



Cheyenne Mountain School District 12
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John Fogarty, Assistant Superintendent

Cheyenne Mountain School District has a process by which students gain "elite athlete" status in our school district. Students must be considered elite athletes by the sport's USA Governing Body or Federation (or the Olympic Governing Body for a foreign student's sport) in order for Cheyenne Mountain School District to recognize their status as "elite" and offer them access to special considerations that are different from a full, daily, on-campus schedule that all students in a particular grade have. We have secured definitions from most sports to include US Figure Skating Federation, USA Hockey, US Soccer Federation, USA Volleyball, USA Table Tennis, US Ski and Snowboarding Association (USSA), and US Tennis Association. All of these governing bodies have slightly different ways in which they classify their own athletes/team athletes as "elite" if they have reached the Team USA status for the Olympics. A letter from a coach is not acceptable as evidence of the governing body's/federation's ruling on whether the student is elite or not. Participation in a "club level" of a sport is also not considered elite for Cheyenne Mountain's definition of elite status. When in doubt, I have a contact in each governing body/federation that I will call to verify a claim that a student is elite under their definition. Verification of a student's status must come directly to me from the governing body/federation.

We continue to add new sports to this list as we have requests from students for this elite status. I will be happy to investigate a request for any sport for elite status through the governing body/federation that oversees that sport in the USA. The governing bodies/federations have been very supportive of our process in honoring the student's athletic dreams and having standards around a world-class education. The granting of elite status is most often defined by ranking/points within the governing body/federation itself and each one has had clear rules around how participants are awarded rank and points.

District 12 wants to be cooperative with and supportive of the aspirations of our athletes to work and compete at the highest levels in their sports. We also want all Cheyenne Mountain students to gain an outstanding education. An education that is worthy of the CMHS diploma that is respected for its rigor and complexity throughout the United States.

Should you have any questions about this definition for "elite athlete", please do not hesitate to contact me.