
*Rescinds Policy Number:**Issued:*

The Orange Board of Education recognizes cheerleading as an interscholastic sport, and its value in serving as a support group for the different interscholastic athletic teams within their schools promoting and encouraging school spirit. While recognizing the benefits of athletic competition, the primary function of a cheerleading program is to support interschool athletics and to boost school spirit, promote good sportsmanship, develop positive crowd involvement, and help student participants and spectators achieve the most worthwhile educational objectives of the interscholastic program. The cheerleading squad is not intended to develop its skills and talents solely for entertainment or competition purposes. Spirit competition should serve to develop leadership, confidence, and skill. Middle school cheerleading coaches and cheerleaders will be governed by rules from the National Federation of State High School Associations, the State Board of Education, and Orange County Board of Education. Eligibility and safety guidelines for the high school cheerleading program will be governed by rules from the North Carolina High School Athletic Association, National Federation of State High School Associations, the State Board of Education, and Orange County Board of Education.