Students

Extracurricular Activity

1. Extracurricular Activity Philosophy

Extracurricular activity programs enrich the curriculum of the school by making available a wide variety of activities in which a student can participate. Extracurricular activity programs are considered an integral part of the school's program of education that provide experiences that will help students physically, mentally and emotionally.

The element of competition and winning, though it exists, is controlled to the point it does not determine the nature or success of the program. This is considered to be educationally and psychologically sound because of the training it offers for living in a competitive society. Students are stimulated to want to win and excel, but the principles of good sportsmanship prevail at all times to enhance the educational values of contests.

Participation in activities, both as a competitor and as a student spectator, is an integral part of the students' educational experiences. Such participation is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, community, and the students themselves. In their play and their conduct, students are representing all of these groups. Such experiences contribute to the knowledge, skill, and emotional patterns that they possess, thereby making them better individuals and citizens.

- a. <u>Safety</u>. The District's philosophy is to maintain an activities program which recognizes the importance of the safety of the participants. To ensure safety, participants are required to become fully familiar with the dangers and safety measures established for the activity in which they participate, to adhere to all safety instructions for the activity in which they participate, to inform their coach or sponsor when they are injured or have health problems that require their activities be restricted, and to exercise common sense.
- b. Warning for Participants and Parent or Guardian. The purpose of this warning is to bring your attention to the existence of potential dangers associated with athletic injuries. Participation in any intramural or athletic activity may involve injury of some type. The severity of such injury can range from minor cuts, bruises, sprains and muscle strains to more serious injuries to the body's bones, joints, ligaments, tendons, or muscles, to catastrophic injuries to the head, neck and spinal cord. On rare occasions, injuries can be so severe as to result in total disability, paralysis, or death. Even with appropriate coaching, appropriate safety instruction, appropriate protective equipment and strict observance of the rules, injuries are still a possibility.

2. Extracurricular Activity Code of Conduct

a. <u>Purpose of the Code of Conduct</u>. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege. The privilege carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, and the community. Participants are not only representing themselves, but

also their school and community in all of their actions. Others judge our school on the student participants' conduct and attitudes, and how they contribute to our school spirit and community image.

The student participants' performance and devotion to high ideals and values make their school and community proud. Consequently, participation is dependent upon adherence to this Code of Conduct and the School District's policies, procedures, and rules.

b. Scope of the Code of Conduct

i. Activities Subject to the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct applies to all extracurricular activities. Extracurricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the School District which do not count toward graduation or grade advancement and in which participation is not otherwise required by the school.

Extracurricular activities include but are not limited to all schoolsponsored activities. The Code of Conduct also applies to participation in school sponsored activities such as school dances and royalty for such activities.

A participant means a student who participates in, has participated in, or will participate in an extracurricular activity.

- ii. When: This policy will begin on the Monday of Week 7 of the current NSAA calendar (first day of fall practice) and continue until Sunday of Week 7 of the following year NSAA calendar.
- iii. Where: The Code of Conduct rules apply regardless of whether the conduct occurs on or off school grounds. If the conduct occurs on school grounds, at a school function or event, or in a school vehicle, the student may also be subject to further discipline under the general student code of conduct. A student who is suspended or expelled from school shall not be permitted to participate in activities during the period of the suspension or expulsion, and may also receive an extended activity suspension.

3. Grounds for Extracurricular Activity Discipline

Students who participate in extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate cooperation, patience, pride, character, self-respect, self-discipline, teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect for authority. The following conduct rules have been determined by the Board of Education to be reasonably necessary to aid students, further school purposes, and prevent interference with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for suspension from participation in extracurricular activities and grounds for other restrictions or disciplinary measures related to extracurricular activity participation:

