

The schools in the district will develop a well-rounded, and age-appropriate extracurricular activities program, providing opportunities for students to participate in activities which may include, but are not limited to, journalism and yearbook, music, speech and drama, and interscholastic athletics. To provide a variety of activities for the students, the school district will periodically assess the types of activities offered, the scheduling of facilities and activities, and the expenditure of funds. The district will maintain membership in the Idaho High School Activities Association (IHSAA) for the appropriate grade levels.

Participation in extracurricular and co-curricular activities is a privilege, not a right. Students are expected to demonstrate sportsmanship, respect, and cooperation at all times. It is expected that students will follow all rules of conduct and training established by the IHSAA, district policies, and coaches/advisors. Rules and expectations regarding student conduct and training will be provided to parents/guardians by coaches/advisors at the beginning of each school year or activity season. All applicable student conduct rules will be strictly and impartially enforced.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions will apply to this policy:

“Extracurricular activity/ies” means district or school-sponsored activities which take place outside of or in addition to the regular academic courses or curriculum of the district, including, but not limited to, athletics, student groups or organizations, and other activities for which no class credit is given.

“Co-Curricular activity/ies” means district or school-sponsored activities held in conjunction with a for-credit class, including, but not limited to, drama, speech and debate, journalism and yearbook, and band or choir.

PARENTAL PERMISSION

Students are required to have parental permission to participate in any extracurricular activities sponsored by the district. Prior to joining any extracurricular club or organization, or participating on any athletic team, the student participant must submit to the advisor/coach a permission form signed by the parent/guardian, authorizing the student’s participation in the club or athletic team.

FEES FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Recognizing the importance of a well rounded activities program to the academic, social, and physical development of students, and the limited funding available for such activities, this school district may require that all student participants, regardless of the activity, pay a nominal fee. Fees will be held in a dedicated fund to offset costs of operating the program. Students

who are unable to pay the fee, may receive a full or partial waiver, determined on a case-by-case basis by the superintendent or designee.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The district will follow all eligibility requirements for participation in IHSAA-sanctioned activities as may be amended from time to time. Students must meet IHSAA eligibility requirements as well as all district eligibility requirements.

Coaches and advisors are expected to set reasonable standards for continued eligibility, including but not limited to training and participation requirements, academic performance, and sportsmanship. Such standards will be in writing and distributed to the students at the beginning of the sports season or enrollment period. Students are expected to comply with all eligibility requirements.

Academic eligibility for all extracurricular and co-curricular activities shall be as follows:

- To take part in any extracurricular or co-curricular activities, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.
- Grades will be checked every two (2) weeks on Monday morning.
- Students must also have all grades at a 70% or above to be allowed to participate in any extracurricular or co-curricular activity. If a student has a grade below a 70% when grades are pulled, the student will have until Tuesday at noon of that week to get their grade up to a passing grade or they will be deemed ineligible to participate for that week. Any student that is ineligible for the week will have grades pulled again the following week. If the student meets the grade requirement, he or she is eligible to participate. Grades will not be pulled during the first three weeks of each semester.

The following attendance eligibility also applies.

- Students who participate in an extracurricular or co-curricular contest must attend at least four (4) class periods the day of the contest unless they have the principal's permission to be absent. If there is a contest on a non-school day, the student must attend four (4) class periods the school day before the contest.
- Students who participate in an extracurricular or co-curricular contest must attend at least four (4) class periods in order to attend practice unless they have the principal's permission to be absent.

Homeschool students who are dual enrolled in the district and wish to participate in extracurricular or co-curricular activities must agree to adhere to this policy. Students must be able to show proof that they have a 2.0 GPA with the grade requirements set forth in this policy on the designated grade check dates. If a grade report is not provided, the student will automatically be ineligible for the week. Homeschool students are subject to all applicable district behavior and code of conduct policies and IHSAA rules.

All students wishing to participate in any extracurricular or co-curricular activities governed by the IHSAA must meet eligibility requirements established by the IHSAA as well as all district

eligibility requirements. This includes being enrolled in school full time and having passed at least 4 out of 5 classes the previous semester.

PROHIBITION AGAINST THE POSSESSION OR USE OF ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES

Students are prohibited from possessing, using, being under the influence of, or distributing tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, and/or paraphernalia (Policy 551, Student Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Use). Students participating in extracurricular or co-curricular activities may also be subject to drug and alcohol testing as specified in Policy 578 (Drug and Alcohol Testing of Students Participating in Extracurricular Activities).

ACTIVITY SUSPENSION

A student will be immediately suspended from all extracurricular and co-curricular activities when he or she receives a suspension from school for any reason. Such suspension is automatic and may apply for the duration of the school suspension or longer, up to a total of nine (9) school days, at the discretion of the building principal. The suspension runs concurrently with the school suspension. Coaches and advisors may also suspend students from participating in extracurricular or co-curricular activities for failing to comply with training and participation requirements, or violation of student conduct rules, including but not limited to possession, use, or distribution of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco. Students may also be subject to school disciplinary action where appropriate.

Students who receive in-school suspension may practice with their team after the regular school day has ended. A student suspended from athletics may not compete with the team or travel with the team to away contests during the period of suspension. Students who are suspended out of school may not participate in any practice or team function until their suspension is completed. Students may be suspended due to possession, use, or distribution of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco in accordance with Policy 578 (Drug and Alcohol Testing of Students Participating in Extracurricular Activities).

Students suspended from a co-curricular activity may ask to do, or be required to do, alternative assignments or special projects to make up for the missed activity. The course grade for students will not be affected by a suspension from a co-curricular activity as a result of this policy unless the reason for the suspension was related to course work or course expectations.

SCHOOL INSURANCE

School insurance is available for students participating in extracurricular athletic activities. Before engaging in practice sessions, competitions, or events, students who want to take part in the school insurance program must have a permission form signed by the student's parent/guardian. Parents/guardians will be provided with information about the school-provided insurance and the limits of protection on the applicable policy. The district does not assume any financial responsibility for medical or hospital expenses incurred because of athletic injuries. Students participate at their own risk.

ATHLETIC PHYSICALS

Students participating in IHSAA-sponsored athletics are required to get a physical examination prior to participation their freshman and junior years. Information on when and where to obtain such physicals will be available from coaches and/or the district athletic director.

EXTRACURRICULAR AWARDS

Students who participate in extracurricular or co-curricular activities may be recognized by the awarding of varsity letters, certificates of participation, or other awards. The type of award and criteria for receiving an award will be established prior to the commencement of the activity. Each coach or advisor will inform student participants of the requirements and standards for earning an award in the activity.

If a member of a varsity sport is injured during that sport’s season and cannot meet the requirements for earning an award, the coach has discretion 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.

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LEGAL REFERENCE:

Idaho Code Section 33-512(12)

ADOPTED: January 14, 1998

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