

Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Participation Policy

Extracurricular or co-curricular activities are supplements to the regular instructional programs and afford students opportunities for enrichment. **However, participation in extracurricular and co-curricular activities is a privilege, not a right.** I.C. § 33-512(12). As representatives of their school and District, students participating in such activities are expected to meet high standards of behavior.

General Definitions for Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Participation Policy

**Unless the context otherwise requires, in this policy:**

**“Extracurricular Activities”** means a district and/or school authorized activities which take place outside of the regular school day and do not involve class credit, including, but not limited to athletics, student groups or organizations, and community activities for which high school letters are awarded.

**“Co-Curricular Activities”** are district and/or school authorized activities held in conjunction with an accredited class, but taking place outside of the regular school day including, but not limited to, debate, drama, drill team, band or choir.

**“Activity Suspension or Suspension from Extracurricular or Co-Curricular Activities”** means that suspended students shall not travel, dress in uniform, associate or participate with the team or group at its scheduled event(s). Suspended students may be allowed to participate in practices/meetings; however, the principal or designee may deem it necessary for students to be withheld from practices/meetings for the duration of the suspension.

**“Controlled Substances”** include, but are not limited to opiates, opium derivatives, hallucinogenic substances, including cocaine, and cannabis and synthetic equivalents or the substances contained in the plant, any material, compound mixture or preparation with substances having a depressant effect on the central nervous system, and stimulants.

**“Drugs”** include any alcohol or malt beverage, any inhalant, any tobacco product, any controlled substances, any illegal substance, any abused substance, any look-alike or counterfeit drug, any medication not approved and registered by the school authorities and/or any substance which is tended to alter mood, and/or any substance which is misrepresented and sold or distributed as a restricted or illegal drug.

**“Drug Paraphernalia”** is defined as any or all equipment, products and materials of any kind which are used, intended for use, or designed for use, in planting, propagating, cultivation, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing,

testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, concealing, injecting, ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing into the human body a controlled substance as defined in this policy.

**“Emergency Activity Suspension”** is defined as imposition of an activity suspension by a principal or his designee prior to an informal hearing when it is necessary to protect the health and safety of the individual(s) involved and immediate action is appropriate.

**“Event”** is defined as a match, game, meet, or other competitive event, including regional and/or state tournaments, competitions. “Event” is also defined as any band or choir performance(s).

**“Knowingly Present”** shall mean that a student attended a gathering of two (2) or more individuals at which one or more of the attendees (other than the student at issue) were using or are in possession of drug paraphernalia, controlled substances, drugs, pornography, or alcohol or tobacco and the student knew or reasonably should have known that such use or possession was occurring.

**“Minor Infraction”** shall mean a minor deviation from acceptable behavior or stated student expectations which occurs while the student is engaged in the extracurricular or co-curricular activity and which is not material or substantial. Students will be given notification of the first minor infraction. Students and parents will be given notification of the second minor infraction through a conference and will be informed that a third minor infraction may result in activity suspension.

**“Major Infraction”** shall mean a material or substantial deviation for acceptable behavior or stated student expectations which occurs while the student is engaged in the extracurricular or co-curricular activity, including but not limited to insubordination toward or non-compliance with the person in charge of the activity, verbal or physical abuse (hazing, fighting), refusal of a student to identify him/herself to school personnel upon request.

**“On any school premises or at any school sponsored activity, regardless of location”** includes, but not be limited to buildings, facilities, and grounds on the school campus, school buses, school parking areas; and the location of any school sponsored activity. “On any school premises or at any school sponsored activity, regardless of location” also includes instances in which the conduct occurs off the school premises but impacts a school related activity.

**“Scholastic Year”** is defined as the period of time beginning with the first day of the fall extracurricular and co-curricular activities season and ending with the last day of school.

**“School Days”** include only those days when school is in session. Eligibility

#### Requirements for Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Participation

To be academically eligible a student must be enrolled full-time in his/her school (four classes or more), on target to graduate and have received passing grades in the required number of courses during the previous reporting period (IHSAA Rule 8). If a Clark County student receives one or more F's at the end of a semester, or has an accumulative grade point average of less than 2.0, that

student will be ineligible throughout the next semester. Previous semester grades will be checked at the beginning of each activity season.

There will be a current grade check at the beginning of each sport season and two weeks before other activity events take place. Current grades will also be checked each Monday thereafter throughout the duration of the season or activity.

Students will be responsible to turn in a completed grade check form at the end of the first school day of each week.

