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Values Of Interscholastic Athletics

- High school athletes have higher grades and lower dropout rates and attend college more often than non-athletes. (*Women's Sports Foundation survey*)
- Student-athletes have a higher grade point average (2.84) than non-athletes (2.68) and are absent from school fewer days per year. (*Minnesota High School Athletic Association*)
- Over a five-year period, students who did not participate in sports accumulated a collective 2.39 grade point average. Those who participated in one sport averaged a 2.61. Those who participated in two sports averaged a 2.82. (*Iowa High School Athletic Association*)
- Students who participate in athletics missed an average of 4.9 days of school per year, including 0.7 days for athletic contests. Non-participants missed an average of 10.8 school days per year. (*North Dakota High School Athletic Association*)
- Grade point average of athletes improve the overall grade point average of the student population in-season as well as out-of-season. (*South Bend, Indiana School District*)
- 96% of dropouts in 14 school districts in seven regions of the nation were not participating in an athletic program. (*National Federation of State High School Associations*)
- University of Chicago research suggests:
 - a. By a 2-to-1 margin for males and a 3-to-1 margin for females, student-athletes do better in school, do not drop out, and have a better chance to graduate from college.
 - b. Student-athletes' parents are more involved with their educational process.
 - c. Student-athletes demonstrate a higher level of self-confidence than non-athletes.
 - d. 92% of student-athletes do not use drugs.
- 95% of high school principals nationwide believe activities programs contribute to the development of "school spirit" among the student body. (*Indiana University study*)
- Nearly seven out of ten Americans say high school sports teach students lessons about life that they can't learn in a classroom. Nine out of ten believe high school sports contribute to the health and fitness of participants. (*USA Today*)
- Successful extracurricular participation is a school's best predictor of adult success. ("*Fulfilling Lives – Paths to Maturity and Success*" by Douglas Heath)
- 95% of Fortune 500 executives participated in high school athletics. 47% of Fortune 500 executives were National Honor Society members. (*Fortune Magazine*)

Statistics provided by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association