# MENNO WOLVES and TRAPPERS



# MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT ACTIVITIES HANDBOOK

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# **INTRODUCTION**

This guide is comprised of the policies and procedures that will affect the co-curricular activities programs in Menno School District 33-2.

The primary purposes of this guide are as follows:

- 1. To establish uniform procedures for coaches and advisors to interact with the public, family, students, and participants
- 2. To provide information about goals and policies of the co-curricular activities and programs for students
- 3. To understand the positions and responsibilities of students, parents, coaches, and administrators

#### PHILOSOPHY

The co-curricular activities programs in Menno School District 33-2 provide opportunities and experiences to develop students' individual and collaborative skills. These programs seek to create a healthy climate in the school system and its supporting community. Inter-school competition affords students the opportunity to work toward a high level of achievement and compete with their peers from other schools. Participation in quality activity programs contributes to overall physical and mental health, emotional maturity, social competence, and moral values.

#### VISION STATEMENT

Our students will become productive members of society and lifelong learners.

#### SOUTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

The State of South Dakota (SDCL 13-36-4) authorizes schools to delegate the control, supervision, and regulation of all high school interscholastic activities to a high school activities association. South Dakota school districts, jointly and cooperatively, created and developed a voluntary, non-profit association for the advancement of interscholastic activities. The purpose of the South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA) is to direct and coordinate interscholastic activities that are conducted by member high schools. The SDHSAA sanctions and regulates activity programs for athletics, music, publications, speech, and student council through a Board of Control and an executive staff. Each article of the constitution, by-law, rule, and regulation of the SDHSAA, however, was ratified by the member schools.

#### **CORNBELT CONFERENCE**

Menno High School is a member with seven other high schools-Canistota, Hanson, Freeman, Bridgewater-Emery, Irene-Wakonda, Viborg-Hurley, and Howard to form the Cornbelt Conference. The Cornbelt Conference regulates conference scheduling, awards, and competition in each sport. Copies of the Cornbelt Conference Constitution are available in the athletic director's office.

# FUNDAMENTALS OF GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

#### STUDENT-ATHLETES

•Set a good example by exemplifying the highest degree of character, behavior, and leadership.

•Display self-control in all circumstances. You represent your team, your school, your family, and your community.

•Respect the integrity and judgment of officials—and accept their decisions.

•Know and respect the rules of the game.

•Respect opponents and coaches at all times.

•Respect the property and equipment of others.

•Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.

•Shake hands and offer appropriate comments of congratulations or compassion to opponents following the contest.

#### PARENTS, GUARDIANS, AND SPECTATORS

•Be a positive role model for the students-athletes and spectators through your words and actions

•Cheer in a positive way that respects the efforts of all teams and players involved.

•Respect the integrity and judgment of officials—and accept their decisions.

•Respect school property and school authorities. Remain off the playing/competitive area.

•Respect and support the commitment and efforts of coaches.

# **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COACH**

The coach bears the greatest burden of responsibility for sportsmanship. She/He has the strongest influence upon the attitudes and behavior of the players, the student body, and the community. For good sportsmanship to become a reality, it is essential that the coach teaches its principles through words and actions. Specifically, it is recommended that the coach:

- Instructs the athletes in the fundamentals, rules, and skills of the sport or activity
- Instructs the athletes in their sportsmanship responsibilities.
- Always sets good examples for others to follow.
- Does not use vulgar or offensive language at any time.

• Discipline athletes who display unsportsmanlike behavior. If necessary, takes away their privileges of representing the school.

- Be a good host to opponents. Treat them as guests.
- Respect the official's judgments and interpretations of the rules.
- Publicly shake hands with the officials and opposing coach before and after the contest.

# VOLUNTEER COACH REQUIREMENTS

The following will be required to be a volunteer coach in the Menno Public School District:

- 1. Must notify AD/Principal of intention to volunteer coach and be approved by the school board each year.
- 2. Must pass a background check.
- 3. Attend practices and games as required by the head coach.

