

**DONEGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MOUNT JOY PA 17552**

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

1. The administration, teachers, advisors and coaches of Donegal School District consider participation in student extra-curricular and co-curricular activities to be a privilege, not a right. Students who participate in these programs are expected to accept the guidelines and responsibilities granted them by this privilege (22 P.S. 511). This Code of Conduct remains in effect 24 hours a day, seven days a week from the first official day of the organization until the last official day of the activity, club, camp, or athletic season. When the student is participating in extra-curricular or co-curricular activities during summer months, which are conducted under the supervision of a school district employee, this Code of Conduct will also remain in effect.
2. The following shall be considered violations:
 - a. Use and/or possession of a controlled substance as defined in Donegal School Board Policy 227.
 - b. Prolonged presence where controlled substances as defined in Donegal School Board Policy 227 are being used illegally. It is the student's responsibility to remove him/herself immediately from the situation.
3. Any violation of Donegal School Board Policy 227 shall warrant automatic and direct consideration by the Code of Conduct Committee and shall result in one of the following disciplinary action(s):

Level I (First Offense): Suspension from **all** extra-curricular and co-curricular activities for a minimum of 30 calendar days (excluding Sundays) from the date of the infraction or upon the completion of an investigation by school personnel. Students will also forfeit all awards, letters, recognition and banquet attendance for the extra-curricular or co-curricular activity/activities they were involved with at time of the offense. This includes all practices, contests, extra-curricular and co-curricular activities, excluding baccalaureate and graduation.

Level II (Second Offense): Suspension from **all** extra-curricular and co-curricular activities for a minimum of 90 calendar days (excluding Sundays) from the date of the infraction or upon the completion of an investigation by school personnel. Students will also forfeit all awards, letters, recognition and banquet attendance for the extra-curricular or co-curricular activity/activities they were involved with at time of the offense. This includes all practices, contests, extra-curricular and co-curricular activities, excluding baccalaureate and graduation.

Level III (Third Offense): Suspension from **all** extra-curricular and co-curricular activities for a minimum of 365 calendar days from the date of the infraction or upon the completion of an investigation by school personnel. Students will also forfeit all awards, letters, recognition and banquet attendance for the extra-curricular or co-curricular activity/activities they were involved with at time of the offense. This includes all practices, contests, extra-curricular and co-curricular activities, excluding baccalaureate and graduation.
4. **CARES Program:** In addition to the disciplinary action, the student(s) must also successfully follow the recommendations of the CARES team before reinstatement to the activity can occur. If the violation occurs in the summer, the student must provide documentation of a drug and alcohol assessment from the Lancaster Guidance Center or another approved provider. If a student does not participate or begins but does not complete the assessment process and/or does not follow the recommendation of the CARES team, he/she is subject to additional days of suspension from **all** extra-curricular and co-curricular activities. The duration of this additional suspension period will be decided by the Code of Conduct Committee.

NOTE: The CARES (Committee to Assist/Refer Students) is a multi-disciplinary team composed of school personnel (teachers, staff, administrators, nurses and counselors) which has been trained to understand and work with adolescent chemical use, abuse and dependency. The committee will perform an assessment and make recommendations for further treatment and/or actions. Parental participation is required.
5. The Code of Conduct shall not preclude other action(s) by school or law enforcement authorities, such as but not limited to arrests, fines, probation, suspensions or expulsions.
6. A student may not resume participation in school activities without a written medical determination that no residual evidence of a controlled substance exists, regardless of the level of the violation or type of offense.

7. The following are other actions which shall warrant automatic and direct consideration by the Code of Conduct Committee and which shall result in disciplinary consequences:
 - a. Social misconduct on or off school grounds.
 - b. Declaration of delinquency by the courts.
 - c. Conduct which reflects unfavorably upon the school district, staff, administration, and/or student body.
 - d. Conduct which adversely affects the morale of the school district and/or any student organization.
 - e. Disruption of the orderly operation of extra-curricular and co-curricular activities and/or the educational environment.
8. Students are required to serve all disciplinary flexes, detentions, and/or suspensions on the date and time they are assigned. Extra-curricular and co-curricular activities are not an excuse for not serving the assigned discipline.
9. If a student is assigned an in-school suspension, the student will be ineligible to participate in practices, dressing for a game, or the game itself held on the day of the suspension assignment. A student serving multiple days of in-school suspension which fall over a week-end in which events are taking place would be ineligible to participate in those week-end events.

DISQUALIFICATION FROM CONTESTS

Any contestant ejected from a contest by a state high school association recognized and/or registered official in that sport for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant misconduct shall be disqualified from participating for the remainder of the day and in the next contest on the next play day at the same level (varsity, junior varsity or otherwise).

Any contestant ejected from the last contest in that sport in a sport season shall be disqualified from participating in the first contest in that sport in the subsequent sport season, at any level of competition at any school.

