

St. Mary Athletics

Mission Statement/Objectives

The St. Mary School athletic program goal is to give each participant the opportunity to develop their Christian values, learn the fundamental skills of their game and have a positive experience. Volunteer coaches will encourage and instruct players in a structured and disciplined environment. Emphasis will be placed on fundamentals of the game in the Intramural program which encompasses grades K-3. At this level, players will have equal play time.

Interscholastic athletics (grades 4-8) are an extension of the classroom. Their purpose is to add to the opportunities for young adults to develop their character and individual capabilities. In the classroom, students are exposed to academic courses in religion, math, science, language, etc. They obtain a broad awareness and knowledge of those areas and gravitate toward their favorites as they start to define their future. Likewise, other opportunities such as athletics, music, drama and other clubs allow students to develop their “special” skill. However the players who score the points or goals don’t have the opportunity unless a teammate “blocks, rebounds, passes” or performs their role. The teammates who work hard in practice but may not gain much game time are every bit as valuable as the ones who play the most in game situations. Everyone on a team has a role and contributes to a team’s success. As the student-athlete progresses through the upper grades, playing time will be determined by skill and aptitude of the game. Success is measured in hard work, honesty, teamwork, sportsmanship, character and the ability to learn by “Team First”, “Individual Second.”

Interscholastic athletics also introduce the student-athlete to a competitive sports environment. In grades 4-6, fundamentals and “team” play will continue as a goal, however, the player will also be introduced to increased expectation and competition. Grades 7-8 will continue basic fundamentals and provide more complex knowledge of the sport to increase their skill level and understanding of interscholastic team competition. In addition, the primary goal/objective will be to prepare the student-athlete for High School disciplined athletics.