- a. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority;
- b. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, bullying, harassment, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school or extracurricular activity purposes or making any communication that a reasonable person would interpret as a serious expression of an intent to harm or cause injury to another;
- c. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property, repeated damage or theft involving property, or setting or attempting to set a fire of any magnitude;
- d. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including a school employee, school volunteer, or student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect another person shall not constitute a violation;
- e. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of, or with the intent of, obtaining money or anything of value from a student or making a threat which causes or may be expected to cause a disruption to school operations;
- f. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon (including personal safety or security devices, such as tasers, mace, and pepper spray, unless a district administrator gives prior approval) or that has the appearance of a weapon, or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks, on school grounds or at a school function or event, or in an manner that is unlawful or contrary to school activity rules;
- g. Engaging in selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, controlled substance, or an inhalant; being under the influence of any of the above; possession of drug paraphernalia, or the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-401, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance, or inhalant. Tobacco means any tobacco product (including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, and chewing tobacco), vapor products (such as e-cigarettes), electronic nicotine delivery systems, alternative nicotine products, tobacco product look-alikes, and products intended to replicate tobacco products either by appearance or effect. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation. The term "under the influence" has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law. For school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol or illegal substances on the breath or person of a student; also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant;
- h. Public indecency;
- i. Sexual assault or attempting to sexually assault any person. Engaging in sexual conduct, even if consensual, on school grounds, or at a school function or event;

- j. Engaging in any activity forbidden by law which constitutes a danger to other students, interferes with school purposes or an extracurricular activity, or reflects a lack of high ideals;
- k. Repeated violation of any of the school rules;
- 1. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities; tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities;
- m. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to a school employee, school volunteer, or student. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, national origin, or religion;
- n. Dressing or grooming in a manner which is dangerous to the student's health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of dress and grooming standards; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar, or plainly offensive; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school or of an extracurricular activity; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use;
- Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for those students riding Scottsbluff Public Schools buses or vehicles used for activity purposes;
- p. Failure to report for the activity at the beginning of the season. Reporting for one activity may count as reporting on time if there is a change in activity within the season approved by the coach or sponsor;
- q. Failure to participate in regularly scheduled classes on the day of an extracurricular activity or event;
- r. Failure to attend scheduled practices and meetings. If circumstances arise to prevent the participant's attendance, the validity of the reason will be determined by the coach or sponsor. Every reasonable effort should be made to notify the coach or sponsor prior to any missed practice or meeting;
- s. All other reasonable rules or regulations adopted by the coach or sponsor of an extracurricular activity shall be followed, provided that participants shall be advised by the coach or sponsor of such rules and regulations in writing; and/or,
- t. Failure to comply with any rule established by the Nebraska School Activities Association, including, but not limited to, the rules relating to eligibility.

All terms used in the Code of Conduct have a less strict meaning than under criminal law and are subject to reasonable interpretation by school officials.

Drug and Alcohol Violations - Meaning of Terms:

a. "Use" or "consume" includes any level of consumption or use. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation.

- b. "Under the influence" means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student, or the odor of an illicit drug on the student. Also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant.
- c. "Possession" includes having control of the substance and also includes being in the same area where the substance is present and no responsible adult present and responsible for the substance. Possession includes situations where, for example:
 - i. Alcohol is in a vehicle in which the student is present. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that the alcohol is in the vehicle, even though the student has not touched or consumed the alcohol; or,
 - ii. Alcohol is present at a party attended by the student. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that alcohol is at the party and fails to immediately leave the party, even though the student has not touched or consumed the alcohol.

In these situations, a violation would not exist if the alcohol is in the control of a parent or guardian or other responsible adult (age 21 or older) such that students are not allowed to access the alcohol. A violation would also not exist if the student did not know, or have a reasonable basis to know, that alcohol would be present, and the student leaves the location where the alcohol is present as soon as the student could safely do so. Students are expected to leave immediately, but are not to do so in a manner that would endanger them. For example, you are not to leave in a car being driven by a person who has been drinking just to get away from the alcohol party immediately when there is no other way to get home. Instead, you should call for a safe ride home and, while waiting, clearly distance yourself from the alcohol.