Any student disqualified from a contest will be prohibited from attending the contest from which he/she has been disqualified.

HAZING, BULLYING AND HARASSING

Donegal is committed to maintaining a safe, positive environment for students and staff; one that is free from hazing, bullying and harassing. Hazing, bullying and harassing are prohibited at all times.

Hazing and bullying are defined as any activities that recklessly or intentionally endanger the mental health, physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or membership in or affiliation with any organization recognized by the Board.

Any hazing or bullying activity, whether by an individual or a group, shall be presumed to be a forced activity, even if a student willingly participates.

The Board encourages students who have been subjected to hazing or bullying to promptly report such incidents to the building principal.

District administrators shall investigate promptly all complaints of hazing and bullying and administer appropriate discipline to any individual who violates this policy.

It is the policy of the Donegal School District to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from harassment in any form, including slurs, jokes, or other verbal, graphic, or physical conduct relating to a person's race, color, religion, ancestry, ethnic background, sex, age, physical condition/disability, among others. It is considered unlawful for any person to harass another person through any conduct or communication which creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

The Board encourages students who have been harassed to report promptly, orally or in writing, to a designated employee, who shall inform the student of his/her rights and of the complaint process. Students may choose to report harassment complaints to:

- building principals
- teachers
- counselors
- nurses
- administrators

The Board directs that complaints of harassment shall be investigated promptly, and corrective action shall be taken when allegations are verified. Confidentiality of all parties shall be maintained, consistent with the district's legal and investigative obligations. No reprisal nor retaliation shall occur as a result of good faith charges of harassment. Founded incidents will be dealt with as a Class III Violation of the Student Discipline Code.

ATTENDANCE

Students must be in school for 180 minutes per school day in order to be eligible for all clubs, activities, and/or practices and/or contests. This excludes funerals, job shadowing, and college visitations. A student who is excused and/or unexcused absent from school for a total of 20 or more school days (7,820 minutes) during one semester, shall not be eligible to participate in any club, activity, and/or athletic contest/practice until the student is in attendance for a total of 60 school days (23,400 minutes). On the 61st school day following the twentieth day of absence, the student will be reinstated to extra-curricular and co-curricular activities.

ACADEMICS

If a student is failing one class, (reported every Friday), he/she shall be placed on probation for a one-week period. If at the end of that probationary week, the student is still failing the same class, he/she will become ineligible for a one week period (Sunday-Saturday).

If a student is failing two or more classes, (reported every Friday), he/she will become ineligible immediately for the duration of a period of one week (Sunday-Saturday).

In cases when a student's final grade for a semester does not meet the standards of "passing all credits and the percentage must be 60% or above in all classes," said student shall be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics for the first twenty (20) school days of the next grading period.

Students who attend summer school and correct their deficiencies, shall be eligible.

ENFORCEMENT BODIES

1. All advisors and coaches, in consultation with the administration, shall have the full authority to enforce the Code of Conduct, including the right to suspend or remove a student from the extra-curricular or co-curricular activity.
2. Should the student feel aggrieved by the decision of the coach, the student may appeal to the Code of Conduct Committee by filing with the Athletic Director, in writing, a request for appeal. The case shall be heard within ten school days of the receipt of the written appeal.
3. Should the student feel aggrieved by the decision of the Code of Conduct Committee, the student may appeal to the Superintendent by filing with the Athletic Director, in writing, a second letter of appeal. The case shall be heard within ten school days of the receipt of the second level appeal.
4. On appeal, the decision of the Superintendent will be final as to matters of fact and penalty imposed.
5. The Code of Conduct Committee will be comprised of:
 - Principal and/or Assistant Principal
 - Athletic Director
 - 3 coaches out-of-season
 - 2 advisors of a co-curricular activity/club

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SIGNATURES OF ACCEPTANCE**

In order to participate in **all** extra-curricular or co-curricular activities in the Donegal School District, all students and parents are required to formally accept the "Code of Conduct."

"I have read the Code of Conduct and hereby accept the regulations as stated in this document. I will represent the Donegal School District in a faithful and responsible manner, adhering to its policies, procedures, and expectations for conduct."

Extra-Curricular/Co-Curricular Activity

Name of Student (Please Print)

Signature of Student

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Students are required to sign this contract for each activity they choose to join. This Code of Conduct must be returned to the coach or advisor BEFORE the student is permitted to practice and/or participate in the extra-curricular or co-curricular activity.

**DONEGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PERMISSION FOR PUBLICITY**

Student's Name: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____

The Donegal School District seeks to communicate information to the public concerning our schools and the many achievements of our students. To accomplish this, newsletters are sent to the community, a district calendar is published, the yearbook is completed annually and information is conveyed to local newspapers and media outlets.

Does the school district have your permission to include your child's name, photograph, audio and/or video in the district's publications, website (no names are included) or public media (newspapers, television, radio, etc.)?

_____ Yes _____ No

Name of Parent/Guardian (Please print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____