

Stark County Community Unit School District #100

Athletics/Extracurricular Code and Parent Compact

2025-2026

Stark County Athletics and Extracurricular Activities offer incredible opportunities to grow beyond the classroom. Involvement in extracurricular activities promotes vital life skills like teamwork, a strong work ethic, responsibility, commitment, goal setting and the ability to overcome adversity.

Here at Stark County #100, we wholeheartedly encourage every student to get involved. These activities are a privilege, and while we want everyone to have a chance to participate, it is important to remember that being part of an activity, earning playing time, or receiving accolades are not guaranteed. They are earned through dedication and effort.

EXTRA CURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT

This code supersedes any previous Extra Curricular Code. All students declared academically ineligible will not be allowed to attend or participate in any school activities during their period of academic ineligibility. This list includes but is not limited to:

- Dances
- Prom
- Serving on committees
- Holding any elected office
- Attending any activity related to that office
- Musical
- Instrumental and choral activities
- Athletic participation
- All IHSA activities
- Scholastic Bowl
- Speech Team
- Student Council
- Meals on Wheels
- FFA
- FCCLA
- Honors Choir
- Cheerleading
- Dance Team
- School play
- Stark Smart
- School sponsored events not requiring a paid ticket for public participation
- Field Trips
- Class trips during school, after school, or on weekends
- All Homecoming Activities
- Stark County High School or Student Council
- Class sponsored events
- Concession stand participation

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

All extracurricular participants should exhibit the qualities of Pride and Excellence! They plan their time so that they give sufficient time and energy to their studies to ensure acceptable grades.

Weekly eligibility -- A student must not have received more than 1 F while taking 5 half-credit courses or more. If a student has more than 1 F (grade point average less than 0.875), that student becomes ineligible the next full week, Sunday through Saturday. Grades will be calculated on a cumulative

basis each semester. Eligibility is based on the “grade in progress” format for the semester. When performing in IESA activities, all Junior High students must conform to eligibility rules, maintaining no F’s.

Semester Eligibility -- All students starting the second semester of the 6th grade year must have passed at least 5 half credit courses the previous semester. Failure to have done so will render the student ineligible for the full semester following the deficit semester.

BEHAVIOR

Extracurricular participants should be leaders, exemplifying the meaning of Pride and Excellence. Fellow students will look up to these leaders and should see examples of how to act in accordance with this code.

On Campus

Behavior and appearance on the school premises is of great importance. Extracurricular participants should lead by example and show what it means to be the Pride and Excellence of Stark County through their actions.

On Trips

Extracurricular participants directly represent the school, community, and the coaches/sponsors. Therefore, it is expected that while traveling, all concerned will dress in an acceptable manner, and conduct themselves on the bus and at the activity in a manner keeping with this code and showing that they are the Pride and Excellence of Stark County.

SERIOUS MISCONDUCTS

The following guidelines will be adhered to by the administration with respect to student conduct and extracurricular programs, however, in a case where conduct by a player or team participant is so egregious or insubordinate that in the determination of the head coach, that participant’s continued membership on the team or club would cause a debilitating effect on the program, the coach may immediately suspend or dismiss the participant from the team.

The types of conduct listed below (but not limited to) are prohibited at any time during the year:

1. Possession, distribution, or influence of tobacco products; including electronic cigarettes, vapes, etc.
2. Possession, distribution, or influence of alcoholic beverages
3. Possession, distribution, or influence of illegal drugs (marijuana, crack, cocaine, heroin, speed, etc.) and/or drug paraphernalia.
4. Violations of the Criminal Code, including but not limited to theft or vandalism
5. Gross misconduct or insubordination
6. Any other serious offense that results in disciplinary action

*Any act of serious misconduct may result in suspension from participation in any activities, including those listed above.

VOLUNTARY ADMISSION OF SERIOUS MISCONDUCT BY EXTRA-CURRICULAR PARTICIPANTS

Before being caught by a school or law enforcement official, a student can voluntarily admit to serious misconduct. The student may undergo an assessment conducted by a counselor (approved by the Board of Education or their designee), and the student will follow the recommendation. (The cost of the assessment and treatment will be the responsibility of the student's family). If the student successfully completes the assessment and the recommendation of the counselor no further disciplinary action will be taken. If the student fails to have assessment or to complete the recommendation of the counselor, he/she will be punished according to the extracurricular code. During this time the student must stay academically eligible also.

Admission may be made to the Principal, Assistant Principal, Athletic Director, Coach/Sponsor, or to any school official the student feels comfortable with. The school official will then contact the Athletic Director to begin steps for assessment.

*Voluntary admission will be allowed one time only.

CONSEQUENCES FOR SERIOUS MISCONDUCTS

Serious Misconduct #1 may result in a suspension from the sport and activity(s) in session and/or the next sport or activity(s) in which the individual participates and competes a full season. Suspension durations will be determined by administration and/or the athletic director with input from the coach/sponsor. Suspension may be for a specific number of contests or a set time period/portion of the season.

Serious Misconduct #2 in a high school student's career may result in an additional suspension. This suspension may be as long as one calendar year from the date of the infraction, as to be determined by administration and/or the athletic director with input from the coach/sponsor.

