

ABOUT THE RAMS

The athletic philosophy of this soccer program is centered around the word champion. We want to produce championship teams made up of championship players. In that sense athletics is unique from other educational experiences.

To be a championship team means, first of all, each player has that vital winning attitude. Our soccer program strives for excellence: if a job is worth doing, it is worth doing well. In athletics this attitude translates into a will to win, to be the best when we set our goals as high as possible, and then strive to reach them.

The greatness of this program exceeds the talents of any one individual. Soccer is a team game, and in order for us to be successful, we must energize our efforts to think, act, and play as one. There is no "I" in team. Athletes must not only improve their individual skills, but must learn to cooperate with their teammates. Athletics are unique from other educational endeavors in as much as it affords individuals the opportunity to learn that there are times when they must give up personal freedom for the good of the group. Only when the team comes first can any success be achieved. With a united will to be the best team possible, we will be able to build a winning tradition.

Championship teams are produced during practice, where the most learning, growth, and team unity are found. Practice means dedication and 100% effort all the time. It means being dead tired, but still trying a little harder. A good athlete asks questions and follows the coach's instructions. Champion athletes will practice on their own, because they are never satisfied. They know Perfect practice makes perfect.

Championship teams are made in the fire of good competition. An athlete is on stage during the game and is expected to be a good representative of his school and community. This means sportsmanship, knowing how to act toward other players, coaches, and referees. It also means that a player must be alert and aggressive, concentrating on the goal at hand, and never giving up.

A championship athlete is a fine example to his classmates. He obeys training and school rules, is a good scholar, enjoys school, and shows others the results of sacrifice and dedication.

One season doesn't make a champion. A player must strive throughout the whole year to improve his abilities. Training, competitive spirit, and physical development are the athlete's life, and not just one season's competition.

The field of athletics is not remote from the field of life. The qualities learned on the field such as teamwork, sportsmanship, hard work, sacrifice, 100% effort, dedication, discipline, commitment to excellence, and the will to exceed may all be used in any aspect of everyday living. When each athlete has achieved these things and takes pride in himself and the team, every year will be a championship year.