

High School Extracurricular Code of Conduct

In addition to academic programs, Custer County Schools also offer a variety of extra-curricular activities for students. Participation in these activities is voluntary, but is encouraged as it has been shown that this type of participation benefits the students in many ways. Since these students are representing the school district, the Custer County School Board and administration reserve the right to set the standard of behavior for any students that will be representing the school through extra-curricular activities of any kind. This document pertains to participation, expected behaviors and disciplinary actions (as needed) for all extra-curricular activities at Custer County Schools.

1. This code of conduct applies:

- To **ALL** students participating in any extra-curricular activities throughout the school year at Custer County Schools
- From the first day of school until the last day of school, or
- From the start of an extra-curricular activity that begins prior to the start of the school year (such as volleyball, football or cross-country) or continues after the end of the school year.
 - From the first day of practice for that activity until the last day of school.
- During summer events that are sanctioned by the school such as practice camps or leadership conferences
- Whether a student is currently involved in an activity or in-between activities

2. Use, Possession or Distribution of Illegal Drugs:

- It is a violation of the code of conduct for **ANY** student to use, sell, distribute, or to be under the influence of any illegal drugs or other controlled substance (such as inhalants), or to possess drug paraphernalia.
- Consequences of violating this policy:
 - The first offense will result in the student being banned from any extra-curricular activities, and practices, for one year (365 days) from the date of its discovery.
 - The second offense will result in a lifetime ban from these activities.
 - Law enforcement will be notified of any illegal activity.

3. Use, Possession or Distribution of Tobacco:

- It is a violation of the code of conduct for any student to possess, smoke, distribute, or chew any tobacco product.
- Consequences of violating this policy:

- The first offense will result in the student being suspended from extra-curricular activities for one week.
- The second offense will result in the student being suspended from extracurricular activities for two weeks.
- Each subsequent violation will result in a four week suspension from extra-curricular activities.
- Participation in practice during these suspensions will be the decision of the coach or sponsor.
- Law enforcement will be notified of any illegal activity.

4. Use, Possession or Distribution of Alcohol:

- It is a violation of the code of conduct for any student to possess, use, distribute, or be under the influence of alcohol.
- Consequences of violating this policy:
 - The first offense will result in a suspension of one-half the length of the competition (or performances) of the season from extra-curricular activities.
 - The second offense will result in a suspension of the full season of competition or performance from extra-curricular activities.
 - Participation in practice during these suspensions will be the decision of the coach or sponsor.
 - The third offense will result in a one-year (365 days) suspension from these activities and practices, from the date of its discovery.
 - Law enforcement will be notified of any illegal activity.

5. Attending drinking parties and similar events:

- High-school students who participate in extracurricular activities are often seen as role models by younger students and others in the school community. There is often tremendous peer pressure on students to experiment with drugs or alcohol, and the presence of high-school students who participate in extracurricular activities at parties or other gatherings at which drugs are being used or at which minors are consuming alcohol can be seen to sanction such conduct and increase peer-pressure, and is itself harmful to students and the school community.
- For these reasons, no high-school student who participates in extracurricular activities may attend a party or other gathering where they know drugs are being used or at which they know minors are consuming alcohol.
- The consequences of violating this policy:
 - The first offense will result in a suspension of one-fourth the length of the competition (or performance) of the season from extra-curricular activities.

- The second offense will result in a suspension of one-half the length of the competition (or performance) of the season from these activities.
- Participation in practice during these suspensions will be the decision of the coach or sponsor.
- The third offense will result in a one-year (365 days) suspension from these activities and practices, from the date of its discovery.
- Exceptions:
 - Students who immediately leave a party or other gathering as soon as they realize that drugs are being used or alcohol is being consumed by minors, and then voluntarily contact their coach, the Activities Director, or the principal to report what happened will not be suspended.
 - Students will not be suspended for attending cultural, religious, or similar adult-supervised events at which alcohol is consumed (such as communion rituals or wedding receptions).

6. Citizenship (Good Conduct)

- All rules established by the Custer County School Board and/or school administration:
 - **MUST** be followed
 - Are listed in the school calendar
- A student in any extra-curricular school program is a representative of this school and a role model for younger students even when the student is not engaged in school activities.
 - Therefore, behavior that adversely reflects on the school, or the school's sport/activity program, will be evaluated by the Activities Council regardless of whether that behavior occurred when the student was engaged in school activities.
 - The student may be subject to disciplinary action by the Activities Council, and these actions may include (but are not limited to) suspension, dismissal, loss of letter, etc.
 - The appropriate disciplinary action will be decided by a majority vote of the council members at the meeting.
 - If the student involved has a parent or close friend on the Activities Council, the parent or friend will be excused from the Activities Council for the given decision. (Conflict of interest).

7. Definition of Extra-Curricular Activities (school sponsored activities):

- May be defined as, but are not limited to the following:
 - Sports-related game or scrimmage with another school
 - Drama/musical performance
 - Knowledge Bowl meet
 - FFA competition
 - Cheerleading
 - SnowCats
- A student suspended from a particular extra-curricular activity is suspended from all extra-curricular activities.
 - **Reminder:** A five week suspension covers five weeks of activity and may not necessarily be five sequential weeks.