<u>Determining a Violation Has Occurred.</u> A violation of the Code of Conduct will be determined to have occurred based on any of the following criteria:

- a. When a student is cited by law enforcement and school officials have a reasonable basis for determining that grounds for the issuance of the citation exist;
- b. When a student is convicted of a criminal offense. Conviction includes, without limitation, a plea of no contest and an adjudication of delinquency by the juvenile court;
- c. When a student fails or refuses to submit to a court-ordered or school-ordered drug test;
- d. When a student admits to violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct;
- e. When a student is accused by another person of violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct and school officials determine that such information is reliable; and/or,
- f. When school officials otherwise find sufficient evidence to support a determination that a violation has occurred.

<u>Letters and Post-Season Honors</u>. A student who commits a Code of Conduct violation is:

- a. Eligible to letter, provided the student meets the criteria of the coach or sponsor.
- b. Eligible to letter, if the student suspended from activities has committed one violation, the student may be considered for post season awards and recognition at the coach or sponsor's discretion; or,
- c. Not eligible to letter, receive any post season awards, or hold a school record if the student suspended from activities has two or more violations in the same season. If the violations occur within one activity season, the student may be eligible to letter, receive post season awards, or hold a school record for a separate activity upon the coach, sponsor, and Activities Director's approval.

<u>Self-Reporting</u>. A student who violates the Code of Conduct must self-report. The self-report must be made to the principal, Activities Director, or the head coach or sponsor of an activity in which the student participates. The student's parent or guardian may initiate the self-reporting process, but the student will be later required to give a written statement of the self-report. The self-report must be made before the end of the next school day after the conduct occurred and before participation in an extracurricular or cocurricular activity.

In making a self-report, the student must identify the events that took place, what conduct the student engaged in, and any witnesses to the student's conduct, and will be required to put this information in a written statement. In the event the student has received a criminal citation, charge, or ticket, and proclaims innocence of a violation, the student will be required to self-report such offense and provide information as to why they should be found innocent, not as it relates to the criminal offense, but as it relates to the Code of Conduct.

All students are expected to be honest and forthright with school officials. In the event the coach or sponsor or any school administrator asks a student participant for information pertaining to compliance (or lack of compliance) by the student or other student participants with the Code of Conduct or eligibility conditions for participation in activities, the student is expected to fully, completely, and honestly provide the information. Students may be disciplined for a failure to be honest and forthright.

- 4. <u>Procedures for Extracurricular Discipline</u>. The following procedures are established for suspensions from participation in extracurricular activities:
 - a. <u>Investigation</u>. The school official(s) considering the suspension will conduct a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances and determine whether the suspension will help the student or other students, further school purposes, or prevent an interference with a school purpose.
 - b. Meeting. Prior to commencement of the suspension, the school official considering the suspension or their designee will provide the student an opportunity to give the student's side of the story. The meeting for this purpose may be held in person or via a telephone conference.
 - i. The student will be given oral or written notice of what the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the school has,

- and the opportunity to explain the student's version. Detail is not required where the activity participant has made a self-report or otherwise admits the conduct. Names of informants may be kept confidential where determined to be appropriate.
- ii. The suspension may be imposed prior to the meeting if the meeting cannot reasonably be held before the suspension is to begin. In that case the meeting will occur as soon as reasonably practicable. The student is responsible for cooperating in the scheduling of the meeting.
- c. <u>Notice Letter</u>. Within two school days (two business days if school is not in session), or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Activities Director or designee will make personal contact, followed by a written statement to the student and the student's parent or guardian. The statement will describe the student's conduct violation and the discipline imposed. The student and parent or guardian will be informed of the opportunity to request a hearing.
- d. <u>Informal Hearing Before Superintendent</u>. The student or student's parent or guardian may request an informal hearing before the Superintendent. The Superintendent may designate the Activities Director or another administrator not responsible for the suspension decision as the Superintendent's designee to conduct the hearing and make a decision.
 - i. A form to request such a hearing must be signed by the parent or guardian. A form will be provided with the notice letter or otherwise be made available by request from the principal's office.
 - ii. The request for a hearing must be received by the District Office within five days of receipt of the notice letter.
 - iii. If a hearing is requested:
 - 1. The hearing will be held within 10 calendar days of receipt of the request, subject to extension for good cause as determined by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee.
 - 2. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will notify the participants of the time and place of the hearing a reasonable time in advance to allow preparation for the hearing.
 - 3.Upon conclusion of the hearing, a written decision will be rendered within five school days (10 calendar days if school is not in session). The written decision will be mailed or otherwise delivered to the participant, parent or guardian.
 - 4.A record of the hearing (copies of documents provided at the hearing and a tape recording or other recordation of the informal hearing) will be kept by the school if requested sufficiently in advance of the hearing by the parent or guardian.
- e. <u>No Stay of Penalty</u>. There will be no stay of the penalty imposed pending completion of the due process procedures.

