

COCURRICULAR AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES CODE OF CONDUCT

Philosophy

Student participation in extracurricular activities is an integral part of the total school experience. Extracurricular includes athletic teams and any group or club that the Board has approved. Programs should foster the growth of school loyalty within the student body as a whole and stimulate community interest. Furthermore, extracurricular activities should provide all students the opportunity to grow mentally, morally, physically, socially and emotionally. To ensure that the extracurricular activities at Southeast Local Schools can provide these opportunities, a minimum standard of conduct by the participants must be maintained. This standard involves compliance with rules and regulations concerning personal behavior. Students participating in extracurricular activities represent their families, their school, their community, and most importantly, themselves on or away from school grounds. Students must strive to achieve the highest standard of personal conduct. It is equally important to recognize that expectations regarding behavior are a shared responsibility between the participants, their parents, guardians and the designated advisor/coach.

Participation in extracurricular activities is not a right but a privilege for which the Board has the discretion and responsibility to determine the qualifications necessary for students to participate. This policy covers all student in grades 5 through 12 who wish to participate and is inclusive of actions or conduct on and away from school grounds during participation in the extracurricular activity program.

Code of Conduct

Student participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege. In order to maintain programs that reflect positively on the District, the Board hereby establishes this policy which shall apply to all participants in all activities of the District's Board-approved programs.

General Regulations

1. Students participating in extracurricular activities must follow not only the extracurricular code of conduct and the coach/sponsor's code of conduct, but also the student code of conduct as outlined in the student handbook/calendar.
2. Students must meet the academic eligibility requirements as required by Board policy, which states that a student in grades 5 through 12 is permitted to participate in interscholastic activities if they do not receive more than one failing grade in the previous grading period. The student must maintain a 1.5 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale to be able to participate.
3. Good sportsmanship must be exemplified by all individuals representing Southeast Local Schools.
4. The coach/sponsor of any activity must read and present a written copy of the extracurricular code of conduct and his/her own guidelines (coach/sponsor's code of conduct) to the students before the activity begins.
5. In any activity that requires a physical examination, a completed examination card must be signed by a physician and parent(s)/guardian(s) and be on file before students may participate.

6. On the day of a contest, students must be in attendance at least one-half of the school day. Being absent on the day of a contest will render the student ineligible. The principal may authorize an excused absence, i.e., funeral.

7. Involvement in any type of criminal activity may result in disciplinary action, including possible full denial of participation.

All students in the District who are participating in extracurricular activities must adhere to the following code:

1. Chemical Abuse (Alcohol and Drugs)

A student shall not use, possess or sell alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs, nor shall he/she possess drug paraphernalia. This includes marijuana, hallucinogens and other illegal drugs. Students shall not use, possess or sell look-alike drugs or substances which are thought to be drugs, sold as drugs or thought by the seller or buyer to be mind-altering substances or illegal drugs.

First Offense - The student will be suspended from the activity for 10 days. The first offense will not carry over from one school year to the next school year.

Second Offense - The student will be denied participation from all extracurricular activities for a 12-month period. After three months, the principal may allow return to extracurricular activities if clear documentation is provided that a treatment program with an accredited mental health agency has been successfully completed and routine follow-up visits demonstrate that the student is chemically free.

Self-Referral - If a student refers himself/herself to the coach/sponsor, athletic director, assistant principal or principal, there will be no removal from the activity, but the student must get a professional assessment and follow through with any professional recommendations. If these measures are not followed, it will be considered a second offense.

Prior Involvement - Any student who violates the school's chemical abuse policy within the school year and then wishes to participate in any extracurricular activity will already have a first offense. Therefore, any involvement with alcohol/drugs during the activity will constitute a second offense.

2. Tobacco Products

Students shall not use or possess tobacco products of any kind at any time.

First Offense - The student will be suspended from the activity for five days. The first offense will not carry over from one school year to the next school year.

Second Offense - The student will be dismissed from all extracurricular activities for a six-month period. After one month, the principal may allow return to extracurricular activities if documentation is provided that a smoking clinic program has been successfully completed.

Self-Referral - If a student refers himself/herself to the coach/sponsor, athletic director, assistant principal or principal, there will be no removal from the activity, but the student must attend a smoking clinic program. If these measures are not followed, it will be considered a second offense.

