster to the district. The parent or guardian will then receive an email with directions on how to process the fee online. The fee is due within five (5) days of the parent or guardian receiving the email notice.

Question: What will happen if the fee is not paid?

Answer: If the fee is not paid within the five (5) day period, the student will not be permitted to participate in practice or game and will not receive a uniform. Any student who, with the appropriate documentation, qualifies for the free or reduced lunch program will be provided assistance with the fee.

After the five (5) days, the coach may choose to select another participant to replace the student who has not paid or choose to carry a smaller roster.

Question: As I am now paying a fee for my student to participate, will my student be guaranteed playing time?

Answer: No. The programs will operate in the manner in which they always have been conducted for an interscholastic competitive athletic program, not recreation. Playing time will be at the full discretion of the coach

Question: What is the advisor's/coach's involvement in the collection of fees?

Answer: The advisor's/coaches have a limited involvement in the collection of the fees. All fees **MUST** be paid online through the Genesis Parent Portal.

It will be the coach's responsibility to:

- Fill out the appropriate form with the required information for each student that has made the team (email addresses must be submitted) and submit it to the Technology Coordinator and the Business Office immediately after the team selection.
- Maintain communication with the Business Office to verify who has paid or not paid the required fee in order to restrict participation unless the fee is paid.

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- It is the district's expectations that the advisor/coach will **strictly** adhere to and enforce the procedure listed above and not allow the student to participate in the activity, practice or a game or to receive a uniform unless the fee has been paid.

Question: How will I know when to pay the fee?

Answer: As soon as the coach submits the team roster with the required information, you will receive an email from the school with the information necessary to process the student fee.

All fees must be paid within five (5) days of the email or your student will not be able to participate in the activity, participate in practices/games or receive a uniform.

The fee will show up on your statement as "Amazon Vendor" due to the processing agreement that Genesis has with Amazon.