8. Code Enforcement:

- A **five-week suspension** may include two weeks of competition at the end of Activity A and a three-week suspension from competition at the beginning of Activity B
 - Activity B is the next activity in which the student participates, and may not necessarily be the next activity in the school year
 - The suspension may go from football to basketball, Knowledge Bowl to baseball, basketball to the spring musical, or basketball to football depending on the student's participation.
- The Athletic Director and/or the principal have the responsibility and authority to *define and implement* this code of conduct.

9. Activities Council:

- **May** consist of:
 - Head coaches of all sports
 - Sponsors of clubs such as Knowledge Bowl, drama, etc.
 - The Athletic Director
 - An officer of Student Council
 - A member of the school board
- All Activities Council's decisions will be conveyed back to the student and/or their representative as a team decision.
- No decision will be made by the Activities Council with the student and/or their representative present.
- All Activities Council's decisions will be made in executive session and will be based on a majority vote of the members present.
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- The principal will be a permanent member of this council

- This council may serve as an appeals committee if so designated by administration.

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- All appeals will be heard by the council as a team.
- If the student making the appeal has a parent or close friend on the Activities Council, the parent or friend will be excused from the Activities Council for the given appeal. (Conflict of interest).

10. Dress:

- Students will be expected to dress appropriately on school-sponsored trips and at home activities.
 - At the minimum, the school dress code should provide guidelines.
 - Coaches or sponsors may require a higher standard for their activity.
 - The activity dress code will be presented with the coach/sponsor rules at a parent meeting at the beginning of the activity

11. Eligibility to participate in extra-curricular activities:

- Shall be determined with reference to the Constitution and by-laws of the Colorado Activities Association and the rules and regulations of the school district.
- Custer County has a weekly eligibility policy.
 - Any student with one or more failing grades (cumulative each semester) is considered to be ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities for the next Monday-Saturday.
 - The eligibility report is run every Wednesday at 3:00 pm.
- Teacher error is the only reason a student may become eligible after being placed on the list. When this occurs, the teacher must submit a typed letter explaining the error to the Athletic Director and the principal.

12. Individual Extra-curricular Rules:

- Each coach or sponsor will develop their own set of rules for their activity detailing practice expectations, attendance, participation, etc. These rules will not stipulate harsher penalties than those that are spelled out in this policy.
- These will be presented at a parent meeting at the beginning of the activity.
- Parents and students will be required to sign the specific activity contract.

13. School Attendance:

- A student must attend school for more than half of the day in order to practice or participate in a contest or activity unless the absence has been prearranged with the principal or acting principal.

- Absences due to family emergencies or other rare occurrences will be handled on an individual basis.

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14. Transportation:

- Students will not be allowed to provide their own transportation to an event and must travel with their group, coach or sponsor.
- Permission may be granted for a student to ride with a parent or guardian to an event:
 - Arrangements must be made prior to the activity
 - Parent must provide the coach or sponsor a written authorization.
- Arrangements may be made for a student to ride home with their parents from an event:
 - Parent must provide a written statement to the coach or sponsor at the event.
 - a. Only that student's parent or guardian may provide the written statement.
 - b. Written permission prior to the trip is required to ride with the parents of another student.

Accepted: August 14th, 2007

I, the undersigned parent or guardian, hereby give my consent and permission for the student named below to be transported to and from activities of Custer County School District in which he/she is a registered participant via school conveyances. I understand and agree that I am responsible for the student during the trip and in the event the student should violate the rules established for the student during the trip that:

a. Parents will be responsible for and hold the school district, its agents, and employees harmless from any and all damages to persons or property caused by acts of the student.

b. In the event of repeated or serious violations of the rules established for students, the parent will accept a collect call concerning the student, and I understand the student will be sent home immediately by public transportation at my cost.

c. Parent and Student understand and agree that the school district and its agents and employees do not assume any liability for loss or damage to any personnel property owned by a student and Parent/Guardian during the trip. We, Parent/Guardian and student, further assume any and all risks which may arise in connection with traveling to and from the final destination of the trip.

d. Parent and student hereby agree to release and to save and hold harmless the school district, its agents, and employees from any claim, loss, demand or cause of action of whatsoever nature or kind, excluding acts of willful misconduct or gross negligence, arising out of or incurred as a result of the student's attendance and participation in the trip, including transportation, or as a result of any injuries, loss or damage suffered or incurred by me or the student during or as a result of the trip, or as a result of any claim, lawsuit or action of any kind filed against the school district by the student.

Student Name: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent/Guardian home phone number: _____

Work phone _____

Other emergency telephone numbers _____

I have read the statements above and understand that my son/daughter will be expected to abide by these rules while participating in activities at Custer County School District, and agree to the statement consenting to the transportation of the named students by the district.

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Student _____ Date _____