# **VOLUNTEER COACH EXPECTATIONS**

- 1. May complete coaching courses online at http://www.nfhs.org/ and Menno School will reimburse the coach when present a course completion certificate. The courses are: Concussion, First Aid and Fundamentals of Coaching.
- 2. Be helpful, loyal, courteous, and respectful to all coaches, players, and officials.
- 3. Respect the final decisions of the head coach.
- 4. Volunteer coaches will not be paid.

# PARENTS/SPECTATORS EXPECTATIONS

Unsportsmanlike/disorderly conduct during school activities and athletic functions will not be tolerated. Verbal or physical abuse of student athletes, coaches, school personnel, referees, opposing teams and their coaches/supervisors shall not be tolerated and may result in the spectator being required to leave the activity and school grounds. Failure to leave the activity at the request of the school administrator may subject the spectator to forcible removal by an appropriate law enforcement official. Further violations may result in parents/spectators being banned from attending subsequent athletic activities for the rest of the season of that sport.

# GRADE CHECK POLICY

- 1. A weekly grade check for all student athletes will be conducted every Friday at 1:00 p.m. beginning the 3rd full week of each quarter. Teachers are required to have all grades updated and entered into DDN Campus by 12:00 p.m. each Friday.
- 2. A student athlete who has an 'F' in any one course at the time of grade check will be ineligible to compete the following Monday-Sunday in their current activity.
  - A student that has a 'D' in a course at the time of grade check will be placed on a Warning List and notified of their current standing by their respective coach. They will remain eligible to continue competing while on the Warning List.
  - It is required that any student taking a Dual Credit course has a passing mark in that course in order to be eligible as well.
- 3. Administration will notify coaches regarding student athletes who fail to meet the weekly eligibility requirement every Friday afternoon.
- 4. Coaches will notify student athletes regarding ineligibility for the following week. Those student athletes will be required to meet with the instructor of any class they are failing prior to the start of the following school week.
- 5. Student athletes will be required to attend practice during the week of ineligibility but will not be allowed to dress on game/competition days.
  - An ineligible student athlete may travel to away contests with their team if it is the first time they have appeared on the 'F' list during that sporting season. Any subsequent weeks on the 'F' list will mean the student athlete can no longer travel to away contests with the team.
- 6. If the student athlete can earn back a passing grade by the next Friday grade check, they will become eligible again the following Monday.

# **PRACTICES:**

Students in any sport, including cheerleading, must attend 10 practices before they will be allowed to participate in a school event.

# ELIGIBILITY RULES

Menno Public School is a member of the South Dakota High School Interscholastic Activities Association, and the school abides by its regulations. To be eligible to participate in inter-school contests, a student must pass at least four regular subjects each semester. All participating students must have a current SDHSAA physical on file with the principal before they are allowed to begin practice in any sport. A student must also be in school half a day to be eligible to participate in a school activity that day, subject to administrative discretion.

The eligibility rules apply to all SDHSAA and/or Menno Public School sanctioned co-curricular activities. The co-curricular activity code of conduct governs all Menno Public School student eligibility.

# GUARD YOUR ATHLETIC AND FINE ARTS ELIGIBILITY—You Are Not Eligible if:

1. You have reached your 20<sup>th</sup> birthday.

2. You have attended more than 4 first semesters and 4 second semesters of school in grades 9 through 12. Enrollment in school for 15 school days or participation in an interschool contest shall constitute a semester. Once a student enrolls as a ninth grader, all semesters must be consecutive unless verified in writing by a physician that withdrawal from school is necessary due to a serious illness or injury.

3. You did not pass 20 hours of high school work per week, in courses approved for graduation for the preceding semester.

4. You are not enrolled in and have not attended a minimum of 20 hours of high school work per week during the current semester.

5. You have graduated from a regular four-year high school or institution of equivalent rank.

6. You have not enrolled by the 16<sup>th</sup> school day of the current semester. Date of regular entry into classes is considered the date of enrollment.

