



**23** GRAND HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL

**24** STUDENT-ATHLETE

**H A N D B O O K**



WE PROVIDE THE BEST EXPERIENCE IN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS FOR STUDENTS, STAFF, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

## 2023-2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 7th ----- Fall Sports Begin  
August 23rd ----- First Day of School  
September 1-4 ----- Labor Day  
October 30 ----- Hockey Begins  
November 6th ----- Competitive Cheer Begins  
November 9th ----- Bowling Begins  
November 13th ----- Basketball (B), Ski, Wrestling Begins  
November 20th --- Basketball (G), Swim and Dive Begins  
November 22-24 ----- Thanksgiving Break  
December 22nd-----Semester 1 Ends  
December 23-January 7 -----Holiday Break  
January 8th-----Semester 2 Begins  
March 11th -----Spring Sports Begin  
March 29-April 7 -----Spring Break  
April 15th-----Physicals Dated after this date will be good for 24-25 School Year  
May 16th-----GHHS Physical Day  
May 23rd-----GHHS Graduation  
May 27th-----Memorial Day  
May 31st-----Last Day of School



## WELCOME TO THE BUCCANEER FAMILY



*Grand Haven Athletics*  
17001 Ferris Street  
Grand Haven, MI 49417



## STAY CONNECTED

[www.grandhavensports.com](http://www.grandhavensports.com)

Welcome to Grand Haven Athletics. At Grand Haven Area Public Schools we will strive everyday to provide you with the opportunity to reach your fully potential academically and athletically. We are building tomorrow's future leaders.

This handbook is designed to provide you with all the necessary policies concerning Grand Haven Area Public Schools and the Grand Haven athletic department. If there is information not listed in this handbook but you have questions, please ask.

We are happy to help!

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## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

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Welcome to the 2023-24 academic year at Grand Haven Area Public Schools. We are proud that you are a Buccaneer and challenge you to continue pursuing excellence both on and off the field of play. We believe that interscholastic sports:

- Are an integral part of the total educational experience for all students.
- Provide opportunities and experiences which assist students in their personal adjustment and development.
- Help meet the students' needs.
- Provide good training habits necessary to learn sportsmanship, self-discipline, leadership and teamwork.
- Should strive for excellence.
- Provide the spirit of competition and sportsmanship for athletic teams.

A quality athletic program is the shared responsibility of the students, staff, parents and community. It requires a supportive environment that allows for participation among students, staff, and parents. It is our expectation that our athletes hold themselves to the highest standards whether they are in the classroom, on the playing field, or in the community. It is our expectation that our staff, coaches, and parents, also, represent themselves and the school in a positive way when they attend any athletic event, home or away. As with any successful team, we must all work together to ensure that Grand Haven athletics continue our tradition of excellence.

Our administrative and coaching staff is committed to your mental, physical, and emotional well-being and we are committed to success on the field and your future. We are here to help you reach your goals and will ensure that your experience as a Grand Haven Buccaneer will serve you for the rest of your life. Please do not hesitate to reach out to any one of us for anything that would help enhance your experience here at Grand Haven.

I look forward to developing with each and everyone of you as the year progresses. It is a great day to be a Buccaneer! We are excited for what the future holds for our organization and we are grateful that you get to be a part of it.

I wish you all the best on the fields of play and in the classroom.

Go Bucs!

