

Liberty Middle School Football

Parent Informational Meeting

July 25, 2023



COACHES

8th Grade – Kevin Matarelli

7th Grade – Jon Wagner

Assistant – Blake Moss

Assistant – Kyle Smith

CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact through District email

8th Grade - kmatarelli@ecusd7.org

7th Grade - kbreden@ecusd7.org

Liberty Football website:

Announcements – Calendars – Schedule – Paperwork

PHYSICALS

- All students must present the school office with evidence of having had a physical examination before being allowed to practice, or participate in any athletic activity. Exceptions cannot be made to this rule. **Physicals are valid for 395 days from the date of the actual examination.**

**IMPORTANT: MUST BE TURNED IN BY
AUGUST 8**

CODE OF CONDUCT

- The Board of Education adopted a revised Code of Conduct for Athletics and Extracurricular Activities, Board Policy #532, at its regular board meeting on July 17, 2006. The revised Code of Conduct automatically covers any and all students in grades 6-12 who participate in athletics and/or extracurricular activities.

Coaches and/or activity sponsors may continue to require students and parents to sign the document; however, signatures are not required to enforce the Code of Conduct on any and/or all participants in grade 6-12 athletics and/or extracurricular activities. Code of Conduct information can be found in the District Handbook.

- **Middle School students must also sign and adhere to the “Liberty Middle School Code of Conduct for Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities.” This document must be signed by both parents and student and will be strictly enforced.**

Athletic Participation Fees

- There is a \$75.00 fee for participation in the following sports, with a maximum of \$150.00 per student per year. The sports included are; Football, Baseball, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Volleyball, Fall/Winter Cheerleading, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Wrestling, Boys Track, Girls Track. All athletic fees will be due one week after rosters are set. Students who qualify for free or reduced lunch status should apply for a fee waiver. Students who don't qualify, but have extenuating circumstances, should contact Principal, Allen Duncan.

ELIGIBILITY

- To participate in any extracurricular activity, a student must maintain **a passing grade and a 2 or better in conduct in all classes.**

Eligibility will be checked on a regular basis from the time the student joins an activity.

Those found ineligible will not be allowed to participate in activities the following week (Monday – Sunday). If grades and/or conduct improve, the participation may resume after the next weekly eligibility check.

PANTHER FOOTBALL RULES & REGULATIONS

1. COME TO PRACTICE EVERYDAY ON TIME, WITH A **POSITIVE ATTITUDE**
2. BE COMPLETELY **FOCUSED** ON WHAT WE ARE DOING IN PRACTICE
3. BE A **GOOD TEAMMATE** – THE GOLDEN RULE
4. BE THE **BEST STUDENT** IN CLASS

Player Expectations

“Bad company corrupts good morals.”

- Classroom Behavior
- School work – Assignments, Tests, Quizzes and Projects
- School Behavior – Lunch, Hallways
- Before/After School
- Bus Behavior

Player Expectations

“Discipline is a Good thing”

- Missing Practice
- Poor school behavior
- Poor choices in practice/locker room
- Game Behavior
- Low Grades

Parent Expectations

- Remember to emphasize values like teamwork, discipline and responsibility. Winning comes and goes, but values remain.
- See sports as one of many enriching activities your child participates in – not the focus of his life.

What about Sports Specialization?

Sports specialization

Playing one sport exclusively or year round

- Rick Wolff, co-founder and chairman of the Center for Sports Parenting, notes that **burnout** usually affects kids who have been **playing one sport for a long time on a travel team**.
- Premature specialization might also mean a child doesn't ever try a sport that might end up being his favorite.
- "Some coaches will pressure kids to play just one sport," Wolff said. When they're young, **let them try a bunch of sports.**"
- Specialization does not guarantee success in sports.
- Giancarlo Stanton – Miami Marlins

Student/Athlete

Balance between football and school work

➤ Time management

❖ Sit down and plan out your son's activities

1. Family responsibilities
2. School
3. Football
4. Other – Friends, Hobbies, etc.....

➤ Kids need structure

What Can You Expect from US?

- **Safety** for ALL of our players
 - There are NO weight restrictions
- Fundamentals – Blocking and Tackling
- Consistent with what the High School is doing on Offense/Defense
 - Terminology
- Players will be prepared for every game
 - Scouting Reports

What Can You Expect from US?

Granite City 2020

SCOUTING REPORT

WEEK 1

7TH GRADE – Saturday, August 29 (Home)

8TH GRADE – Saturday, August 30 (Away)

What WE Emphasize !

4 T's

TACKLE
TURNOVERS
TOUCHDOWNS

Our MAIN Emphasis!!!

TEAM



Football Calendar

➤ August

- Posted on Football website (Important Dates!)
- Preseason Workouts July 25, 26, 27 August 1, 2, 3
- Aug. 7 - First Mandatory Practice (Equipment Handout)
- Aug. 12 - Punt/Pass/Kick Evaluation (Fundraiser)
- Aug. 18 - Black & Orange Scrimmage
- Aug. 19 - 7th/8th Grade Jamboree @ EHS Field
- Aug. 22/23 - Week #1 vs Highland
- Aug. 26 – Bathalto Jamboree

Activity Bus

- The start and dismissal times of Liberty and Lincoln Middle Schools and Edwardsville High School will be the same as usual (Pre-Covid).
 1. **Liberty Middle School will have one run that will leave the school at 4:45 p.m.**

Game Schedule

- **8th Grade**
 - **7 Games (2 Jamborees)**
- **7th Grade**
 - **7 Games (2 Jamborees)**

Game Schedules can be found on the
Football website

Punt, Pass & Kick Fundraiser

➤ **Saturday, August 12**

Take home form tonight.

Turn-in \$\$ on Friday, August 25

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)

- **'Huddle' Meetings**

- Food, Fun, Fellowship
- Every Wednesday before school 7:15 – 7:50



Leadership

1. Is being popular more important than doing what is right?
2. What comes out when you are stressed or in a difficult situation on the field? In life?
3. What happens when you are pushed to your limit?
4. Who or what do you rely on when things don't go as planned?

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The following information will cover **important dates, paperwork and things your son will need** to participate on the Liberty Middle School Panther Football Team.

Important Paperwork

1. Physical

2. Forms

- Medical Release/Code of Conduct/Concussion Form

Register online through school website

Other Important Things to Know

- ✓ Athletic Participation Fees
- ✓ Combination Lock

- ❖ T-shirt Size (Adult sizes)
 - ❖ Player
 - ❖ Parents
- ❖ Girdle w/ pads
- ❖ Game Socks
 - ❖ Everyone has the same

Liberty Panther Football

TEAM

