

Buena Track and Field - Philosophy

Class..Character..Courage..Bulldog Pride. We want our student-athletes to live up to those four things, and if they do, winning on the field and in life will take care of itself.

Class

There is an old saying that “Class tells.” What it tells is how you handle victory or defeat. What it tells is how much respect the athletes and coaches have for each other. What it tells is whether your opponent can expect a full effort from your team. What it tells is whether you fall down and try to get up or not. Class means no talking trash, no finger waving at the finish line, not leaving trash behind on the field or on the bus. Class is all of us wearing the same uniform and sweats. Class means accepting and cheering even the least talented of your teammates, no matter the outcome. So long as you have class, you’ll always be a winner.

Character

Are you a whiner? A complainer? Is it always the other guy’s fault? Maybe the official or a coach or a teammate robbed you of your glory. Are you a showboat? A finger pointer? There is no place for this in Buena High Track. Trash talk and excuses are unacceptable. Humility is expected. Working hard every day is what is expected. If we win, then we did our jobs and will congratulate ourselves. If we lose, we must look at our failings and analyze ourselves. We will never give in and we will never quit. We give credit where credit is due to friend and foe alike. If you lost by an inch, then you lost by an inch. Can you answer the call to compete when you think you’re least able to answer? A solid character foundation includes Honesty, Loyalty, Respect, and Unselfishness.

Courage

Is the willingness to work hard every day knowing that the possibility of failure is always there. It is the willingness to take on the favorite battle with everything you have. Can you look in the mirror and say to yourself everyday, “I did my best today?” If you can, that is courage. Courage is looking at what you failed to do in order to be at your best. It’s not easy to be self critical. Going up against the best without excuse is courage as well. It takes courage to keep fighting when you are losing, or doing what you don’t want to do because you’re scared. Do you have the courage to fail? To paraphrase Teddy Roosevelt, “It is better to have tried and failed than not to have tried at all.” And, as one football coach said, “Success is never final. Failure is never fatal. It’s courage that counts.”

Bulldog Pride

Bulldog Pride is Bulldog Family. It is an attitude of “We are in this together.” Together we can achieve great things. No matter your class, your talent level or your social status, we are a TEAM. Effort, individual and team, is how we measure our success. When it gets down to the end of the meet, we’ll all be out on that track to cheer on our teammates. We care about how each of us does because it leads to our collective success. We owe something to the tracksters that have come before us and that is our best effort every day. We have a home here. No matter where we go or what we do, we’ll always be a Bulldog Track athlete.