



Redlands Unified School District

Educational Services Division
Student Services Department

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Dear Parents and Middle School Students:

Redlands Unified School District (RUSD) believes in the benefits of connecting students to their schools. One great way to do this is through athletics. At the high school level, RUSD student-athletes have a better attendance rate and maintain higher grades than their non-student athlete peers. Student-athletes also learn valuable character building lessons while playing sports: school pride, teamwork, and positive attitude and sportsmanship. With this in mind, RUSD would like to extend these benefits to its middle school students.

Therefore, we are excited to announce the implementation of an additional middle school connection program beginning the second semester of this current school year. The goal is to begin with two sports (soccer third quarter and basketball fourth quarter), adding volleyball and softball next school year 2019-20. The new "Redlands Student Connections League" (RSCL) will include all four RUSD middle schools – Beattie, Clement, Cope and Moore.

Each sport will have a nine-week season and play eight (8) games. All eligible 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students may try out; however, there will be only one boys team and one girls team for each sport offered. Practices will be held after school beginning at 3:30 pm. All games will be played during the school week, with the exception of the final game of each sport, which will be played on a Saturday morning. It is important to note that parents must pick up their middle school student-athletes after every practice and game.

Student-athletes will be required to meet academic eligibility standards in order to be part of the team. RUSD Board policy requires a minimum of a 2.0 grade point average while passing a minimum of four classes. The previous grade-reporting period will determine eligibility for a given sport (e.g., 2018-19 first semester grades will determine soccer eligibility; and 2018-19 third quarter grades will determine basketball eligibility). Student-athletes will also be held accountable for their behavior and will be required to have good attendance. All student-athletes must complete a middle school athletic clearance/participation packet (coming soon) before they may try out for a team.

This is an exciting time at the middle school level as we focus on bringing students together by offering an educational-based school connection program. The RSCL will be dedicated to helping middle school student-athletes enhance their academic performance level, improve positive character traits, strive for excellence, and increase their overall level of confidence through athletic competition.

Stay tuned for more information to come in the near future!

Sincerely,

Pat Hafley
Coordinator, District Athletics

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