Prior Involvement - Any student who violates the school's tobacco products policy within the school year and then wishes to participate in any extracurricular activity will already have a first offense. Therefore, any involvement with tobacco products during the activity will constitute a second offense.

3. Criminal Activity - Students wishing to participate in extracurricular activities must refrain from criminal activity. Participation is affected if a student is charged with theft, vandalism, destruction of property and/or any other criminal charges.

First Offense - The student will be suspended from the activity for a minimum of 10 days. The first offense will not carry over from one school year to the next school year.

Second Offense - The student will be dismissed from all extracurricular activities for a 12-month period. After three months, the principal may allow return to the extracurricular activities if documentation is provided that a treatment plan has been established by a licensed mental health professional and that there is significant progress toward treatment goals as it relates to the criminal act.

Prior Involvement - Any student who violates the school's criminal activity policy within the school year and then wishes to participate in any extracurricular activity will already have a first offense. Therefore, any involvement with criminal activity during the activity will constitute a second offense.

4. Assault

A student shall not cause physical harm to another. This refers to behavior that does not lead to criminal charges. This includes fighting (physical violence that causes harm or threatens to cause harm to another person), intimidation (verbally or in writing) and strong-arm behavior (forcing another person to do anything against their will).

First Offense - The student will be suspended from the activity for a minimum of five days. The first offense will not carry over from one school year to the next school year.

Second Offense - The student will be dismissed from all extracurricular activities for a 12-month period. After three months, the principal may allow return to extracurricular activities if documentation is provided that a treatment plan has been established by a licensed mental health professional and that there is significant progress toward treatment goals related to the assault act.

Prior Involvement - Any student who violates the school's assault policy within the school year and then wishes to participate in any extracurricular activity will already have a first offense. Therefore, any involvement with criminal activity during the activity will constitute a second offense.

Due Process

Each student who is in violation of the extracurricular policies will be afforded due process as outlined in the administrative guidelines.

Responsibilities

All students who wish to participate in extracurricular activities must complete and sign all required forms and agreements prior to participation. All advisors and coaches are responsible for reading the Board-adopted

Extracurricular Policy to the participants and collecting all required forms and agreements prior to the student's participation.

Intent of Denial for Extracurricular Activities

An infraction may be observed and/or verified by a professional or support staff member, coach, chaperone, school administrator, athletic director, a member of any law enforcement agency or the parents of the student in violation, or a statement of admission. The infraction will be reported to the appropriate building principal in writing and signed by the individual(s) who report the infraction.

In the event an infraction of the Extracurricular Policy occurs, the following procedures will be followed:

1. The principal will conduct an informal hearing and will verbally notify the student of the infraction(s) and what discipline might take place. The student will have the opportunity to explain his/her actions in regard to the infraction(s).
2. After the informal hearing, the principal will determine if there is sufficient reason to merit the convening of the Infraction Review Board. If there is sufficient reason, the student will be issued an Intent to Deny Participation Statement and the parent(s), guardian(s) or custodian(s) will be notified by telephone and in writing.
3. The Infraction Review Board will consist of a minimum of five of the following individuals: principal(s) of Intermediate, Middle and High School and/or his/her designee, athletic director, a coach of the student's choice, an advisor of the student's choice and a member of the Student Assistance Team. The Board will convene within 24 hours (excluding time school is not in session: i.e., Saturday, Sunday and holidays) after the principal has decided that sufficient reason exists for Board review.
4. The Infraction Review Board will notify the student and his/her parent(s), guardian(s) or custodian(s) by telephone and in writing of the decision of the Review Board. If the Board issues a Denial of Participation, the parent(s), guardian(s), and custodian(s) may appeal the decision in writing within 24 hours (excluding time school is not in session: i.e., Saturday, Sunday and holidays) to the Superintendent. The student is denied the right to participate immediately after the Denial to Participate is issued and the student and/or parent(s), guardian(s) or custodian(s) has been notified.
5. The appeal will go directly to the Superintendent's office. The Superintendent/designee (not a member of the Infraction Review Board) will conduct the appeal hearing within 72 hours (excluding time school is not in session: i.e., Saturday, Sunday and holidays) of the receipt of the appeal. The student may have representation at the appeal hearing. The Superintendent's decision is final.

(Re-approval date: November 24, 2014)