7. You have been absent from school more than 10 consecutive school days. (Illness of student or death in the immediate family excepted.)

# ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ATHLETES—You are not Eligible if:

8. You have transferred from one high school to another without corresponding change in the residence of your parent(s)/guardian(s).

9. You do not have on file, in the principal's office, a signed physical examination and parent(s)/guardian(s) permit form.

10. You have participated in an athletic contest under an assumed name.

11. You have ever participated in athletics in any institution of learning of higher rank than a standard secondary school.

12. You have violated your amateur standing.

13. During a high school sport season, you compete on an unattached basis as an individual or as a member of a non-school team.

Consult your Coach or Principal for additional information.

# SDHSAA DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

If a student causes Menno Public School to be disciplined by the South Dakota High School Activities Association (SDHSAA) for any reason, the student will be automatically suspended from all SDHSAA sanctioned activities for a period to be determined by the SDHSAA Board of Directors and/or the Menno Public School administration. Furthermore, students whose violations cause monetary fines from the SDHSAA will be responsible for payment of this fine in its entirety. The student in question will remain suspended by the Menno Public School administration at least until the fine has been paid in full.

# STATE LAW DRUG VIOLATIONS

# FIRST VIOLATION

Suspension from extracurricular activities for controlled substances violation—Unified Judicial System to give certain notices. Any person adjudicated, convicted, the subject of an informal adjustment or court-approved diversion program, or the subject of a suspended imposition of sentence or suspended adjudication of delinquency for possession, use, or distribution of controlled drugs or substances or marijuana as defined in chapter 22-42, or for ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise taking into the body any substances as prohibited by § 22-42-15, is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity at any secondary school accredited by the Department of Education for one calendar year from the date of adjudication, conviction, diversion, or suspended imposition of sentence. The one-year suspension may be reduced to thirty calendar days if the person participates in an assessment with a certified or licensed addiction counselor. If the assessment indicates the need for a higher level of care, the student is required to complete the prescribed program before becoming eligible to participate in extracurricular activities.

#### SECOND VIOLATION

Upon a second adjudication, conviction, diversion, or suspended imposition of a sentence for possession, use, or distribution of controlled drugs, substances, or marijuana as defined in chapter 22-42, or for ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise taking into the body any substance as prohibited by § 22-42-15, by a court of competent jurisdiction, that person is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity at any secondary school accredited by the South Dakota Department of Education for one year from the date of adjudication, conviction, diversion, or suspended imposition of sentence. The one-year suspension may be reduced to sixty calendar days if the person completes an accredited intensive prevention or treatment program.

# THIRD VIOLATION

Upon a third or subsequent adjudication, conviction, diversion, or suspended imposition of sentence for possession, use, or distribution of controlled drugs or substances or marijuana as defined in chapter 22-42, or for ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise taking into the body any substances as prohibited by § 22-42-15, by a court of competent jurisdiction, that person is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity at any secondary school accredited by the Department of Education. Upon such a determination in any juvenile court proceeding, the Unified Judicial System shall give notice of that determination to the South Dakota High School Activities Association and the chief administrator of the school in which the person is participating in any extracurricular activity. The Unified Judicial System shall give notice to the chief administrators of secondary schools accredited by the Department of Education for any such

determination in a court proceeding for any person eighteen to twenty-one years of age without regard to current status in school or involvement in extracurricular activities. The notice shall include name, date of birth, city of residence, and offense. The chief administrator shall give notice to the South Dakota High School Activities Association if any such person is participating in extracurricular activities.

Upon placement of the person in an informal adjustment or court-approved diversion program, the state's attorney who placed the person in that program shall give notice of that placement to the South Dakota High School Activities Association and chief administrator of the school in which the person is participating in any extracurricular activity. As used in this section, the term, extracurricular activity, means any activity sanctioned by the South Dakota High School Activities Association. Students are ineligible to participate in activity events, competitions, and performances, but a local school district may allow a student to participate in practices.

