



# SMS Spring ESPORTS FAQ

- Are there pre-qualifications to participate on the Explore Athletics SMS Esports teams?
  - Yes, student-athletes must be currently enrolled at Standard Middle School.
- What are the season dates?
  - League runs February 27- May 16
- What is the timeframe for practices?
  - Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30p-5p
- When are the games?
  - All games will be held at Standard Middle School's tech lab and will be "in house" games where our students compete against one another.
- What should my student-athlete bring to practice?
  - All equipment will be provided by the school.
- Are parents/guardians allowed to attend practices/games?
  - Practices/Games are closed to spectators.
- What game will be played?
  - Overwatch. At the high school level, Overwatch is one of the most popular games. Both on a national and local level this game is played across the country. Our own North Stars have an excellent Overwatch team every year. This is a 5v5 team game where students play as fantasy champions attempting to complete an objective while battling the other team.
- Does my student-athlete need access to these games at home in order to be on the team?
  - No. Many student-athletes do not play Esports at home. Explore Athletics will provide all the equipment needed to play.
- Will my student-athlete use Discord and is it safe?
  - Yes, student-athletes use Discord to communicate and compete while at school. Standard Middle School has created its own discord server where ONLY coaches and tech lab school computers are able to join. Student-athletes are only able to communicate with fellow student-athletes in the same room and there is no ability for ANY outside communication to happen while in the school Discord server.
- Will my student-athlete need to create a Discord account to use at school?
  - No, all Discord accounts are created and maintained by the school. Student-athletes will be assigned a computer in the tech lab and use the account already created.

- Will my student-athlete need to create any type of gaming account to play on the team?
  - Yes. For this game an account created under the supervision of the parent is required. This game is rated T for Teen so ONLY students who are 13+ by our tryout dates can join the team. One of the requirements to play this game is an account and the schools cannot create an account for our plays as each account requires a phone number to create. Parents/Guardians will need to create an account and will be responsible for monitoring their student-athletes' activity on that account outside of school.
- What will my student-athlete learn in Overwatch Esports?
  - Even through video games, student-athletes will learn life skills that they can use outside of the classroom. Overwatch places a heavy emphasis on communication with your teammates, helping student-athletes articulate what they are thinking and what they see. Overwatch will help teach your student-athlete discipline, as it takes patience, planning and critical thinking to succeed. To be successful, students-athletes will have to trust in others and be confident in their abilities, which can be taken into other areas of their lives.
- Is there a GPA requirement?
  - Yes, student-athletes must maintain a cumulative 2.0 GPA in order to be eligible to participate. Progress reports and/or posted grades will be used to determine eligibility. Student-athletes who do not meet the 2.0 GPA requirement will be placed on probation for 1 week in order to improve grades. Student-athletes are responsible for informing their coaches of any updates. Student-athletes will not be allowed to participate in practices or games while on probation. The Explore Admin and coaches have the ability to check grades at any time. If a student-athlete does not receive a 2.0 GPA at the end of the probationary period, it may result in suspension or removal from the Explore Athletics program.
- Is there a behavioral requirement?
  - Yes. A student-athlete who is subject to disciplinary action for violation of ED Code 48900, ED Code 48901 code, Standard School District rules, and Explore rules may become ineligible to participate or attend practices and/or games. Behavior outside of school hours is also subject to said standards. If a student-athlete is suspended from school, he/she will not be allowed to participate and attend practices and games. The following actions including, but not limited to ATS, OCI, referrals, detention may result in the student-athlete not being allowed to participate and/or attend practices and games. Grievous or reoccurring violations may result in dismissal from the Explore Athletics program.
- Parents/Guardians will be notified of any changes as soon as possible.
- Student-athletes must register with North of the River Recreation & Park District and complete the student-athlete agreement before being allowed to participate.
- Additional information can be found on the Standard School District's website under the Explore After School Program tab, [www.standardschools.net](http://www.standardschools.net) .
- Who do I contact with any questions?
  - Email [Explore@standardschools.net](mailto:Explore@standardschools.net) .