Taylor Schriber  
Director of Athletics

OTTAWA-KENT CONFERENCE



**CALEDONIA  
FIGHTING SCOTS**

9050 Kraft Ave. SE  
Caledonia, MI 49316



**HUDSONVILLE  
EAGLES**

5037 32nd Ave  
Hudsonville, MI 49426



**EAST KENTWOOD  
FALCONS**

6230 Kalamazoo Ave SE  
Kentwood, MI 49508



**JENISON  
WILDCATS**

2140 Bauer Rd  
Jenison, MI 49428



**GRANDVILLE  
BULLDOGS**

4700 Canal Street SW  
Grandville, MI 49418



**ROCKFORD  
RAMS**

4100 Kroes St. NE  
Rockford, MI 49341



**GRAND HAVEN  
BUCCANEERS**

17001 Ferris St.  
Grand Haven, MI 49417



**WEST OTTAWA  
PANTHERS**

3685 Butternut Dr.  
Holland, MI 49424



**RED DIVISION**

TICKET PRICES

Adults \$5.00

Students \$5.00

GoFan Tickets



## ATHLETIC OFFERINGS

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### Girls Sports - Fall

Sideline Cheer  
Cross Country  
Football  
Golf  
Swimming/Diving  
Volleyball  
Equestrian

### Boys Sports - Fall

Cross Country  
Football  
Soccer  
Tennis  
Water Polo

### Girls Sports - Winter

Basketball  
Bowling  
Competitive Cheer  
Ice Hockey  
Skiing  
Wrestling

### Boys Sports - Winter

Basketball  
Bowling  
Ice Hockey  
Skiing  
Swimming/Diving  
Wrestling

### Girls Sports - Spring

Lacrosse  
Soccer  
Softball  
Tennis  
Track and Field  
Water Polo

### Boys Sports - Spring

Baseball  
Golf  
Lacrosse  
Track and Field

#### FALL SEASON

All Fall Sports practice/tryouts start August 7, 2023

#### WINTER SEASON

Ice Hockey starts practice/tryouts on October 30, 2023

Competitive Cheer start practice/tryouts on November 6, 2023

Bowling Boys/Girls start practice/tryouts on November 9, 2023

Basketball Boys, Skiing Boys/Girls, & Wrestling start practice/tryouts on November 13, 2023

Swimming Boys and Basketball Girls start practice/tryouts on November 20, 2023

#### SPRING SPORTS

All spring sports start practice/tryouts on March 11, 2024

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## PARENT/ATHLETE/COACH COMMUNICATION

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Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the others and provide greater benefit to the student. As parents, when your son or daughter becomes involved in our programs, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your student-athlete. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your student-athlete's program. For further information on this topic, please pick up a copy of the Parent/Coach Communication Guide.

### *COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR SON/DAUGHTER'S COACH:*

- Expectations the coach has for your daughter/son and the team.
- Locations and times of all practices and contests.
- Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning, team/individual camps.
- Procedures to follow should your student-athlete become injured during participation.
- Team rules, guidelines, and requirements for earning awards.

### *COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM STUDENT-ATHLETES:*

- Notification of any schedule conflicts in advance.
- Special concerns in regards to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
- Injury or circumstances that may endanger the athlete when participating.

As your son/daughter becomes involved in the athletic programs at Grand Haven High School, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your student-athlete wishes. At these times discussions with the coach is encouraged.

### *APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES:*

The treatment of your student-athlete, mentally and physically.  
Ways to help your student-athlete to improve.  
Concerns about your student-athlete's behavior.

### *ISSUES NOT APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES:*

- Playing time
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Other student-athletes

It is very difficult to accept your son/daughter's not playing as much as you may hope. Please understand, our coaches are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all students involved.



## PARENT/ATHLETE/COACH COMMUNICATION FLOWCHART

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are to be encouraged. However, if you have a concern, you may want to discuss the issue with your son/daughter first. You may find through this communication an answer, resolution, or understanding of the situation before contacting others. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

1

We recommend the Student-Athlete initiate the first conversation with the coach to discuss any of the above



2

Call the coach to set up an appointment with yourself, and your student-athlete. If you cannot get in contact with the coach contact the Athletic Director and meeting will be set up.



3

If a positive resolution is not reached, please contact the Athletic Director and a meeting with the coach, the student-athlete and the parent will be scheduled.



4

If a positive resolution is still not reached, a meeting with the Principal, the Athletic Director, the coach, the student-athlete and the parent will be scheduled.