**13-32-9.1.** Consequences imposed by local school districts. No local school board may impose a lesser consequence than those established in § 13-32-9, but a local school district may adopt a policy, by local school board action, with more strict consequences to meet the needs of the district. **Source:** SL 2014, Ch 88, § 2.

**13-32-9.2.** Reduced suspensions--Commencement of suspension. If a suspension is reduced pursuant to § 13-32-9, a suspension for a first offense shall make the student ineligible for a minimum of two South Dakota High School Activities Association sanctioned events upon completion of the reduced suspension period. If a suspension is reduced pursuant to § 13-32-9, a suspension for a second offense shall make the student ineligible for a minimum of six South Dakota High School Activities Association sanctioned events upon completion of the reduced suspension sanctioned events upon completion of the reduced suspension.

#### TRAINING RULES FOR MENNO WOLVES AND SCOTLAND/MENNO TRAPPERS Philosophy and Purpose

The Menno School District #33-2 has adopted the following policy relating to the use of moodaltering chemicals, i.e., alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and marijuana. Menno School District recognizes the use of mood-altering chemicals as a significant health problem for many adolescents, resulting in negative effects on behavior, learning and the total development of each individual. The use of mood-altering chemicals for some adolescents affects extracurricular participation and development of related skills. Others are affected by the misuse and abuse by family, team members, or other significant persons in their lives. The close contact in Menno School District activities of advisors and coaches provides them with a unique opportunity to observe, confront, and assist young people. Menno School District supports education and awareness training in adolescent chemical use problems including the symptomatology of chemical dependency and special issues affecting Menno School District activities for administrators, athletic directors, coaches, advisors, participants, and their families.

#### **Statement of Purpose**

1. Provide consistency with the Menno School District #33-2 co-curricular activities program philosophy: "That provides opportunities and experience that make a contribution to the general growth and development of each individual student and assists to create a healthy climate in the school system and its supporting community."

- 2. To emphasize the school's concerns for the health of the students in areas of safety while participation in activities and the long-term physical and emotional effects of chemical use on their health.
- 3. To promote equity and a sense of order and discipline among students.
- 4. To conform to and support existing State Laws which restrict the use of such moodaltering chemicals.
- 5. To establish standards of conduct for those students who are leaders and standard bearing among their peers.
- 6. To assist students who desire to resist peer pressure, which directs them toward the use of mood-altering chemicals, and/or controlled substances.

# **Rules for ALL School Activities**

- 1. A student shall not: Have in possession or use a beverage containing alcohol; have in possession or use tobacco including any tobacco product that contains nicotine or any device that is used for inhaling or ingestion unless used for medical purposes with a prescription; or use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell or give away marijuana or any mood-altering drug, stimulant, controlled substances, and/or possess drug paraphernalia as defined by state law. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the student's own use by his/her own doctor. The consumption of alcohol in legal situations is permissible (ie: church service).
- 2. The policies set forth are for all activities during the school year. The school year for activities starts the first day of football, girls' volleyball or cross country practice in the fall and ends the last day of the State Track meet, State Softball tournament, State Golf meet or Graduation in the spring, whichever is later.

# **Penalties and Recommendations:**

- 1. **First Violation:** After confirmation by the Administration, of the first violation the student shall lose eligibility for the next four (4) consecutive events. This may be reduced to three (3) events if the student self-reports the violation to school administration within 24 hours of the violation. It is up to the coach, advisor, or director whether the individual will continue to practice during the suspension. The parents will be notified.
- 2. Second Violation: After confirmation, by the Administration, of the second violation, the student shall lose eligibility for the next six (6) consecutive events. It is up to the coach, advisor, or director whether the individual will continue to practice during the suspension. The parents will be notified.
- 3. **Third Violation:** After the confirmation, by the Administration, of the third violation the student shall lose eligibility for all activities for the remainder of the school year, or the next eight (8) consecutive events, whichever is greater. The parents will be notified, and counseling will be recommended.
- 4. Violations will be accumulative for the current school term. Accumulative violations will end with the conclusion of each school term. (Graduation or State Track meet or State Golf meet, whichever is later).
- 5. PENALTIES that have not been applied *will be carried over* to the following school term.
- 6. A student may not join an activity once the "Competition Level" begins for the season if a training rules violation is involved.
- 7. Students must complete the activity season, during which the penalty is applied.
- 8. All "State Championship" level events and "State Conventions" will count as two (2) events.