- f. Opportunity for Informal Resolution. These due process procedures do not prevent the student or parent or guardian from discussing and settling the matter with the appropriate school officials at any stage.
- 5. <u>Bluffs Middle School Personal Conduct and Activity Participation.</u> Students participating in or who will participate in extracurricular activities that are found guilty of/or cited by law enforcement for:
 - a. Use or possession of alcohol, or having consumed alcohol; or,
 - b. Illegal use or possession of a narcotic or habit-forming drug or having consumed a narcotic or habit-forming drug will be suspended from all practices and all public performances involving extracurricular activities.

The suspension period will begin on the day the student is formally notified by the Activities Director or the building administrators and will continue for two weeks.

If the suspended student and parent or guardian have met with an approved counselor for drug and alcohol evaluation and rehabilitation then the suspended student may resume practice after a suspension period of one week, but will still be suspended from all public performances involving extracurricular activities for a minimum suspension of two weeks.

If the student hasn't begun participation in an extracurricular activity then the student will be excluded from the first two weeks of practice and all public performances of the first extracurricular activity in which the student is going to participate.

If the suspended student and parent or guardian have met with an approved counselor for drug and alcohol evaluation and rehabilitation then the suspended student may resume practice after a minimum suspension of one week, but will still be suspended from all public performances involving extracurricular activities for the first two weeks of that extracurricular activity.

A second offense of a. or b. above during the policy year will result in the student being suspended from all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the policy year. Students participating in or who will participate in extracurricular activities, which are found guilty of/or cited by law enforcement for:

- a. Possessing or using tobacco, chewing or smoking; or,
- b. A misdemeanor or public misconduct;

may be suspended from the next public performance involving extracurricular activities. The suspended public performance will occur after or on the day the student is formally notified by the Activities Director or the building administrators. A second offense during the policy year will result in the student being suspended from the next two public performances. A third offense during the policy year will be dealt with by the Bluffs Middle School administration.

Students participating in or who will participate in extracurricular activities, who are found guilty of/or cited by law enforcement for a felony will be dealt with by the Bluffs Middle School administration.

Extracurricular Activities and Discipline Suspensions. If a student participating in extracurricular activities is assigned in-school suspension or out-of-school suspension, they are not allowed to participate in a public performance during the suspension assignment. This includes weekend performances that fall between Friday and Monday and in-school or out-of-school suspension. If a student participating in extracurricular activities is assigned out-of-school suspension, they will not be allowed to attend practice during the suspension assignment.

When Suspensions Begin. All suspension periods will begin on the day the student is formally notified by the Activities Director or any building administrator. If the student is not currently enrolled to participate in an extracurricular activity, the suspension will begin upon the students next season of participation.

In making a self-report, the student must identify the events that took place, what conduct the student engaged in, and any witnesses to the student's conduct, and will be required to put this information in a written statement. In the event the student has received a criminal citation, charge, or ticket, and proclaims innocence of a violation, the student will be required to self-report such offense and provide information as to why they should be found innocent, not as it relates to the criminal offense, but as it relates to the Code of Conduct.

All students are expected to be honest and forthright with school officials. In the event the coach or sponsor or any school administrator asks a student participant for information pertaining to compliance (or lack of compliance) by the student or other student participants with the Code of Conduct or eligibility conditions for participation in activities, the student is expected to fully, completely, and honestly provide the information. Students may be disciplined for a failure to be honest and forthright.