*\*Please note in all of the steps listed above, the Student-Athlete is present.*

## TEAM MEMBERSHIP

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### *Participation*

Participation in interscholastic athletics is voluntary. Each student must accept the responsibility of self-discipline as it relates to studies, conditioning, sportsmanship, and personal conduct. Also each participant must agree to abide by sport, program, school training, and Michigan High School Athletic Association rules.

Athletes must agree to abide by:

- Student-Athlete-Parent Handbook
- Athletic Code - signed by athlete and parents via Final Forms
- Team rules
- Rules and regulations of MHSAA

### *Try-Out Information*

Students wishing to participate on athletic teams must:

- Meet the residency requirements set forth by the MHSAA
- Meet academic requirements
- Create a Final Forms Account
- Have a current sports physical exam
- Sign the athletic code per season

Students who join a team after the first official practice (date set by coach, which cannot be earlier than the MHSAA beginning date) must practice with the team for at least two (2) weeks before being allowed to participate in an athletic contest. Students who participate in a fall or winter sport with an extended season (districts, regionals, etc.) will be able to participate in winter or spring seasons following a mandatory resting period of at least three days.

### *Cuts*

The district cannot provide a team for every student who wants to play interscholastic sports. Therefore, in some situations students will not make the team. The coach will provide information as to what criteria will be used to select team members. Participation in off-season or preseason camps or meetings is not a determining factor. Factors that may determine team members include, manageable number of participants, skills of individuals, and team requirements by position. The athletes not making the team will be notified through a meeting with the coach. This can be a very emotional and difficult time, please be as supportive of your athlete as possible.

## TEAM MEMBERSHIP

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### *Team Advancement*

The intent of advancing an athlete to a level beyond that at which he/she would normally play (9th grade athletes on the freshmen level, 10th grade athletes on the junior varsity level and 11th and 12th grade athletes on the varsity level) is to provide an exceptionally talented athlete the opportunity to enhance his/her experience and skill development. The goal is also to contribute to the team, by participating at a more challenging level.

The head varsity coach is responsible for making the initial recommendation regarding who should be considered for team advancement in the program. The proposed team advancement must be discussed and approved by the Athletic Department, the Head Varsity Coach and the parent(s) prior to any discussion of the opportunity with the athlete. Academic progress, emotional maturity, and peer relationships, as well as athletic ability, will be considered as part of these discussions. If the athlete is advanced, he/she must be assured of an opportunity to improve his/her skills through playing time similar to what he/she would have had at the lower level. The team advancement decision must be assessed regularly by the coach, the Athletic Department, the athlete, and the parent(s). The placement decision may be reversed.

### *Equipment*

Athletes will be issued equipment with the provision that it will be returned at the end of the season. Athletes will be held accountable for the cost of lost equipment. Game uniforms which will be issued prior to the first contest are not to be worn at any time other than an athletic contest.

If lockers are required, they will be assigned prior to the start of the season. Athletes are to remove equipment and clean-out lockers immediately after the season ends. All lockers need to be available for cleaning at the start of the next season.

### *Transportation*

School-owned vehicles are provided for each athletic contest, whenever possible. Athletes are required to ride to and from contests

Transportation will also be provided to weekend events for High School Athletic Programs. Parents/Adult Drivers may provide weekend transportation if they submit an approved permission slip to the coach and volunteer application form.

## TEAM MEMBERSHIP/MHSAA REGULATIONS

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### *Dropping Out of a Sport*

Quitting a team is a serious matter. No athlete should quit a team without first discussing his/her intention to do so with the coach. An athlete will not be permitted to participate in another sport until the season of the sport he/she drops has been completed.

### *Michigan High School Athletic Association*

The Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) has been the governing body of high school athletics in our state since 1924, and Grand Haven Area Public Schools is part of the 733 public, parochial and private schools that have agreed to follow the rules and regulations MHSAA helps enact. The following is a summary of the MHSAA Ten-Point Checklist for Student Eligibility:

### *Age*

A high school student is ineligible if they have reached their nineteenth birthday before September 1 of a current school year.

### *Undergraduate Standing*

Students involved with high school sports cannot be a high school graduate.

