

Over the past year, the WIAA Middle Level Committee that includes Jo Peterson (Ilwaco), Dwayne Hughes (Pasco), Joanne Carbonetti (Monroe), Rocky Verbeck (Chewelah), Wendy Malich (Franklin Pierce), Lorri Slauson (Spokane), Dave Tikker (WSSAAA), and Shelly Thiel (District 3) have worked to provide middle level interscholastic programs with tools to help all participants to succeed. Success is about the process, experiences, and involvement in educational extracurricular activities. Please review the 5 W's of Middle Level Interscholastic Activities and remember that participation in your programs is a critical component for a healthy culture in your school and community.

The 5 W's of Middle Level Interscholastic Activities

Who?

We are educational athletics and activities, not big-time event promoters.

What?

We are builders of tomorrow's community leaders, not "farm clubs" for professional teams.

When?

We are an after-school activity, not a year-round endeavor. Our programs allow kids to be kids.

Where?

Our games should be played locally. There is plenty of healthy competition where kids can learn and grow through athletics. We do not need state trophies to accomplish our purposes.

Why?

Because it is the right way to do it! Schools offer middle level programs because they enhance the educational experience of the young people that participate.

Adapted from an original piece from the Ohio High School Athletic Association

Please make sure your "Give Me Five" banner and message is prominent in your school so that all participants see the benefits of sportsmanship and educational interscholastic activities. If you have questions or input please contact Brian Smith at bsmith@wiaa.com.