Attendance. Student participants are expected to meet the following attendance expectations:

- a. Attend school regularly. Students who have "excessive absences" as determined under the school's attendance policy may lose eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities.
- b. Be on time for all scheduled practices, contests and departure for contests. In the event a participant is unable to attend a practice or contests, the participant should contact the coach or sponsor in advance.
- c. On the day of a contest, performance, or other activity, students must be in attendance for the full day. A student who is not in attendance for any part of the full day must have approval by the principal or Activities Director in order to be eligible for the contest, performance, or activity.

d. Any student that has an unexcused absence during the school day will not be eligible to participate in practice or game/performance the day of the absence.

Every attempt should be made to be in attendance the day of a contest.

<u>Academic Standards and Eligibility.</u> Participation in extracurricular school activities is encouraged and desirable for all students. At the same time, the primary mission and responsibility for each student is to establish a firm academic foundation. A student participating in extracurricular school activities must show evidence of sincere effort towards scholastic achievement.

Students' grades will be checked weekly on Wednesday beginning on the third Wednesday of the 9-week grading period. If failing grades are discovered the student will be considered ineligible.

- a. Ineligibility. A student earning any F's will not be allowed to participate in any public performance, competition, or activity until all grades are passing. (**see singular exception below).
- b. Grades will be checked each Wednesday of the sports season and students and their coaches or sponsors, counselors, and parents or guardians will be notified of their eligibility status. The student is to discuss ineligibility with both coach or sponsors and parent or guardian.
- c. Students who fail to fulfill their obligation of attending tutoring may not be allowed to participate in the next public performance, competition, or activity.
- d. The first time a student becomes ineligible, he/she may petition for Academic Probation and Recovery. See below.

<u>Academic Probation & Recovery</u>. Students earning one F may be placed on academic probation & recovery.

- a. Students may attend practice and/or participate in a performance, competition, or activity after attending study hall.
- b. Probationary status is granted for the period of one week.
- c. Probationary status may be used only once per season/activity.
- d. Students in year-long activities may access academic probation once a semester.
- e. The academic probation is removed upon verification that the student is passing.
- 6. Scottsbluff High School Extracurricular Activities and Discipline Suspensions. If a student participating in extracurricular activities is assigned out-of-school suspension, they are not allowed to attend practice or participate in a public performance during the suspension assignment. This includes weekend performances that fall between a Friday and Monday. If a student is assigned in-school suspension, they will not be allowed to attend practice or participate in public performance.

Drug and Alcohol Violations/Consequences.

Class One Activities are those that provide consistent practice and competitions. Class One Activities are as follows:

<u>Athletics</u>: Volleyball, Football, Softball, Unified Bowling, Swimming, Basketball, Wrestling, Track, Unified Track, Soccer, Tennis, Cross Country, and Golf

Activities: Drill Team, Cheer, Play Production, and Speech

Class Two Activities are those that correlate with instruction/co-curricular programming. Class Two Activities are as follows:

<u>Activities:</u> DECA, Skills USA, FCCLA, ProStart, HOSA, Musical, Choralaires, 27th Street Singers, Mock Trial, FFA, Jazz Band, Orchestra, Journalism, Math Club, and Educators Rising

If students are involved in multiple activities, the order of consequence will be determined by what is most immediate that the student is involved in. If they are not involved in an activity at the time of an occurrence, consequences will apply to the next activity.

Regarding Class Two Activities only, depending on the date of the infraction and the participant's prior record, consequences may involve a more restorative approach due to the number of competitions or performance dates. Consequences will be determined by SHS administration, coach or sponsor, student and parent or guardian.

<u>Personal Conduct and Activity Participation - Class One Activities.</u> Students who are participating in or will participate in a Class One Activity that are found in possession or consumption of alcohol, narcotic or other habit-forming substance will have the following consequences.