### *Physical Examination*

Students must have a physician's statement for the current school year on file, in the athletic office, (**after April 15**), certifying that he/she is physically able to compete in athletic practices and contests.

### *Semesters of Enrollment*

Students cannot be eligible in high school for more than eight semesters and the seventh and eighth semesters must be consecutive. Students are allowed four first semesters and four second semesters of competition and cannot compete if they have graduated from high school. When two seasons leading to a state championship of the same sport are offered in a school year, an athlete may participate in only one.

*For more information visit the MHSAA Handbook at [MHSAA.com](http://MHSAA.com)*

## LIMITED TEAM MEMBERSHIP

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After practicing with or participating with high school teams, students cannot participate in any athletic competition not sponsored by his or her school in the same sport during the same season. Students in individual sports may participate in a maximum of two non-school individual meets or contests during the school season while not representing their school. Any participation in non-school individual meets during the high school season must be reported to the athletic department prior to participation.

### *All-Star Competition*

Students shall not compete at any time in any sport under MHSAA jurisdiction in All-Star Contests or national championships regardless of the method of selection. Participation in such a contest shall cause that student to become ineligible for a maximum period of one year of high school enrollment.

### *Awards and Amateurism*

Students cannot receive money or other valuable considerations for participating in MHSAA sponsored sports or officiating in interscholastic athletic contests, except as allowed by the HANDBOOK. Students may accept, for participation in MHSAA sponsored sports, a symbolic or merchandise award, which does not have a value over \$25.00. Banquets, luncheons, dinners, trips and admission to camps or events, are permitted if accepted "in kind". Awards in the form of cash merchandise, certificates, or any other negotiable document are not allowed.

## ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

### *Previous Semester Record:*

1. No high school student/athlete who has failed two (2) or more classes in the previous semester shall represent Grand Haven Area Public Schools in athletic competition. Middle School students will be using (4) marking periods for their eligibility.
2. Those student athletes failing to meet these standards will be ineligible until credit is fully recovered.

### *Current Semester Record:*

Progress checked every week for each athlete. Any student-athlete failing more than 1 class will be ineligible for not less than 1 full week and until that student-athlete is no longer failing more than 1 class

\*Middle School grades will be checked weekly. If a student is failing more than 1 class in the marking period they will be ineligible until that student is no longer failing more than 1 class.

## ATHLETIC/FINE ART DECISION MAKING POLICY FOR CONFLICTS

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The Purpose of this policy is to help a student make a decision when there is a conflict between athletic and fine arts events. In this policy, "event" refers to: a game; a competition; a practice; a performance or a rehearsal.

1. At no time will the student be adversely penalized because of the choice made.
2. When the choice is made, the time needs to be made up and a reasonable make-up assignment will be given. (The student will contact the coach or fine arts teacher for the make-up time or assignment.)
3. Items of precedence:
  - a. Game or competition over practice/rehearsal
  - b. Performance over practice
  - c. State-sponsored events would have priority
4. When two events are unavoidably scheduled in conflict with one another, the fine arts teacher(s) and affected coach(es) will meet with one another prior to discussing any resolution of the situation with the involved students. If the fine arts teacher and the coach come to agreeable terms as to which students are most needed at which event, they will both communicate their desires to the affected student. If the student accepts the decision made, there is no problem. If the student does not accept the decision and has a strong preference that runs contrary to the decision made by the adults, the student's decision will be honored. The student needs to communicate their decision to the coach and fine arts teacher. The student also needs to contact the coach and/or fine arts teacher for the make-up time and/or assignment.
5. If the FineArts Department schedules events beyond their published calendar, all efforts will be made to choose a date that does not conflict with regularly scheduled events. These events must have the approval of the building principal. If a conflict occurs, the student is exempted from either obligation.
6. At times when athletic events must be rescheduled because of bad weather, all efforts will be taken to avoid a conflict with regularly scheduled FineArts Department dates. If a conflict occurs, the student is exempted from either obligation.
7. Athletes or fine arts students shall not be adversely penalized or made to feel guilty for choosing one school event over another. Fine arts teachers and coaches will not use pressure tactics in attempting to sway a student to choose one event over another.
8. If a student consistently chooses fine arts events over a sports event, the student may jeopardize their ability to earn an award for that season. Conversely, if the student consistently chooses a sports event over the fine arts event and does not make up the assignment, the student's performance grade for the performances missed will not be earned.

