

Tahoka ISD

Extracurricular

Code of Conduct

It takes commitment for winning to be an all the time thing. It takes commitment to do things right all the time. Total commitment means 100% effort, 100% of the time, no loafing, no idling, no standing around, no goofing off, and no phoning in sick. When we make a commitment, in essence, we're making a decision to do something. The Latin root for decision is to "cut-away-from" as an incision during surgery. So when we commit to something, what we're really doing is "cutting away" all our other options, all our other possibilities. When we commit to something, we cut away all the excuses, and all of the rationalizations.

-Vince Lombardi

Tahoka Independent School District

Extracurricular Code of Conduct

Table of Contents

Extra Curricular Activities: General Provisions	3
What is an Extracurricular Activity?	3
Why are Extracurricular Activities Important?	3
Jurisdiction	3
Who is Subject to the Extracurricular Code of Conduct?	3
When Does the Extracurricular Code of Conduct Apply?	3
Conduct Expectations	4
What is Expected of Extracurricular Activity Participants?	4
Prohibited Conduct	4
What Conduct is Prohibited for Extracurricular Activity Participants?	4
Category A Violations	4
Category B Violations	5
Consequences	6
Category A Violations	6
Category B Violations	6
Procedures	7
Who Determines That a Violation of the BISDECC has Occurred?	7
How Will Consequences be Assessed for Different Violations of the BISDECC?	7
Is a Student Entitled to Participate in Extracurricular Activities?	7
How Will Parents Be Notified That a Violation of the BISDECC has Occurred?	7
What if a Parent Does Not Agree With the Decision?	7
Acknowledgment of Extracurricular Code of Conduct and Drug Testing Policy	8

1. Extracurricular Activities: General Provisions

What is an Extracurricular Activity?

- ❖ Any University Interscholastic League (UIL), School District, or campus-sponsored or related public performances, events, contests, demonstrations, displays, club activities, athletics, whether on- or off-campus;
- ❖ Any elected offices and honors (such as student counsel and homecoming king, queen or court);
- ❖ All co-curricular activities, which are those held in conjunction with a credit-bearing class, but that may take place outside of school and outside of the school day (such as work program, band and choir);
- ❖ All national organizations (such as National Honor Society or Future Farmers of America); and
- ❖ Any activity held in conjunction with another activity that is considered to be an extracurricular activity (such as a meeting, practice, or fundraiser).

Why are Extracurricular Activities Important?

- ❖ They promote self-discipline, responsibility, leadership, teamwork, self-confidence, commitment, and student wellness.
- ❖ They enhance and enrich curricular educational offerings.
- ❖ They offer participants the opportunity to be leaders and role models on campus and in the community.
- ❖ They enable participants to represent the School District, their hometown and their family in a positive manner.

2. Jurisdiction

Who is Subject to the Extracurricular Code of Conduct?

Any student who participates in one or more extracurricular activities is subject to the Tahoka Independent School District Extracurricular Code of Conduct (TISD ECC). A student is subject to the TISD ECC from the time he/she is selected for, elected to, or otherwise joins an extracurricular activity and continues to be subject to the TISDECC from that point forward unless or until the student no longer participates in extracurricular activities.

When Does the Extracurricular Code of Conduct Apply?

The privilege of representing the School District carries with it a greater responsibility to conduct oneself with respect and dignity, and to serve as a role model for all students. Consequently, extracurricular activity participants are expected to comply with the TISD ECC at all times, regardless of location. This includes both on- and off-campus conduct as well as evenings, weekends, holidays, and summer vacation. Summer activity is germane if the student has been elected to participate or is continuing participation from a previous semester.

3. Dress and Grooming Standards

- a.** Students involved in extracurricular activities are expected to represent Tahoka ISD in proper dress and manner during all events, competitions, practices, and while traveling. In addition to dress and grooming standards for all students, the following standards apply to all extracurricular participants.
- b.** The coach / director reserves the right to determine the dress code when traveling or participating in any event / contest.
- c.** Earrings, nose rings, and unnatural color hair (i.e. blue, pink, turquoise, etc...) are prohibited at all times.
- d.** Tattoos may not be visible during practices, competitions, or while traveling as a representative of Tahoka ISD.
- e.** Hats may be worn, but the hat will be worn in the correct manner and facing forward at all times.
- f.** Hair shall be clean, well-groomed, not in the eyes, hair length shall be worn to the point where it does not reach below the bottom of the ear nor touch their shirt collar in back. No geometric designs or unusual patterns shaved or cut in the hair shall be permitted.
- g.** Sideburns should not extend below the lobe of the ear.
- h.** No facial hair is permitted.
- i.** Tank tops (muscle shirts) or sleeveless shirts are not permitted.
- j.** Earrings are not permitted.
- k.** Notching of eyebrows is not permitted.

4. Conduct Expectations

What is Expected of Extracurricular Activity Participants?

