

***Pro*vidence School Board**

RESOLUTION: Funding Middle School Sports in Providence Public Schools

Whereas, the Providence School Board recognizes the critical role that sports play in promoting physical health, social-emotional development, academic achievement, and school connectedness among students; and

Whereas, participation in sports fosters teamwork, discipline, leadership, resilience, and other valuable life skills that contribute to students' overall well-being and success both in and out of the classroom; and

Whereas, providing access to sports programs in middle schools is essential for ensuring equitable opportunities for all students to engage in physical activity, develop healthy habits, and discover and pursue their interests and talents;

Therefore, be it resolved by the Providence School Board that the Providence Public Schools hereby allocates \$250,000 to support middle school sports programs, recognizing the importance of investing in the physical and social-emotional development of students.

1. **Expansion of Sports Offerings:** Providence Public Schools will use the allocated funds to expand and enhance sports offerings in middle schools, providing opportunities for students to participate in a variety of sports and physical activities, including but not limited to basketball, soccer, track and field, volleyball, and dance.
2. **Inclusive and Accessible Programming:** Providence Public Schools will ensure that sports programs are inclusive and accessible to all students, regardless of their gender, ability, socioeconomic status, or prior experience, by offering a diverse range of sports options and providing support for transportation, equipment, and uniforms as needed.
3. **Emphasis on Health and Wellness:** Providence Public Schools will prioritize the health and wellness of students by promoting physical activity, healthy lifestyles, and injury prevention strategies within sports programs, as well as providing education on nutrition, hydration, and mental well-being.
4. **Character Development and Academic Success:** Providence Public Schools will emphasize the importance of character development, academic success, and sportsmanship within sports programs, encouraging students to demonstrate respect, responsibility, integrity, and perseverance both on and off the field.
5. **Professional Development for Coaches:** Providence Public Schools will provide professional development opportunities for coaches and staff involved in sports programs to enhance their skills in coaching, mentoring, and creating positive and inclusive team environments.

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6. Parent and Community Engagement: Providence Public Schools will actively engage parents, caregivers, and community members in supporting sports programs, fostering partnerships, volunteering opportunities, and financial contributions to ensure the sustainability and success of sports offerings.
7. Evaluation and Continuous Improvement: Providence Public Schools will regularly evaluate the effectiveness of sports programs, collecting data on participation rates, student outcomes, and program quality to inform continuous improvement efforts and ensure that resources are allocated effectively.
8. Celebration of Achievements: Providence Public Schools will celebrate the achievements and successes of student athletes, coaches, and teams within sports programs, recognizing their hard work, dedication, and contributions to the school community.

Furthermore, the Providence School Board requests that the allocation of funds for middle school sports be included in the budget for the next school year and subsequent years to ensure the sustainability and expansion of sports programs for all middle school students.

This resolution shall be communicated widely within the Providence Public Schools community and implemented with diligence, compassion, and a steadfast commitment to providing equitable access to high-quality sports programs for all middle school students.

Resolution Presented by Ty'Relle Stephens