## DISQUALIFICATION FROM A CONTEST

### *Michigan High School Athletic Association Regulation V Section 3(D)*

The following policies for disqualification shall apply in all sports:

- When a student is disqualified during a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, that student shall be withheld by his/her school for at least the next contest/day of competition for that team.
- When a coach is disqualified during a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, that coach shall be prohibited by his/her school from coaching at or attending at least the next day of competition for that coach's team.
- Any coach who is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct two or more times during a season; any player who is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct three or more times during a season; and any coach or player who is ejected for spitting at, hitting, slapping, kicking, pushing or intentionally and aggressively physically contacting an official at any time during that season, is not eligible to participate in the MHSAA tournament for that sport, that season. If the tournament disqualifying ejection for that individual occurs during the MHSAA tournament, that player or coach is ineligible for the remainder of that tournament.
- Failure of the school, for any reason, to enforce this regulation will prohibit the school from entry in the next MHSAA tournament for that sport, or from the remainder of the current tournament if the disqualification occurs during an MHSAA tournament or during the last regular season contest/day of competition.
- Disqualification from one season carry over to the next season in that sport for undergraduates and coaches, or the next season in any sport for seniors.
- If the playing rules for a sport specify an additional penalty or more rapid progression, or use of such a progression for other violations, the playing rules apply.

Violation of Michigan High School Athletic Association Rules will be reported to the Michigan High School Athletic Association.



## ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

### Code Violations

The coaching staff and administration of Grand Haven High School will not condone the possession or use of alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco in any form, improper conduct, actions which would be deemed misdemeanors or felonies under the criminal code, or the engaging in activities considered to be unbecoming of an athlete. A student is considered an athlete and subject to the rules of this code when he/she first participates in an interscholastic sport and continues until the athlete graduates. All training rules are applicable regardless of whether an athlete is "in season".

Any information, circumstantial or otherwise, obtained by the school administrative team regarding a violation of these rules may result in an administrative investigation. If a violation of these rules is substantiated by an administrative team investigation or by the students' own admission, upon accusation, the following action will be taken:

<b><u>Tier 1</u></b>	<b><u>Tier 2</u></b>	<b><u>Tier 3</u></b>
Can include but not limited to: Cheating Destruction Gross Misconduct Hazing Police Report School Offenses Stealing Vaping (possession/use) Non illegal drug  In presence of drugs and alcohol (guilty by association)  Suspension from school up to 3 days	Can include, but not limited to:  Fighting/Bullying Misuse of social media Police Report School Offenses  Suspensions from school up to 6 days	Use or possession of alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco, THC vape products and/or actions that would be deemed as misdemeanors or felonies under the criminal code.  Police Report  Suspensions from school up to 30 days
<b><u>First Offense</u></b> 10% of season  <b><u>Second Offense</u></b> 25% of season  <b><u>Third Offense</u></b> Up to 50% of season  <b><u>Fourth Offense</u></b> Loss of interscholastic opportunities for the remainder of their high school career	<b><u>First Offense</u></b> 25% of season  <b><u>Second Offense</u></b> 50% of season  <b><u>Third Offense</u></b> Loss of interscholastic opportunities for the remainder of their high school career	<b><u>First Offense</u></b> 40% of season  <b><u>Second Offense</u></b> Ineligible from interscholastic competition for 365 days  <b><u>Third Offense</u></b> Loss of interscholastic opportunities for the remainder of their high school career

*\*The offense number is not tied to the Tier. A second offense will be treated as such in the appropriate Tier, regardless of what Tier the first offense occurred in.*