- a. <u>First Offense</u>. Suspension from 20% of public performances, based on the entire season (Cheerleading and Drill Team will be based on 25 performances). With the coach or sponsor's approval, students suspended from performances may remain at practice and travel with the team. However, students may not be excused from the school day in order to do so.
- b. <u>Second Offense</u>. Suspension from 40% of public performances based on the entire season. With the coach or sponsor's approval and verified enrollment by parent or guardian and student in an approved drug and alcohol counseling program, students suspended from performances may remain at practice and travel with the team. However, students may not be excused from the school day in order to do so.
- c. <u>Third Offense</u>. Suspended from all public activity for the remainder of the policy year. With the coach or sponsor's approval and verified enrollment by parent or guardian and student in an approved drug and alcohol counseling program, students suspended from performances may remain at practice.

After the first offense, the suspended student and parent or guardian may opt to meet with an approved counselor for drug and alcohol evaluation and rehabilitation, then the suspended student may resume public performances after a suspension of 10% of the scheduled contests. The parent or guardian must attend the drug and alcohol evaluation with their student. A list of approved counselors will be in the Scottsbluff High School activities office. This reduction will not apply to second or third offenses.

This policy will be in effect for the entirety of the calendar year beginning the start of fall activities (according to the NSAA calendar). All suspension periods will begin on the day the student is formally notified by the Activities Director or any building administrator. If the student is not currently enrolled to participate in an extracurricular activity, the suspension will begin upon the students next season of participation. If the violation occurs at the end of the season, any unmet suspension will be carried over to the next season of participation.

<u>Personal Conduct and Activity Participation - Class Two Activities.</u> Students who are participating in or will participate in a Class Two Activity that are found in possession or consumption of alcohol, narcotic, or other habit-forming substance will have the following consequences.

- a. <u>First Offense</u>. Suspended from all public performances involving extracurricular activities for 21 days or a minimum of two competitions or performance dates. With the coach or sponsor's approval, students suspended from performances may remain at practice and travel with the team. However, students may not be excused from the school day in order to do so.
- b. <u>Second Offense</u>. Suspended from all public performances involving extracurricular activities for 42 days or a minimum of four public performances. With the coach or sponsor's approval and verified enrollment by parent or guardian and student in an approved drug and alcohol counseling program, students suspended from performances may remain at practice and travel with the team. However, students may not be excused from the school day in order to do so.
- c. <u>Third Offense</u>. Suspended from all public performances for the remainder of the policy year. With the coach or sponsor's approval and verified enrollment by parent or guardian and student in an approved drug and alcohol counseling program, students suspended from performances may remain at practice.

After the first offense, the suspended student and parent or guardian may opt to meet with an approved counselor for drug and alcohol evaluation and rehabilitation, then the suspended student may resume public performances after a suspension of 10 days of all public performances or a minimum of one competition or performance date. The parent or guardian must attend the drug and alcohol evaluation with their student. A list of approved counselors will be in the Scottsbluff High School activities office. This reduction will not apply to second or third offenses.

This policy will be in effect for the entirety of the calendar year beginning the start of fall activities (according to the NSAA calendar). All suspension periods will begin on the day the student is formally notified by the Activities Director or any building administrator. If the student is not currently enrolled to participate in an extracurricular activity, the suspension will begin upon the students next season of participation. If the violation occurs at the end of the season, any unmet suspension will be carried over to the next season of participation.

7. Academic Standards

Participation in extracurricular school activities is encouraged and desirable for all students. At the same time, the primary mission and responsibility for each student is to establish a firm academic foundation. A student participating in extracurricular school activities must show evidence of sincere effort towards scholastic achievement. To be eligible for participation in extracurricular activities, students must:

- a. Be enrolled in at least 20 credit hours in the semester of participation. Students attending an authorized Rule 13 school must enroll in no more and no less than five credit hours through the District in any semester; and,
- b. Satisfactory academic performance and attendance may be required to participate in extracurricular activities consistent with each school's Parent-Student Handbooks.

Eligibility criteria for part-time students is governed by policy 5004, NSAA Bylaw, and state law.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-401

Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-254 to 79-296

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