

# Regulations for Middle School Student Attendance at Athletic Events

**To: Parents/Guardians of Middle School Students**

**From: Don Germain, O'Rourke Middle School Principal**

Athletic events are an extremely important aspect of our school life providing for a wholesome way to influence the positive growth and development of our students. They can foster team building, health and fitness, and community spirit. Whether our children participate as athletes or spectators they can gain immeasurable value from these contests.

Along with the privilege of participating in an athletic contest, either as a spectator or player, comes the responsibility to exhibit exemplary conduct, spirit and sportsmanship. Burnt Hills has been recognized in the past for its outstanding conduct and the example it portrays for others on and off the playing field.

We would ask that you speak to your children about proper conduct at our athletic contests. We encourage enthusiastic and spirited cheering for our teams as long as it is conducted in a respectful and supportive manner. We also ask that you accompany your children to the contests to share the experience and supervise them as per the following guidelines

1. 8<sup>th</sup> grade and younger pupils will not be allowed to attend home evening varsity contests without an adult attending the game with them. An adult may be a parent, coach, grandparent or even a high school sibling. **Children who arrive at the door or gate to a contest without an adult will be held there until an adult can arrive to either attend with them or take them back home.**
2. This policy will be in effect for all evening varsity football games and evening games for boys' and girls' soccer, and boys' and girls' basketball.
3. High school pupils may enter a game without an adult but should be prepared to show identification if the staff member at the gate requests it.
4. High School siblings with proper identification may escort younger siblings but not their sibling's friends. Younger siblings must have some form of identification such as a school ID to attend a game with a high school sibling.

Many BH-BL residents moved here because this was such a safe and a healthy place to raise children. We believe this is still true, and that it can continue to be true as our community grows and changes if we are willing to work together to actively model and teach children appropriate behavior and expectations.

If you have any comments or questions about this policy, you are welcome to contact me at 399-9141, extension 4001, or contact Mr. Robert McGuire, Athletic Director at 399-9141, ext 3307