## UNDERSTANDING THE TIER SYSTEM

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### **Tier 1**

*A tier one violation can be classified as a tier two or tier three violation by the administrative team depending upon the severity of the violation.*

*All tier one consequences will be determined by the coach and administrative team.*

*Consequences for additional tier one violations will remain in the tier one category.*

*During the suspension the athlete will participate in all practices and meet all the demands placed on other members on the team. The athlete must attend all games during this period, in street clothes, and sit/stand within close proximity of the team.*

### **Tier 2 and 3**

*If an athlete gets a first offense violation in tier 2 and then gets a second offense violation in tier 3 the athlete would serve the penalty for tier 3 (365 days). If an athlete gets a first offense in tier 3 and then receives a second offense in tier 2 they would serve the penalty in tier 2 (50% of season).*

*During the suspension the athlete will participate in all practices and meet all the demands placed on other members on the team. The athlete must attend all games during this period, in street clothes, and sit/stand within close proximity of the team.*

*Upon completion of the above requirements, the athlete will become fully eligible for athletic competition.*

### **Tier 3 Second Offense Provision**

*If a student athlete completes a substance abuse program, the violation will be reduced to a minimum of 75% of their next season. The scope and sequence of the substance abuse program must be approved by administration before the student athlete begins the program. The student athlete cannot participate in interscholastic competition until the program is complete or the 365 days has passed. This substance abuse program is voluntary and expenses will be covered by the family*



## ATTENDANCE/ACADEMICS

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### *Attendance Requirements*

ATTENDANCE IN ALL CLASSES OF EACH SCHOOL DAY IS EXPECTED. Unexcused absences are not acceptable for student-athletes. An excessive amount of unexcused absences may result in having to sit out contests. The amount of contests will be determined by school administration. Attendance at all practices and contests is expected.

### *Academic Eligibility*

Must have earned passing grades in at least 5 of the 6 possible courses from the previous semester\*. If not, a student-athlete will be ineligible to compete for an entire semester or until credit is recovered. Must be passing at least 5 of the 6 possible courses for the current semester. If not, a student-athlete will be ineligible to compete for at least 1 full week and until he/she is earning passing grades in at least 5 of the 6 courses. Grades will be checked once a week.

\*Middle School students must be passing 5 of 6 classes in the marking period. If a student failed more than 1 class in a given marking period they will be ineligible for the next subsequent marking period.

### *Drug Testing*

May occur, subject to individualized reasonable suspicion. A committee of the Athletic Director, Principal and the athlete's coach will evaluate evidence and determine appropriate action.

### **NCAA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

Student athletes planning to participate in Division I or II college athletics must apply for certification from the NCAA Clearinghouse before graduation from high school. These athletes should communicate this desire to their head coach and Mr. Keith Williams in Student Services.

Please be advised that NCAA Certification requirements are ever evolving. Student-athletes and their parents are encouraged to make an appointment with their Guidance Counselor to obtain the most current information and forms.



## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### INSURANCE

Grand Haven Area Public Schools do not assume financial responsibility for medical, hospital, or ambulance expenses incurred because of athlete injuries. Athletics is a voluntary program in which students participate if they so desire. They do this at their own risk.

The Athletic Department has purchased blanket coverage through the First Agency of Kalamazoo, Michigan. All athletes must take this coverage, which assures protection for all athletes throughout the season only for injuries that occur at a specific incident or accident when participating as a member of a Grand Haven Area Public Schools team during the defined athletic season. Each athlete has no limit catastrophe medical insurance for any injury incurred through athletic participation. All athletic insurance is secondary coverage. This means the family's personal policy pays first, and the school policy pays all other out-of-pocket costs incurred because of medical treatment that promotes healing and will not cover procedures deemed not medically necessary.

Athletic team members are required to enroll in the current Board of Education sponsored athletic insurance program prior to participation in each sport. The fee must be paid before a student may participate in any contest or scrimmage. This is a supplemental coverage, which pays only the excess over which the individual, family, or employer group insurance does not pay. All claims must be made to the High School Athletic Director.

