

## **PROCEDURE FOR PROMOTING MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE ON JUNIOR VARSITY OR VARSITY TEAMS**

In accordance with MIAA regulations and per the School Committee Policy, middle school students will be considered for advancement when a move is necessary to maintain the program i.e. to even out team numbers, to field a team, or to ensure maximum participation and/or a player has demonstrated an advanced level of ability that warrants a higher level of play and playing at the middle school level might hinder his or her athletic development.

Before any middle school student-athlete practices at an upper level, the following procedures will be followed regarding the promotion of a middle school student to participate on a Junior Varsity or Varsity team:

1. The coaching staff, under the supervision of the head coach, must determine then demonstrate the need and/or reason for promoting a middle school athlete and that the move is in the best interest of all concerned. In order to make this determination, the following areas will be considered:
  - a. The student must be in good academic standing and this promotion will not interfere with the player's academic performance.
  - b. The student's social/emotional maturity and disciplinary record is considered. Given the pace, demand and exposure to older students, the student's ability to readily interact and work with older students will be considered. Time management skills, organization, and motivation are all important.
2. The coach requesting the move or the head coach must obtain the Athletic Director's approval.
3. The Athletic Director will then discuss the situation with the principal, guidance counselor and the student-athlete's parent/guardian. The parent/guardian must sign the MOVE-UP REQUEST FORM. The student must be the last to be informed in this process, never before the advisor and parent/guardian.
4. The Athletic Director will then meet with the student-athlete and they must sign the MOVE-UP REQUEST FORM.
5. Finally the MOVE-UP REQUEST FORM will be signed by the Athletic Director indicating all steps have been completed. No movement of players will occur before the completed MOVE-UP REQUEST FORM has been returned to the Principal with all required signatures.

The MOVE-UP REQUEST FORM link: [File: JJIB-E](#)

Link to [MIAA-Handbook 2021-2023](#)

Adopted By:

The Hadley School Committee: August 22, 2022