

The Blue Devil Philosophy

Lisbon David Anderson Jr/Sr High School's philosophy is that much can be learned about one's self and life through athletics. This belief inspires us to not only encourage all students to take part in them, but also provide them with the support needed to do so.

The following four concepts are the key foundation beliefs in our athletic department:

- Representing one's school may also be a way to learn responsibility and to build a favorable self-image. It is a privilege for our students to represent their school and our school is privileged to have our students represent it. For many student athletes, this is just another avenue to show their talents and excel. Sports provides structure, discipline, teamwork, accountability and self-worth. All of which are vital in life outside of school.
- Success is not measured by wins and losses. Athletes should not view losing as a sign of failure or as an indication of who they are. Students can learn to overcome obstacles and support each other even when they do not achieve victory.
- Winning isn't everything, nor is it the only thing. Young athletes cannot possibly learn from winning and losing if they think the only objective is to beat their opponents. However, to play sports without striving to win is to be a dishonest competitor. Every student can experience the true success that comes from trying his or her best to win. The opportunity to strive for success is the right of every young athlete.
- That the highest standards of sportsmanship and fair play will be observed by players, coaches, parents and spectators. Winning and losing in competition will be placed in their proper perspectives. The way you act in both will reflect on you, your family and your school. React with dignity and class.

In accordance with this philosophy of athletics and our desire to see as many students as possible participate in the athletic program at Lisbon David Anderson, we will encourage coaches to keep as many students as they can without compromising the integrity of their sport.

It is vital that we pay close attention to its athletic programs. Athletics play an important part in a school and community and contributes to a school's vision for creating great students and quality citizens. A student allowed to cheat on the field might cheat in the classroom. A student taught that getting by on natural ability alone could slide through classes. But when a school's athletic policy mirrors its academic policy, each enhances the other. Athletics, then, are not a "frill" nor are they an "outside activity". They have an enormous impact upon every student who takes part. And the school has an absolute responsibility to try to make sure that effect is a positive one.