

Policy Code: GBDBA Interscholastic Athletic Coaches

Descriptor Term: INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC COACHES		Descriptor Code: GBDBA	
Presented to the Board: June 25, 2009 (first reading) July 23, 2009 (second reading)	Adopted by the Board: July 23, 2009		Revised by the Board: March 6, 2018

The Guilford County Board of Education believes students who participate in athletic activities benefit from the experience in many ways. The most important benefits of athletic activities at the schools are educational, not athletic, and students deserve to be in an environment that fosters educational growth, sportsmanship, and fellowship. Coaches of interscholastic athletics must possess a commitment to the values and ideals of the Board. Coaches should be faculty members, i.e., licensed instructional or licensed instructional support personnel, of the school at which they coach. They should be trained and aware of the purposes, policies, goals, and rules applicable to interscholastic athletics in Guilford County.

In the event that no faculty member of the school is willing and able to coach a particular team, principals and athletic directors shall seek other qualified professionally licensed GCS employees, such as faculty of other GCS schools or professionally licensed central office employees, to assume paid coaching positions. Non-faculty coaches, including individuals not otherwise employed by the school system, may be used, but only in the event that no faculty coach is available and in accordance with any administrative rules established by the Superintendent. A non-faculty coach may serve in a paid or volunteer capacity; however, classified GCS employees may not serve as paid coaches unless specifically approved by the Superintendent.

Principals and athletic directors should seek the most qualified and competent coaches to fill vacancies within the guidelines of this policy and applicable administrative regulations. Principals and athletic directors must also be active in supporting the professional growth of all coaches through evaluation to help coaches improve their skills and effectiveness. To that end, the Board directs the Superintendent to establish procedures that support the Board's goals, and to require coaches and assistant coaches to read, sign, and adhere to a Code of Conduct for Coaches consistent with this policy. Additionally, the Superintendent is directed to establish procedures to assist schools in filling the positions of interscholastic coaches and evaluation of athletic coaches to meet the expectations of the NCHSAA, the State, and the Board of Education.

Guilford County Board of Education