Participants in extracurricular activities are representatives of the School District, and must conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on the School District at all times. Specifically, they must:

- ❖ Maintain an average of 70% or better in all academic courses, except as provided in District policy FM (Legal);
- ❖ Be punctual and prepared for all games, practices, meetings, performances, camps, and/or other scheduled events related to an extracurricular activity;
- ❖ Treat all school property with respect and ensure that school property is returned upon request and in good condition (excluding reasonable wear and tear);

- ❖ Abide by the District's dress and grooming standards for students as well as any dress and grooming standards applicable to the specific extracurricular activity;
- ❖ Comply with UIL rules, including those related to random drug and steroid testing, which can be found in Board Policy FNF (LOCAL).
- ❖ Be courteous and respectful toward all fellow participants, school faculty and staff members, spectators, parents, and officials, whether from Tahoka ISD or from any other school district;
- ❖ Provide as soon as the participant is aware, advanced notice to the coach or sponsor of an activity if they are unable to attend a game, practice, meeting, performance, and/or other scheduled event related to the extracurricular activity;
- ❖ Complete safety training and maintain certification as required regarding recognizing the symptoms of injuries, and the risks of using dietary supplements;
- ❖ Comply with all rules and guidelines in the TISD ECC and those established for a specific extracurricular activity in which the student participates; and,
- ❖ Comply with and adhere to the behavioral standards identified in the Districts Student Code of Conduct.

5. Prohibited Conduct

What Conduct is Prohibited for Extracurricular Activity Participants?

Category A Violations:

- ❖ Being tardy to games, meetings, practices, performances, camps, and/or other events without permission from the activity sponsor or coach;
- ❖ Being absent from games, meetings, practices, performances, camps, and/or other events without permission from the activity sponsor or coach;
- ❖ Engaging in acts of poor sportsmanship, such as cheating, using profane language, or taunting other participants;
- ❖ Being insubordinate to a coach or sponsor;
- ❖ Being disruptive during a game meeting, practice, performance, camp, and/or other event;
- ❖ Failing to return school district property as directed where the property is valued at \$20 or less;
- ❖ Violating the established rules or guidelines of a specific extracurricular activity in which the student participates;
- ❖ Violating the District's standards for dress and grooming or the standards set for the specific extracurricular activity;
- ❖ Engaging in general misconduct prohibited by the District's Student Code of Conduct.

Note: *The standards of the TISD ECC are independent of the Student Code of Conduct. Violations of these standards of behavior that are also violations of the Student Code of Conduct may result in a student being disciplined under both standards.*

Category B Violations:

- ❖ Engaging in theft, destruction, or misuse of school district property;
- ❖ Failing to return or reimburse school property within two weeks of the conclusion of a sport or activity as directed where the property is valued at more than \$20;
- ❖ Engaging in hazing, harassment or bullying of others as defined by the Tahoka ISD Student Code of Conduct;
- ❖ Buying, selling, giving, delivering, using, possessing, or being under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, a controlled substance (without a proper prescription), or a dangerous drug at any time and regardless of whether the student is on school property or at a school-related activity;
- ❖ Engaging in any unreasonably dangerous athletic technique that unnecessarily endangers the health or safety of a student;
- ❖ Maintaining or being identified on a website, blog or any electronic communications device or photograph that depicts behavior that is illegal or is sexual in nature;
- ❖ Engaging in conduct prohibited by the Districts Student Code of Conduct that is punishable by placement in DAEP or expulsion.

Note: *Students placed in DAEP are ineligible to participate in or attend extracurricular activities pursuant to Texas Education Code § 37.006(g).*

6. Consequences

Category A Violations: **A coach/sponsor has the ability to choose from a range of consequences based upon the particular student's and prior TISD ECC violations.**

- ❖ Verbal reprimand.
- ❖ Corporal punishment in the form of strenuous exercise.
- ❖ Suspension from a contest(s), and or partial contest and/or the remainder of the season.
- ❖ Suspension for the remainder of the season. (This consequence requires agreement of the sponsor/coach, athletic director and campus principal for athletic activities. For non athletic activities, this consequence requires agreement between the sponsor and campus principal unless the consequence is mandated by law or Board Policy.)

Definition: **"suspension"** *means that the student will not be permitted to participate in any*

competition, contest, scrimmage, performance, or election associated with an extracurricular activity. The student may continue to participate in practices.

Note: *An extracurricular activity participant starts each school year with a clean slate, unless he or she had participation in extracurricular activities revoked during the previous school year, in which case that revocation continues from year to year. In addition, any consequences that were assessed during the prior school year for which the student owes additional suspension or behavior contract time must still be completed. For example, a student who was suspended from participation for 4 school weeks during the last week of school may have an additional 3 weeks of suspension to complete beginning with the next school year. The “clean slate” provision is contingent upon the participant’s behavior/misbehavior over the summer months being acceptable and appropriate.*

Definition: *“weeks” means school weeks, but also includes any non-school weeks in which an extracurricular competition or event occurs, such as camps during the summer or on school holidays.*

Category B Violations: A coach/sponsor has the ability to choose from a range of consequences based upon the particular student’s and prior TISD ECC violations.

