

**Recommendation from the 2004-05 Schools/Centers' Advisory Council  
To Elementary Schools  
Re: Elementary Interscholastic Athletic Guidelines  
April 6, 2005**

## **CLUSTER LEAGUES FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS**

The elementary principals of each cluster will establish a *Schools' (cluster) Athletic League* which will have its own constitution and by-laws. This constitution and by-laws would assign identity of the league with the Diocese of St. Petersburg.

Under the auspice of this league an *Athletic Steering Committee* would be established to facilitate and direct the schools' interscholastic athletic programs.

1. The composition of the Athletic Steering Committee includes:
  - All principals with one principal serving as chair for a designated period of time
  - A representative from each school, preferably the Athletic Director
  - The Athletic Director from the steering committee chair's school will be designated as treasurer for a designated period.
  
2. The function of the steering committee includes:
  - The development of an athletic schedule which meets the requirements of **the *Guidelines for Elementary Interscholastic Athletics***
  - The supervision of the explicit observance of the ***Guidelines for Elementary Interscholastic Athletics*** and the ***Ethics for Coaches documents***
  - The preservation of the teachings of the Catholic Church and the principles of Catholic education in sports programs and events
  - The provision of training for all coaches, whether paid or volunteer Safe Environment, the ***Guidelines for Elementary Interscholastic Athletics*** and ethical behavior and Catholic teaching
  - The provision of insurance for all venue usage and participating coaches and students
  - The adherence to the standard that all final decisions regarding athletic programs, policy, participation and planning remain with the school principal
  - The payment of all fees utilizing a league checking account with the required signature of both the committee chair and the treasurer. Appropriate accounting and reporting practices will be required.