1. If a student is passing all classes with 70% or above, he/she has unrestricted eligibility.
2. If a student is not passing all classes with 70% or above, he/she is immediately put on academic probation. They must attend an assigned study group after school, or Friday school, to remain eligible to practice or play.
3. After, the next weekly grade check,
  - a. If the student is passing with 70% or above they will again have unrestricted eligibility.
  - b. If the student is not passing with 70% or above they will remain on academic probation and must continue to attend an assigned study group after school, or Friday school. They will be eligible to practice, but not participate in games, performances, etc.
4. After, the next weekly grade check,
  - a. If the student is passing with 70% or above they will return to unrestricted eligibility.
  - b. If the student is not passing with 70% or above they must continue to attend an assigned study group after school, or Friday school, and will become ineligible to practice or play

Summary:

- 1<sup>st</sup> week below 70%-academic probation-attend study group-can practice & play
- 2<sup>nd</sup> week below 70%-academic probation-attend study group-can practice but not play.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> week below 70%-ineligible-attend study group-cannot practice or play

**Coaches may have stricter rules if they are reasonable and approved by the administration.**

#### Extracurricular or Co-curricular Activity Suspension

The Board believes that the safety and welfare of other students may be adversely affected when students who are involved in extracurricular or co-curricular activities commit major infractions or repeated minor infractions at school or during school activities, and/or are involved in criminal conduct or drug use in any location.

At the beginning of each semester, teachers or coaches of co-curricular courses will identify for students how participation in the co-curricular activity impacts their course grade. Co-curricular students who are suspended as a result of this policy will have the co-curricular course grade affected only if the reason for the suspension was related to course work or course expectations. Students who miss a co-curricular activity because of a suspension may ask to do, or be required to do, alternative assignments or special projects to make up the missed activity.

#### I. Activity Suspension as a Result of a School Suspension

A student will be immediately suspended from all extracurricular and co-curricular activities when he/she receives a suspension (not including an in-school detention) from school for any reason.

Consequences:

1. The activity suspension is automatic, is for the duration of the school suspension, and runs concurrent with the school suspension.
2. This type of activity suspension cannot be appealed.

II. Activity Suspension for Repeated Minor Infractions or a Major Infraction During an Activity

**CODE OF OFFENSES AND CONSEQUENCES**

**Scope of Code:** This code shall apply to all students participating and/or representing the Clark County School District and will be in effect throughout the calendar year.

**Reporting of Infractions:** All infractions will be investigated.

**Issuing and Appealing the Accusation and Consequences:**

1. An Activities Review Committee shall review infractions covered by the Activities Code of Conduct and issue appropriate consequences.
2. The Activities Review Committee shall be composed of the Athletic/Activities Director, the Coach/Advisor of that activity, the ASB President, one Student not involved in the activity and one Faculty member selected by the student.
3. The Review Committee will be convened as quickly as possible and will reach a decision by the end of the hearing.
4. Co-curricular students may appeal a decision by the Activities Review Committee to the Activity Appeals Board. The Activity Appeals Board will consist of the Superintendent, one member of the Board of Trustees, one Teacher not involved in the Activity, one Parent not involved in the activity and one Student not involved in the activity.
5. The student must submit a request for a hearing by the Activity Appeals Board in writing to the principal within three school days of his/her notification that he/she is to be punished under the rules of the Activity Code.

**Areas Covered by the Activity Code:**

1. Criminal misconduct when determined by a court of law.
2. Possession, use or sale of tobacco, alcohol, or controlled substance (drugs).
3. Misuse or abuse of over the counter drugs or inhalants of any kind.
4. Attendance at a function where alcohol and drugs are being illegally used shall be a violation of this code if the student does not leave immediately.
5. Possession, use or sale of legend drugs (cocaine, marijuana, steroids and misuse of prescription drugs).
6. A participant shall not engage in conduct detrimental to the group or school; i.e., language, misconduct, endangerment to others, etc.
7. A participant will follow all eligibility rules including academics and school attendance.

**Consequences for infractions:**

- A. **Category I:** Language, eligibility rules, misconduct while representing the school, etc.

**First infraction** – Activities Review Committee will set the consequences up to 30 calendar day suspension from all activities.

**Second infraction** – Activities Review Committee will set the consequences up to the remainder of the season but not less than 30 calendar days.

**Third infraction** – Activities Review Committee will set the consequences up to the remainder of the school year but not less than one full season.

**Fourth infraction** – Suspension from all participation for the district for one full calendar year from the date of the infraction.