- The student may undergo an assessment conducted by a counselor (approved by the Board of Education or the designee), and the student will follow the recommendation. (The cost of the assessment and treatment will be the responsibility of the student's family).
- A parent conference must be held with said counselor before the student may be readmitted to participate in extracurricular activities. Parents should be prepared to furnish proof of an appointment for the assessment at this conference.
- After six calendar months an appeal by the student and his/her parents for reinstatement may be made to the Board of Education contingent upon one or all of the following: substantiated rehabilitation, family counseling, drug test, or whatever the Board deems reasonable; for example, academic eligibility will be considered.

Serious Misconduct #3 may result in suspension from all activities for up to the remainder of the student's high school career. After one calendar year an appeal by the student and his/her parents for reinstatement may be made to the Board of Education contingent upon one or all of the following: substantiated rehabilitation, family counseling, drug test, or whatever the Board deems reasonable; for example, academic eligibility will be considered.

In case of alleged violation of the Extra Curricular Code, the following procedure will be followed:

- A meeting with the student, coach/sponsor, the athletic director or building principal may be held to hear evidence and take action. A written report of the conference will be completed by the athletic director or building principal.
- A letter will be sent to the parents, if the student is found guilty of a code violation indicating the offense, the action taken, and the parent's right to appeal the action should they choose to do so.
- Should an appeal be desired, a written request should be filed with the Board of Education. The Board then may hear the appeal or appoint a hearing officer, whose decision may be reviewed by the Board at the Board's discretion.
- A written report of the hearing shall be filed by the hearing officer with the Board of Education.

ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS

Individual coaches will distribute rules concerning situations/events not specifically mentioned in the above policy. The coach will meet and distribute written rules, to be gone over and reviewed, in a team/parent meeting for that sport/activity. As part of IHSA, all participants are expected to abide by the guidelines set forth by IHSA.

Stark County School District Parent Conduct Policy

Effective parental conduct is essential for the success of our student-athletes and their athletic programs. The Stark County Community School District #100 expects parents to uphold a high standard of conduct and sportsmanship during and following all extracurricular activities. Failure to adhere to this code of conduct will result in disciplinary action.

For parents attending school extracurricular activities, our shared expectation is that you model exemplary sportsmanship at all times. This includes, but is not limited to: cheering respectfully for all participants, refraining from negative comments directed at players, coaches, or officials, and accepting the outcomes of games and competitions with grace. We ask that you support the positive development of all children involved, fostering an environment of encouragement and mutual respect, regardless of team affiliation or performance.

Infractions

The following actions are considered violations of the parent code of conduct:

- Approaching the bench or field of play to confront a coach or player during a contest.
- A parent removing a player during a game or event
- Directing derogatory remarks at coaches, officials, or players from the stands or sidelines.
- Failing to adhere to the "next day rule" by approaching a coach immediately after the conclusion of a contest.
- Being ejected from a contest due to improper behavior.

- Posting derogatory or detrimental comments on social media about coaches, officials, players, programs, or opposing schools/programs.

*Example infractions listed above are not comprehensive allowing for interpretation by building leadership in regards to similar infractions within the same realm as those listed above.

Consequences

Violations of this policy will result but not limited to the following consequences:

1. First Infraction: An ejection or other behavior/sportsmanship violation during a Stark County athletic contest/activity will result in immediate suspension for the remainder of that contest and the subsequent like contest (home or away). The parent is prohibited from attending any Stark County athletic or extracurricular events until the suspension is completed.
2. Second Infraction: A second ejection or infraction within a four-year period will result in a minimum five-game suspension up to the remainder of the school year. If the ejection occurs during the final game of the season, a situation-specific plan will be implemented by the athletic director.
3. Third Infraction: A third suspension or infraction will result in a calendar year-long ban from all Stark County athletic events/activities.
4. Fourth Infraction: A fourth ejection or major infraction from any Stark County athletic contest will result in a lifetime ban from all Stark County athletic events.
5. Chain of Command: All concerns regarding extracurricular programs must follow the established "Chain of Command." This process begins with direct communication with the coach or sponsor. If concerns are not resolved, the next steps, in order, are to contact the Athletic Director, building administration, superintendent, and finally, the Board of Education, only if necessary.

Stark County CUSD #100 reserves the right to impose more severe penalties when warranted.

Regarding Playing Time

Coaches and the athletic director will not discuss playing time with parents or guardians.

Addressing Concerns or Rule Infractions: If you have a concern regarding a coach, sponsor, or a program rule infraction, please follow the steps below. To maintain a respectful and constructive environment, do not approach coaches or sponsors immediately before, during, or after a game or practice to discuss issues.

1. Student-Initiated Meeting: Encourage your student to first schedule a meeting with the coach or sponsor to discuss the issue or rule infraction.

2. Parent/Guardian Meeting Request: If the student's meeting doesn't resolve the issue, or if the student is uncomfortable initiating the discussion, parents/guardians should call to schedule an appointment with the coach or sponsor.
3. Discussion with Coach/Sponsor: Discuss your concern or problem directly with the coach or sponsor during the scheduled meeting, ideally with the student present.
4. Escalation to Athletic Director: If the problem/concern remains unresolved after speaking with the coach or sponsor, you may then contact the athletic director. While it's always recommended to address concerns with the coach first, you may go directly to the athletic director if you feel uncomfortable speaking with the coach. If the issue is still not resolved at this stage, you may then report the concern to the principal.
5. Appeal Process: If a resolution is not reached after following these steps, parents/guardians have the right to appeal any decision. The detailed procedure for this appeal process is covered elsewhere in this guide under the "Chain of Command".