- 9. If a student is denied participation in an activity, that student shall be expected to ride the bus to the event, if the bus does not leave during school hours and the coach/sponsor approves.
- 10. Community service hours may be assigned by the superintendent in extreme cases with school board approval.
- 11. These are minimum restrictions. Individual coaches and directors may impose additional punishment, as they see fit.

# Miscellaneous Considerations:

- 1. The activity rules will always apply, not just at school activities. (During the school term, as stated herein).
- 2. Violations occurring while in or at school or at a State sponsored activities may also include a three (3) day suspension from school. (See student suspension/expulsions)
- 3. Guilt by association is not a violation, but if such incidents are frequent, a conference with the student will be held.
- 4. Accusations must be "First-hand" and directed to the superintendent/head coach/assistant coach, an activity advisor, or the administration. Law Enforcement may share information with school officials. The accused student(s) have the right to be present at the time that the formal accusation is made.
- 5. Only one (1) similar event per day will be counted towards the total number of activities in which the student will be denied participation. Events to be determined by the administration.
- 6. The following activities may be denied to a student for the violation of the above-mentioned Training Rules:
  - 1. BASKETBALL: All regular and post season SDHSAA sanctioned Middle School, JV, and Varsity contests.
  - 2. FOOTBALL: All regular and post season SDHSAA sanctioned Middle School, JV, and Varsity contests.
  - 3. WRESTLING: All regular and post season SDHSAA sanctioned Middle School, JV and Varsity contests.
  - 4. TRACK: All regular and post season SDHSAA sanctioned Middle School and Varsity track meets.
  - 5. GOLF: All regular and post season SDHSAA sanctioned Middle School, JV, and Varsity golf meets.
  - 6. CROSS COUNTRY: All regular and post season SDHSAA sanctioned cross country meets.
  - 7. VOLLEYBALL: All regular and post season SDHSAA sanctioned Middle School, JV, and Varsity contests.
  - 8. STATISTICIANS/TEAM MANAGERS/VIDEOGRAPHER: All regular and post season SDHSAA sanctioned Middle School, JV, and Varsity contests.
  - 9. CHORUS PERFORMANCES: All public, non-graded performances, contests, or trips.
  - 10. BAND: All public, non-graded performances, contests, or trips. (Pep Band 1=1)
  - 11. QUIZ BOWL: All competitions with other schools.
  - 12. CHEERLEADING: Participation in all athletic contests at which the cheerleaders perform, cheerleading clinics.
  - 13. YEARBOOK/ANNUAL: Annual staff trips or competitions or workshops.
  - 14. ONE ACT PLAY: All performances
  - 15. ORAL INTERPRETATION: All competitions with other schools.

- 16. FFA: State FFA Convention, State FFA Leadership Contest, District Leadership contest, State Farmer Interviews, Judging Contests, and CDEs.
- 17. FCCLA: District/Region FCCLA Leadership meetings, Fall Leadership Training, State FCCLA Leadership meeting.
- 18. HOMECOMING/CORONATION ACTIVITIES: Eligible as candidates or attendants but may be removed.
- 19. PROM: and ALL scheduled activities at school connected to Prom.
- 20. PROM Waiters/Waitresses
- 21. PROM Chairpersons
- 22. All DANCES (grades 6-12) each counting as one.
- 23. BOYS SPRING BASEBALL
- 24. GIRLS SPRING SOFTBALL

As used in this section, the term extracurricular activity means any activity sanctioned by the South Dakota High School Activities Association and/or activities sponsored by the Menno School District.

