

GOOD CONDUCT RULE
(EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES)

The Board of Directors of the Fairfield Community School District School offers a variety of voluntary activities designed to enhance the classroom education of its students.

Students who wish to exercise the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities must conduct themselves in accordance with board policy and must refrain from activities that are illegal, immoral, unhealthy, or highly inappropriate. Participation in these activities is a privilege, conditioned upon meeting the eligibility criteria established by the board, administration, and individual activity coaches and sponsors

The board's policy covers the following activities:

Athletics	Instrumental Music
Vocal Music	Speech
Cheer/Drill Team	Drama
National Honor Society	All Co-Curricular Clubs and Organizations
Student Government Officers	Class Officers

or any other activity where the student represents the school (district) outside the classroom.

Students who fail to abide by this policy and the administrative regulations supporting it may be subject to disciplinary measures. The principal shall keep records of violations of the good conduct rule.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to develop rules and regulations for school activities. Students wanting to participate in school activities must meet the requirements set out by the school district for participation in the activity.

Legal Reference: Bunger v. Iowa High School Athletic Assn., 197 N.W.2d 555 (Iowa 1972).
In re Jason Clark, 1 D.P.I. App. Dec. 167 (1978).
Iowa Code §§ 280.13, .13A (1995).
281 I.A.C. 12.3(8); 36.15(1).

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
503 Student Discipline
504 Student Activities

Approved: Feb. 11, 1985
Reviewed: Aug. 24, 2005
Revised: Mar. 10, 1996, Aug. 9, 1999, Jan. 10, 2000

**GOOD CONDUCT RULE REGULATION
(PARTICIPATION/ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS)**

ACADEMIC/ATTENDANCE ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for an activity, students participating must

- be enrolled or dual-enrolled in FHS;
- have good school attendance and attend classes at least one half of a day (periods 5, 6, 7, & 8/Guided Studies) on the day of the contest/game/performance, unless prior arrangements are made with the administration;
- have earned passing grades in at least five full-time classes the previous semester;
- be under twenty years of age to participate in athletics, music or speech activities;
- be enrolled in high school for eight semesters or less to participate in athletics, music or speech activities;
- have not been a member of or trained with or participated in college athletic contests or professional sports;
- have met all transfer requirements, or be eligible under state law and regulations if the student is an open enrollment student.

LETTERS AND AWARDS

All lettering and end-of-season awards shall be determined by the coaches/sponsors of each activity.

GOOD CONDUCT RULE

Students who participate in extra curricular activities are representing their school through school sponsored events and therefore are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that represents the ideals, principals and standards of the Fairfield Community School District. Students who choose not to follow the Extracurricular Activities Policy regulations will be subject to disciplinary procedures as set forth in the guidelines below.

A student may lose eligibility under the Extracurricular Activities Policy for any of the following behaviors:

- possession, use, or purchase of tobacco products, regardless of the student's age, if the offense results in a suspension;
- possession, use, or purchase of alcoholic beverages, including beer and wine;
- being in a car or in attendance at a function/gathering/party where alcohol or other drugs are being consumed illegally by minors (joint possession);
- possession, use, or purchase of illegal drugs or the unauthorized possession, use, or purchase of otherwise lawful drugs, including look-alike drugs;
- engaging in any act that would be grounds for arrest or citation in the criminal or juvenile court system, excluding minor traffic offenses, regardless of whether the student was cited, arrested, convicted, or adjudicated for the act (stealing, damage to school property or that of school personnel, etc.);
- inappropriate or offensive conduct such as fighting, insubordination, hazing or harassment of others if the offense results in a suspension.

** Involvement in acts of a more serious nature will be dealt with more severely.

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**GOOD CONDUCT RULE REGULATION (cont.)
(PARTICIPATION/ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS)**

A student who, after a hearing, is found to be in violation of the Extracurricular Activities Policy will be deemed ineligible for a period of time as described below.

- 1st offense 2 contest/performance dates.
If a student attended a function/party/gathering or was in a vehicle where substances were being used illegally, but was not using these substances, the discipline will result in one contest/performance date.
- 2nd offense 1/3 of contests/performance dates of the season.
- 3rd offense 12 calendar months of ineligibility.
- ** These regulations are "minimum" and a coach/sponsor may impose a stronger form of discipline depending on the situation.

HOSTING/SUPPLYING

There will be additional discipline for those students who host the party/function/gathering and/or supply/furnish the alcohol or other substances that are illegal for minors to use/consume.

Discipline will be as follows:

- 1st offense 1/3 of contest/performance dates of the season.
- 2nd offense 12 calendar months of ineligibility

INELIGIBILITY

The period of ineligibility begins immediately upon a finding of a violation if the student is currently engaged in an extracurricular activity. If the student is not currently in an activity, or if the discipline cannot be completed during the current activity, the discipline will be carried over and completed when the student decides to go out for the next activity or contest. An ineligible student will attend all practices or rehearsals at the direction of the coach/sponsor, but not "suit up" nor perform/participate. However, if the period of time between a violation and an activity is twelve calendar months or more, the student shall not serve an ineligibility period for the violation.

