



Middle School Sports

Participation in sports builds self-esteem, encourages a healthy lifestyle, improves school attendance and teaches invaluable principles of teamwork. The Denver Public Schools (DPS) Foundation funds Prep League, the official middle school sports program for DPS, which exists thanks to private support from the community.



Prep League is a program founded in 1997 to give middle school students an avenue for participation in organized after-school sports. **Today Prep League is comprised of 33 DPS schools and offers roughly 6,000 students the opportunity to participate in 17 sports.**

Fall Sports: Flag Football, Coed Cross Country, Boys Soccer, Girls Softball, Girls Volleyball

Winter Sports: Boys and Girls Basketball

Spring: Girls Soccer and Boys Baseball, 6th grade Boys and Girls Basketball

Late Spring-Summer: Broncos Futures Football, Futures Volleyball, Futures Soccer, Rockies RBI Baseball and Softball

Prep League gives students access to positive role models, such as coaches and older players. Middle school students tend to be sensitive to criticism, self-conscious, loyal to peers and more motivated by social factors than by academic concerns. As a result, they benefit from sports programs that foster teamwork, leadership and skill-building.

Prep League ensures that DPS students have a quality, school-based program to participate in after-school. Prep League also encourages a strong focus on academics requiring students to maintain a minimum GPA in all of their classes in order to participate in the program and compete each week. This positive incentive encourages participants to remain focused in the classroom and on track academically, to support their athletic pursuits.

What Your Support Will Do

Thanks to private support 6,000 DPS students compete in 17 different Prep League sports teams each year.

Prep League is funded almost entirely through community support. The program would not be possible without sponsorships and contributions.



The Need

Participation in sports helps adolescents develop lifelong habits of physical activity that will benefit them throughout their lives. The long-term effects of inadequate physical activity can include obesity, diabetes and high blood pressure, so it is important that middle schoolers build active habits instead of spending their free time watching television or playing video games.

All participants must meet high standards for academic performance, attendance and behavior in order to maintain eligibility for participation. Prep League encourages students to be focused in the classroom in order to earn the right to play for the team.

Students engaged in sports are less likely to engage in criminal activities and substance abuse.

“Our parents are huge fans of our athletic program due to our high standards and clear expectations for their children to participate. Prep League is an essential piece of our culture here at Skinner. Our philosophy is all about our kids having more opportunities to stay involved, and through athletics, we are providing an essential avenue for higher learning.”

– James Duran, Skinner Middle School Student Advisor and Athletic Director

Teamwork. Sportsmanship. Camaraderie. Invest in Prep League Today!

- Visit www.dpsfoundation.org and click “Donate Now”
- Mail a check to DPS Foundation, 1860 Lincoln Street, 9th Floor, Denver, CO 80203
- Call us at (720) 423-3553



You could earn a 50% state income tax credit for helping DPS kids succeed. Make a gift of \$100 or more to the DPS Foundation for after-school programs, and you could earn credit for your investment. Visit www.dpsfoundation.org/taxcredit.