# ALCOHOL USE BY STUDENTS/DRUG ABUSE BY STUDENT/CHEMICAL ABUSE (NARCOTICS, DRUGS, TOBACCO, AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES)

The Board recognizes its share of the responsibility for the health, welfare and safety of the students who attend the districts' schools. Alcohol and drug dependency is an illness and a hazard that can interfere with a student's ability to learn and function responsibly in the school setting and community. Anything that can interfere with the development of an adolescent, therefore, must be evaluated as to its impact on both the young person and community. Psychoactive and mood-altering drugs can destroy the health and wellbeing of an individual. The school community defines drug use as a serious health problem and is committed to discouraging this behavior and to encouraging young people to seek help should a problem arise.

As educators, we recognize that chemical abuse (drugs and alcohol) has become a serious problem in our country. We accept our obligation to establish a positive environment in which these problems can be addressed locally in a helpful and supportive rather than a punitive way. One of our goals is to prevent abuse. Accomplishing this goal, we realize, will entail training teachers, counselors, and other staff members to educate the community about drug abuse. Other goals are to teach staff to identify chemical abuse problems and to know what resources are available to address these problems if they are observed. The administration recognizes that the problems of chemical abuse exceed the boundaries of the school. Therefore, we are prepared to cooperate with agencies and community groups that address these problems.

The following document outlines policy in student abuse of psychoactive or mood-altering chemicals in the school district. This policy is in effect on property owned, leased, or maintained by the school district, at all school sanctioned activities on and off campus, on vehicles used to transport students to and from school or at other activities and in vehicles parked on school property. Students, parents, members of the school and community are expected to be aware of and understand these policies and comply with them. A copy of the policy will be provided to all students and parents.

A student shall not possess, use, transfer, conceal, sell, attempt to sell, deliver nor be under the influence of narcotics, drugs, or alcohol, materials/substance represented to be a drug or

controlled substance, tobacco including any tobacco product that contains nicotine or any device that is used for inhaling or ingestion unless used for medical purposes with a prescription, or chemical substances which affect psychological functions or affect the educational system of the school. Students shall not engage in drug use/abuse nor possess paraphernalia specific to the use of chemicals.

Students who use prescription drugs authorized by a licensed physician do not violate this policy if the students conform to the prescription and appropriate school policies.

# VIOLATIONS

The following procedures will be used in dealing with possession, use, transmission or being under the influence of illicit drugs and alcohol:

# 1. First Offense

- The administration will try to notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) by phone to explain the incident and arrange a conference.
- The administration may suspend the student for up to five (5) days in compliance with student due process procedures.
- Within thirty-six (36) hours, the director will notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) in writing of the suspension.
- Notify available law enforcement authorities.

The school district strongly recommends that students with chemical abuse problems seek professional evaluation and treatment from a trained chemical dependency counselor or a licensed physician trained in chemical dependency. Because we believe that chemical dependency is preceded by misuses, we feel confident that such early intervention can benefit the student before significant harm or dependency results.

The suspension of a student who agrees to be evaluated and treated will be commuted to three (3) days. The administration will provide a list of agencies/professionals that can do the assessment and provide treatment. Fees for this assessment and treatment are the responsibility of the student and family.

# 2. Second and Subsequent Offenses

- The administration will contact the parent(s)/guardian(s) to arrange for a conference.
- Notify available law enforcement authorities.
- The administration may suspend up to five (5) days in compliance with student due process procedures.
- Within thirty-six (36) hours, the administration will notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) in writing of the suspension.
- The administration will recommend to the School Board that the student be expelled unless the following procedure is followed:
  - a. The student must agree to be evaluated and treated by a trained chemical dependency counselor or a licensed physician trained in chemical dependency.
  - b. Upon appropriate authorization, the agency or professional notifies the administration that the student has accepted treatment. If the student is accepting treatment, the recommendation for expulsion may be commuted. Fees for this assessment and treatment are the responsibility of the student and family.