However, if a student drops out of an activity prior to completion of the period of ineligibility, the discipline or remainder of it will begin when the student next seeks to go out for an activity, subject to the 12-month limitation above.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. Evaluation and Treatment: A student who has a second violation of the alcohol or drug provision of the Extracurricular Activities Policy may elect to seek an evaluation and, if recommended, receive treatment from a recognized substance abuse facility at the student's or student's parent/guardian's expense. If the student seeks evaluation and agrees to waive confidentiality (allowing information to be available to school officials), the student's discipline for the second violation may be reduced by up to 50%. This reduction is not available for first or third violations.

**GOOD CONDUCT RULE REGULATION (cont.)
(PARTICIPATION/ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS)**

2. Admission Prior to Determination: If a violation occurs prior to the official beginning of a season and law enforcement or school officials are not aware, or not involved with this violation, then students may self-report (turn themselves in) to the school officials without losing any eligibility. The discipline for this student would be 15 hours of activity service that would be administered by the coach/sponsor of the sport/activity in which the student would next be involved. These hours must be completed prior to the first contest/performance in order for the student to be eligible. When completed, the coach/sponsor will file a copy with the administration. This situation can only happen one time during any given school year and only prior to the official beginning of the season for that sport/activity.

** It should be noted, however, that if students turn themselves in for a violation of this policy, and the school official already has this information, or this student has already been charged or contacted by the police, then the discipline will be handled as if it were after the official beginning of the season. This activity service is counted as the student's first violation.
3. If a student finds himself/herself in a situation (vehicle, room, function, gathering, party, etc.) where alcohol or other drugs are being consumed illegally by minors, the student's options are
 - a. leave immediately or
 - b. stay and risk the loss of eligibility as determined by the Good Conduct Policy.

STUDENT TRANSFER

If a student transfers in from another Iowa school district and the student had not yet completed a period of ineligibility for a violation of the Extracurricular Activities Policy in the previous district, the student shall be ineligible if the administration determines that there is general knowledge in our district of the this violation. In all cases the school administration, activities director and coach/sponsor or the activity/sport will discuss each situation before a decision is made.

DUE PROCESS PROCEDURE

In carrying out these regulations, all students will be afforded due process, which includes procedures for a committee to discuss with a student their involvement in a possible violation of the Extracurricular Activities Policy. The following procedure is set up to ensure that all students are afforded due process:

1. The high school administration will meet with the student and listen to his/her possible involvement.
2. The high school administration will notify the activity director of a possible violation of the Extracurricular Activities Policy.
3. If the student admits to being involved, the high school administration/activities director will notify the student and parent of the appropriate discipline.

GOOD CONDUCT RULE REGULATION (cont.)
(PARTICIPATION/ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS)

4. If the student denies the involvement, a hearing committee consisting of the activity coach/sponsor, activities director and the high school administration will meet with the student and student's parents to further explore the violation. If the committee determines that the student was involved, then the administration will notify the student and parents of the decision and resulting discipline.
5. Parent notification related to paragraphs 3 and 4 above.
 - Student will call parent in the presence of school official and relate the circumstances to the parent, if student refuses then administration will call parent.
 - When the parent cannot be reached by phone, then a notification letter will be sent home with the student for the parent to sign acknowledging they have seen the letter by signing it and returning it via the student the next school day. Parents have the option of calling rather than returning the letter.
 - If the letter is not returned the next day or a phone call received from the parents the next day, then the school will consider the notification process complete, discipline enforced, and a notification letter will be sent via the U.S. Mail.

APPEAL PROCESS

- Step I Any student who is found by the hearing committee to have violated the Extracurricular Activities Policy may appeal by contacting the superintendent within three (3) days of being advised of the violation. The discipline will be in effect pending the superintendent's decision.
- Step II If the student is still dissatisfied, he or she may appeal to the school board by filing a written appeal with the board secretary at least 24 hours prior to the next board meeting. The review by the board will be in closed session unless the student's parent (or the student, if the student is 18) requests an open session. The grounds for appeal to the school board are limited to the following: the student did not violate the Extracurricular Activities Policy; the student was given inadequate due process in the investigation and determination; or the discipline is in violation of the Handbook Rule or Board Policy. The discipline will remain in effect pending the outcome of the meeting with the board.

If the school board reverses the decision of the hearing committee, the student shall be immediately eligible and shall have any record of the ineligibility period and violation deleted from the student's record.

GOOD CONDUCT RULE

PARENT AND STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We have read these Extracurricular Activities Policy Regulations and agree that when our son/daughter participates in the Fairfield High School activity/athletic program he/she will be expected to abide by these regulations.

Parent

Student

Date

Date

**** THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO COACH/SPONSOR PRIOR TO PARTICIPATION OF ACTIVITIES.**