

ATHLETIC PLACEMENT PROCESS

The Athletic Placement Process is a process designed by New York State for screening students to determine their readiness to compete in interscholastic athletic competition by evaluating their physical maturity, fitness and skill. The intent of the program is to permit students in grades 7-12 to safely participate at an appropriate level of competition based upon readiness rather than age and grade. Students do not mature at the same rate and there can be a tremendous range of developmental differences between students of the same age. This program has been designed to assess a student's physical maturation, physical fitness and skill, so the student may be placed at a level of competition which should result in increased opportunity, a fairer competitive environment, reduced injury and greater personal satisfaction.

The Athletic Placement Process is designed for mature and exceptionally skilled students to advance to an upper level. **The Mattituck-Cutchogue UFSD Board of Education will consider approval for participation of seventh and eighth grade students on Varsity and Junior Varsity teams.** Students competing on the high school level must meet the minimum requirements of the New York State Athletic Placement Process standards for maturation and fitness and receive medical approval by the district physician.

The Board of Education will consider any student who has met the Athletic Placement Process standards and has been recommended by the Director of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Athletics.

Normally a student is eligible for senior high athletic competition in a sport during each of four consecutive seasons commencing with the student's entry into ninth grade. However by satisfying the requirements of the Athletic Placement Process, a student may receive extended eligibility to permit:

- a. Participation during five consecutive seasons in the approved sport after entry into the eighth grade; or
- b. Participation during six consecutive seasons in the approved sport after entry into the seventh grade.

Athletics are a part of the regular school program and are under the control of the Superintendent, with final decision by the Board of Education. The Director of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Athletics will be responsible for implementing the Mattituck-Cutchogue UFSD's Athletic Placement Process.

ATHLETIC PLACEMENT PROCESS GUIDELINES

- A. In accordance with the Board of Education policy, a student will be considered for the Athletic Placement Process when a request is made by the coaching staff of the respective sport, physical education teacher or Athletic Director.
- B. All athletes considered for movement must be exceptional. Exceptional athletes are those who will be impact participants. They must display superior skill at levels above their age group and not have comparable competition at the modified level.
- C. The evaluation process will consist of the following steps completed in sequence:

1. The parent/guardian must submit written permission for their child to participate in the evaluation process to the Director of Athletics.
2. The Junior High Principal will verify that the student is in good standing both academically and socially in their building.
3. The school physician must give clear the student physically based on the physiological maturity according to New York State Athletic Placement Process procedures and guidelines. Confidentiality of the child shall be protected and done as inconspicuous and discrete as possible.
4. The Athletic Performance Test will be administered by the Athletic Director or their designee who is a member of the physical education staff and is not a coach in the specific program for which the student is being evaluated.
5. All testing will be done within the three day tryout period at the start of the season.
6. The request and documentation will be brought before the Athletic Advisory Council for consideration. The AAC will meet with the coach, review the documents and make a recommendation to the Director of Athletics.
7. The final recommendation is made by the Director of Athletics to the Superintendent of Schools for Board of Education consideration.
8. The Director of Athletics will notify Section XI and the opposing schools of the approval.
9. A report detailing the impact of the student on the high school team will be prepared by the Director of Athletics to the Board of Education at the conclusion of the season.