### ATHLETIC FINANCIAL INFORMATION

#### INSURANCE:

Rate for ALL Sports-----\$30.00 per athlete/per sport

#### FACILITY USE FEE:

Rate for ALL Sports High School-----\$50.00 per athlete/per sport

Middle School-----\$30.00 per athlete/per sport

Family Maximum MS & HS Combined-----\$400.00 per family/per year

*\*Financial Aid is available to student-athletes that receive Free or Reduced Lunch. Please see the Athletic Office for assistance. Those students who qualify for free and reduced lunch will pay \$0 to participate in Athletics at the High School and Middle School*

*\*\*Athletic Team members are required to pay a Facility Fee and Insurance prior to participation in any interscholastic competition/scrimmage.*

*\*\*\*Following the first 2 weeks of practice, refunds will NOT be allowed for any athlete who is injured, quits, is ineligible or is suspended from the team.*

## AWARDS

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**Freshman** - Each ninth grade athlete will receive a freshman certificate and numerals.

**Junior Varsity** - Each first year junior varsity team member will receive a junior varsity certificate and Buccaneer head. Each 2nd year junior varsity team member will receive a junior varsity certificate only.

**Varsity** - Each first year varsity team member will receive a varsity certificate, a varsity letter.

*Each 2nd, 3rd, or 4th year varsity team member will receive a varsity certificate and sport pin.*

**Special Awards** - Certificates are available for special awards given by the team.

**Plaque Award** - Awarded to seniors who have earned five or more varsity awards. Starting in 2027-28 this will be awarded to seniors who earned seven or more Varsity Awards

**Steven Sluka Award** - Given to the top male and female senior multi-sport athletes who demonstrate good character, is involved in community activities and contribute to his/her team.

**OK Athlete-of-the-Year** - Given to a male and female senior athlete who demonstrate athletic ability, scholarship, and good character.

**Todd Chittenden "Team Above Self" Award** - Given to a male and female senior athlete who has participated in more than one sport, has demonstrated hard work, been team oriented, has hustle, and always displayed good sportsmanship and respect.

**Wm. Louiselle Award** - Given to a top Golfer.

**Distinguished Athlete Award** - U.S. Marine Corps presents this award to one exemplary male and female citizen and role model that has exhibited personal traits of courage, poise, self-confidence and leadership in a varsity sport.

**West Michigan Showcase** - Awarded to senior male and female athletes who have exhibited ultimate virtuosity and exceptional performance.

**Robin Bye 'Spirit of Buccaneer' Award** - Given to one athlete from the graduating class (male or female) who has made a SIGNIFICANT impact on the climate of the athletic program.

**Steve Hewitt Memorial Scholarship Award** – Given to a top Basketball player.

*Grand Haven Buccaneers*  
*Colors - Blue and Gold*  
*OK Red Conference*  
*Class A*

*Athletic Office*

Director of Athletics, Taylor Schriber  
Assistant Director of Athletics, Keegan Ferris  
Middle School Athletic Director, Stephanie Egerer  
Secretary to the Director of Athletics, Dianna Rietman  
Athletic Office (Phone) - 850-6030  
Athletic Office (FAX) - 850-6035

*Grand Haven Area Public Schools' Board of Education*

*Scott Grimes, Superintendent*  
*Christine Baker, President*  
*Chris Streng, Vice President*  
*Kristal Boyd, Trustee*  
*Seth Holt, Treasurer*  
*Nichol Stack, Secretary*  
*Marc Eickholt, Trustee*  
*Carl Treutler, Trustee*

**SCHOOL SONG**  
**HAIL TO THE VARSITY**

*Cheer for the Blue and Gold,*  
*Cheer them along the way,*  
*Onward to victory,*  
*May we win again today,*  
*Rah! Rah! Rah!*

*Cheer for the Blue and Gold,*  
*Long may they reign supreme,*  
*Shout till the echoes ring,*  
*For the Glory of our team.*



**BUILD CHARACTER.**

**WIN CHAMPIONSHIPS.**