B. Category II: Drugs, alcohol, endangerment to others, court convictions, etc.

**First infraction** – Activities Review Committee will set the suspension consequences but not less than 30 calendar days. When participants are removed from a team/activity for possession of or use of alcohol or drugs, they must meet with the alcohol/drug counselor for an assessment. If additional counseling or other action is recommended by the alcohol/drug counselor, the athlete is required to complete those recommendations as a condition for being allowed to participate on an athletic team or school activity.

**Second infraction** – Activities Review Committee will set the suspension consequences but not less than the remainder of the school year or 90 calendar days.

**Third infraction** – Suspended from participation in all activities for the remainder of the student’s high school career.

Infractions and consequences for violators in grades 9-12 will begin at the start of their freshman year and will accumulate through their senior year.

Infractions and consequences for participants’ in grades K-8 will be on a year to year basis. Records will be erased at the end of his/her eighth grade year.

III. Infractions Which Occur in Out-of-School Trips

During an out-of-school trip, if the authorized person in charge of the activity determines that a student should be sent home early because of criminal conduct, drug use or a major infraction, the authorized person will notify the parent/guardian, and ask him/her to take charge of the return of the student. The parent/guardian will assume any expenses incurred for the return of the student.

IV. Informal Hearing Process

Prior to giving an activity suspension to a student, the principal or athletic director shall grant the student an informal hearing on the reasons for the activity suspension and the opportunity to challenge those reasons unless an emergency activity suspension is necessary. If an emergency activity suspension is necessary, an informal hearing will be held as soon as possible after the emergency ceases to exist.

V. Student travel to or from an extracurricular or co-curricular activity

Unless other travel arrangements are authorized before the trip begins, students will board the bus at the school designated as point of origin for the trip and will return to the point of origin

in the bus. There will be no stops along the designated route to pick up or discharge students.

The only variation allowed in this regulation is in extenuating circumstances, such as an injury that requires a student to be taken by private vehicle or ambulance for medical attention, the activity advisor will communicate with the Clark County Sheriff's Office that said student will not be on the bus.

The activity must provide at least one instructor\coach\ or adult sponsor for each bus on a special trip. The bus driver will be responsible for the safe operation of the bus. The sponsor will be responsible for supervision of students and enforcement of bus rules. Any adult designated by the principal as a sponsor will have such authority.

Students must follow all school bus rules with this exception: Food and drink not in glass containers will be allowed on the bus with permission of the principal. However, any debris must be cleaned up at the end of the trip and before students leave the bus.

If a student causes a disruption or hazard on the bus, a hearing will be held with the principal, driver, instructor\coach\ or adult sponsor, parent/guardian and student. The driver, instructor\coach\ or adult sponsor, parent/guardian and the student will have the opportunity to share with the principal their perceptions of the problem. If the principal finds that there has been an infraction of bus rules, he will take the following action:

1. On the first infraction, the student will be warned that following any further infraction he/she will be declared ineligible for transportation to the extracurricular or co-curricular activities for one event.

2. On the second infraction during a semester, the student will be declared ineligible for transportation to the extracurricular or co-curricular activity for two events.

3. On the third infraction during a semester, the student will be declared ineligible for transportation to the extracurricular or co-curricular activities for the remainder of the semester.

Based on the severity of the problem as it relates to respect and safety for others, the principal may bypass step #1 and/or step #2 above and immediately declare the student ineligible for transportation for two weeks or for the remainder of the semester.

## VI. Appeal Process

1. This appeal process may be used by students and their parent/guardian only in those instances where an activity suspension or transportation to an extracurricular or co-curricular activities exceeds nine (9) school days.
2. The parent/guardian must request an appeal in writing within two (2) school days from the notification of the activity suspension decision.
3. The Superintendent will appoint a three-member panel composed of certificated staff members who have not been involved in the disciplinary action in question. The hearing panel will notify the student and the parent/guardian of the date, location, and time of the hearing; the student will have an opportunity to present additional evidence regarding the circumstances of the suspension or reasons to reduce the length thereof. The appeal must be scheduled within five (5) school days of the request.
4. If the panel determines that the evidence reviewed at the appeal supports the suspension,

the suspension of the student from extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities shall be continued.

5. The student and the parent/guardian will be notified in writing of the panel's findings and determination with respect to the student suspension from extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities within two (2) school days of the panel's decision.
6. The panel's determination is final, and is not appealable to the Superintendent or Board of Trustees.

#### VII. Elementary Students

Students in kindergarten through sixth (K-6) grade who are in violation of this policy may have the length of the activity suspension reduced by the principal or other authorized administrator.

#### Policy History:

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Revised on: