

Our Athletic Policy

IN OUR athletic program we use athletics as a means to an end and not as an end in itself. We do not believe it should be taught to be forgotten immediately but should be of a useful nature as well as of physical value to a person during his entire lifetime. With this viewpoint in mind, our sport program is divided into three groups, namely: physical education and gymnastics, intramural sports, and intercollegiate sports. The first is taught as a class-room subject and is used mostly for posture correction and physical development. The second group gives sport competition to those not good enough to make the first or school team. It is used also as a builder for the benefit of the final group. In the third group are classified those who take part in the interschool competition. They are the specialists in our two leading sports, football and basketball.



Because of the individual value of athletics, we have included them as a part of our school curriculum. To meet the adverse comments on athletics that they reach just a few, we have organized our physical education program in such a way that everyone in school has ample opportunity to partake in some part of it. It is true that the school football team has positions for only eleven men at one time, and the basketball team for only five, but with successful teams, enough interest is aroused in the remainder of the students so that they also want to take some part in the sports program. This in turn

makes our gymnasium classes more interesting and of greater value because of the desire on the part of the student.

The American youth of today has superabundant "pep" and there is no better or more useful place for the release of this than through athletics. While on the athletic field or in the gymnasium he is experimenting with himself. He is learning to discipline himself. He comes in contact with other youths, mentally, emotionally, and physically, in which ways he will learn lessons that cannot be taught in the class room. We stress our academic work first but we find that clean well organized sport is also of help to the student in his academic work.

The people of today, both young and old, like action. They want competition. They are thrilled by spectacles and they live on vivid experiences. For these reasons football games during the past season drew as high as 80,000 to set record attendances. This boosts athletics, for what other attractions or gatherings can encourage like numbers in attendance?

Our policy demands the attainment of a high scholastic standing. Members of our school team must be above the average in scholarship. They are required to have a passing grade in all subjects they carry. They also must obey strict training rules and conduct themselves as examples in their school. These things bring about better sportsmanship and we find good sportsmanship another way of expressing the Golden Rule.

After all, sport may not be a complete representation of individual and social life, but the man who looks upon life as a game and plays it according to the best code of sportsmanship and fair play, will probably get as much out of life and give as much to society at the same time as any one who accepts a different philosophy of life. It is for this reason more than any other that we believe we are justified in establishing and promoting our present system and policy.



D. H. LA VOI, Coach.