

West Bonner County School District

STUDENTS

3380

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 a 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 take part in any extracurricular or co-curricular activity students must meet current Idaho High School Activities Association or current school eligibility; whichever is greater. If they do

not meet above requirements, they are on probation can bring up their work and receive a written slip from the teacher or teachers of their passing work. If after the probationary period they do not have their work up to the above requirements, they are not allowed to take part in any extracurricular or co-curricular activity, as stated in the PRLHS Athletic Handbook. (Page 4 Academic Eligibility)

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

A student may be suspended from an extracurricular or co-curricular activity when he/she commits a third minor infraction, or a major infraction, while engaged in an extracurricular or co-curricular activity on any school premises or at any school-sponsored activity, regardless of location. The coach or advisor will recommend suspension to the Principal.

Consequences:

1. The incident will be reviewed pursuant to the Informal Hearing Process at Section V of this policy.
2. If the evidence supports the recommendation, the student may be given an activity suspension for a period of time up to and including the remainder of the season or duration of the activity in that scholastic year for that activity only.

3. If the activity suspension exceeds nine (9) school days, the parent/guardian may request an appeal as outlined in the Appeal Process at Section VI of this policy.

III. Activity Suspension for Criminal Conduct or Drug Use in Any Location During the Scholastic Year

A student may be suspended from extracurricular and co-curricular activities when he/she has been arrested or it reasonably appears to the District that he/she has violated criminal law, other than infractions or minor traffic violations; or has been involved with drug paraphernalia, controlled substances, or drugs, including alcohol or tobacco, **in any location, either on or off campus**, during the scholastic year, in any of the following ways: attempting to secure or purchase; using or having reasonable suspicion of having used; possession; intending or attempting to sell or distribute; selling or giving away; or being knowingly present when any of the above are used, possessed, or consumed.

- A. The incident will be reviewed pursuant to the Informal Hearing Process in Section V of this policy. If the evidence supports the accusation, the student may be suspended from all extracurricular and co-curricular events as stated below.
- B. Parents or guardians and law enforcement (if appropriate) will be contacted immediately.
- C. The parent/guardian may request an appeal as outlined in the Appeal Process at Section VII of this policy, with either a first or second offense.

Violation of Drug, Alcohol, Tobacco Use First Offense- Grades 7-12

1. The student shall be suspended for 20% of the competitions/contests for that season (ie. Basketball has 20 games so a student would be suspended for 4 games). If the suspension occurs during a time where there is less than 20% of games left to play, then the student would be done for the remainder of the season (including any district or state competition) and the remaining percentage from the next sport season (i.e. 10% at the end of basketball and 10% at the beginning of baseball) . If the infraction occurs during a state competition, the student will be suspended from state play with possible additional suspensions at the discretion of the principal and athletic director. If suspended for any part of the season, the student forfeits any post-season league honors and if suspended for district and state play, the student forfeits their letter and school post season awards. During suspension, the student will be allowed to practice but will not be allowed to travel, suit up for games, or sit on the bench at home games.
2. A student must also enroll in a principal and athletic director approved drug and/or alcohol substance abuse assistance program. The enrollment must occur before the suspension is over. The cost of the assistance program will not be paid by the district.

3. If the student does not agree to and abide by the conditions stated above, the student will be suspended from athletics for the remainder of the current sports season.

Second Offense-Grades 7-12

1. A student athlete's second offense of the use or possession of smoking or chewing tobacco products, alcohol or drugs or any imitation, throughout grades 7-12, will result in the following action.
2. Student shall be suspended for the remainder of the season of the current athletic program he/she is participating and also the next sports season for which the student is eligible and wanting to participate.

Third Offense- Grades 7-12

1. Student will be suspended from all extracurricular activities for the remainder of their junior high/high school career.

IV. 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.

V. 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.

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

Unless other travel arrangements are authorized, 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 the release of students to parents in a face-to-face situation at the close of the activity before buses begin the return trip. Such release will require a signed, dated note from the parent.

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 or season.

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 or season.

VII. Appeal Process

The parent/guardian must request an appeal in writing within two (2) days of the infraction to the Superintendent. The Superintendent will notify the parent/guardian in writing the decision made on the appeal. The Superintendent's decision can be appealed to the board within five (5) business days. The board will hear the appeal at the next regularly scheduled board meeting.

Athletic Activities Insurance

This district will not allow student athletes to participate in any interscholastic athletic program without insurance coverage and the written permission of the parent/guardian. Before engaging in practice sessions or athletic events, the following must occur:

1. Each student must participate in the blanket insurance program adopted by this school district or provide proof of parent insurance; and
2. The parent/guardian must give permission for the student athlete to participate in the athletic program.

The building principal will inform the parents of the limits of protection provided by the school policy in the event of an athletic injury.

This district does not assume any financial responsibility for medical or hospital expenses incurred because of athletic injuries. Athletes participate at their own risk.

Extracurricular Awards

This school district will recognize students who participate in extracurricular activities by awarding letters or certificates of participation. The type of award and criteria for receiving an award will be established prior to the commencement of the activity. Each coach and advisor will inform student participants of the requirements and standards for earning an award in the activity.

Varsity Letter

If a member of a varsity sport is injured during that sport season, and cannot meet the requirements for earning an award, the coach has the prerogative to determine whether that student has earned a letter.

Managers of a varsity sport may earn a manager's letter by fulfilling the requirements set by the coach for that sport.

1. 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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