- ❖ Verbal reprimand.
- ❖ Corporal punishment in the form of strenuous exercise.
- ❖ Suspension from a contest(s), partial contest and/or the remainder of the season.
- ❖ Suspension for the remainder of the semester, and/or academic school year. (This consequence requires agreement of the sponsor/coach, athletic director and campus principal for athletic activities. For non-athletic activities, this consequence requires agreement between the sponsor and campus principal unless the consequence is mandated by law or Board Policy.)
- ❖ Suspension for the remainder of a student’s educational career at Tahoka ISD. (This consequence requires agreement of the sponsor/coach, athletic director and campus principal for athletic activities. For non-athletic activities, this consequence requires agreement between the sponsor and campus principal unless the consequence is mandated by law or Board Policy.)

7. Procedures

Who Determines That a Violation of the TISD ECC has Occurred?

The activity sponsor, coach, athletic director or appropriate administrator will determine whether a violation of the TISD ECC has occurred and will assess the appropriate consequence.

How Will Consequences be Assessed for Different Violations of the TISD ECC?

Consequences for violating the Districts TISD ECC are assessed based on the severity of the violation and the commission of prior TISD ECC violations.

Is a Student Entitled to Participate in Extracurricular Activities?

No. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right. As such, a student’s participation may be revoked at the District’s discretion.

How Will Parents be Notified that a Violation of the TISD ECC has Occurred?

Parents will be notified of all violations *that result in suspension from participation* in extracurricular activities, or in cases where students are required to enter into a behavior contract. The activity sponsor or coach will contact (or make a good faith effort to contact) the student and the student's parent via telephone or face-to-face conference within 1 school day from the time the activity sponsor or coach learns of such a violation. At this time, the activity sponsor or coach will inform the parent and student that a violation of the TISD ECC has occurred, discuss with them the applicable consequences, and give the student an opportunity to respond to the allegations. Coaches and sponsors must document their efforts to contact a parent in cases where notification attempts were unsuccessful.

What if a Parent Does Not Agree With the Decision?

All appeals will be addressed through the District's complaint process, contained in policies FNG (Legal) and (Local). A decision of the Tahoka ISD Board of Trustees regarding an extracurricular activity complaint is final and is not appealable.

8. Acknowledgment of Extracurricular Code of Conduct

I have read, understood, and agree to abide by Tahoka ISD's Extracurricular Code of Conduct. I understand that I will be held accountable for the behavior expectations and consequences outlined in the Extracurricular Code of Conduct. I understand that by participating in extracurricular activities, I am a representative of Tahoka ISD and a role model to my peers and throughout the community; therefore, the Extracurricular Code of Conduct governs my behavior at all times, and applies both on and off school property. I understand that the behavior expectations of the Extracurricular Code of Conduct are in addition to those included in the Tahoka ISD Student Code of Conduct. I understand that violations of the behavior standards of the Extracurricular Code of Conduct that are also violations of the Student Code of Conduct may result in my being disciplined under the Extracurricular Code of Conduct, and the Student Code of Conduct.

This form must be on file with the District prior to a student participating in any extracurricular or co-curricular program.

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

Student Name (Print): _____

Home Phone # _____ Cell Phone # _____

Campus: _____

Grade Level: _____

Student Signature: _____

9. Acknowledgment of Drug Testing Policy

Note: This form will be valid for the duration of this student's participation in extracurricular activities.

This form must be on file with the District prior to a student participating in any extracurricular or co-curricular program.

Student's Name _____

Student's Social Security Number or School Identification Number _____

Parent/Guardian's Name _____

Parent/Guardian's Phone Number _____

I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the District's drug-testing policy. I recognize and understand that I will be asked to provide a urine sample for drug analysis. I consent to any such testing conducted as required by the drug-testing policy and realize that I may be asked more than one time during the year for a urine sample. I agree that I will not refuse to take any such test or otherwise dispute the District's right to conduct any such tests. I have been given the right to ask questions about the drug-testing policy, and I fully understand its provisions. Moreover, once I have agreed to become part of the testing pool, the District shall be authorized to keep me in the testing pool until written notification from a parent has been received by the Superintendent or their designee.

Student's Signature _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____

Date _____

Listed below are the prescription drugs and dosages my son/daughter takes on a permanent basis. I understand that, depending on the type of medication and the circumstances, its use may have to be verified and discussed with the doctor who prescribed it. I give permission to the doctors who have prescribed medication for the treatment of my son/daughter's medical conditions to verify the circumstances and discuss any effects that medications may have on my son/daughter's lab test results or school performance.

Drug Name _____

Dosage _____

Drug Name _____

Dosage _____

My son/daughter does not take any prescription medication on a permanent basis.

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____

Date _____

Note: This form will be valid for the duration of this student's participation in extracurricular activities.