- **3.** Supplying/Distributing or Selling Chemical (drugs/alcohol) or material represented to be a controlled substance.
  - Within thirty-six (36) hours, the administration will notify parent(s)/guardian(s) in writing of the suspension.
  - Supplying of selling chemicals may result in a five (5) day suspension.
  - The administration will refer the case to available law enforcement authorities.
  - A hearing on the case will be conducted by the School Board pursuant to due process rules for expulsion. Expulsion may be recommended by the Superintendent.
- 4. Pupils who visibly appear to be impaired from use of the illicit drugs/alcohol will be referred to the school nurse, if available, and the building administrator will determine whether to contact parent for further instruction, refer to the emergency authorization form or immediately seek additional medical treatment. Following the handling of the medical emergency, this Policy Statement for Chemical Abuse will be followed.
- A biennial review of the School District program will be made; changes to the programs if they are needed; and to ensure that disciplinary sanctions are consistently enforced. Legal Reference: Public Law 101-226

# SOCIAL MEDIA EXPECTATIONS

The Menno Athletic Department recognizes its student-athletes' rights to freedom of speech, expression, and association, including the use of social networks. Each student-athlete must remember that they represent the Menno School District, and are expected to portray themselves, their team, and the Menno Athletic Department, in a positive manner at all times.

If you participate on a social media or networking site:

- 1. Everything you post is public information. Texts or photos are out of your control once placed online.
- 2. Use caution when adding or inviting friends.
- 3. Limit information about your location or plans.
- 4. Use of disrespectful comments and behavior online will not be tolerated by the Menno Athletic Department. This includes but is not limited to:
  - Comments or photos that depict unlawful or prohibited conduct.
  - Derogatory, defamatory, harassing, sexual, or discriminatory posts related to teammates, a coach or coaching staff, or the Menno Athletic Department
  - Comments that create a danger to the safety of another person or that constitute a credible threat of emotional or physical injury to another person.

Situations involving any of the above activities will result in a meeting with the Athlete, Parents, Coach, Principal, and Athletic Director. The results of that meeting could range from just having the meeting, to different levels of suspension. Those involved in that decision will be the Coach and Administration. This applies to all athletes in the Menno School District playing on school sponsored teams in grades 6-12. It is in effect for 365 days a year. All penalties will be administered during the sport that has been adversely affected.

# PARTICIPATION OF ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTION STUDENTS

The Menno School District recognizes the educational value of participation in co-curricular

activities including interscholastic contests and further believes such participation is of value to not only students attending school within the Menno School District but also to students receiving instruction via alternative means. Therefore, alternative instruction students may participate in co-curricular activities by fulfilling the following conditions.

- 1. Be a resident of the Menno School District.
- 2. Provide documentation of the SDCL 13-27-3 Application for Public School Exemption Certificate Request.
- 3. Provide documentation of the completion of nationally standardized achievement tests in grades tested under the state testing program.
- 4. Demonstrate compliance with Chapter I, Part IV—Student Eligibility and Chapter II, Part I—Further Eligibility Requirements for Athletic Contests (as applicable) by submitting the SDHSAA Eligibility Checklist for Alternative Instruction Students.
- 5. Provide a transcript of coursework completed including the name of each course and grade received. The school district reserves the right to request additional verification of coursework completed including, but not limited to, the actual curriculum (textbook if applicable) that was used, coursework completed by the student during the completion of the alternative educational program, and tests completed by the student. In cases where the validity of course work is in dispute, an achievement test or other appropriate testing instrument chosen and provided by the school district may be administered to determine academic eligibility. The student must have successfully completed (D- letter grade or higher) a minimum of four academic classes the previous semester with semester defined as the Menno School District semester.
- 6. Provide documentation that the student is enrolled in a minimum of four academic classes for the current semester, with said documentation to include the name of course and curriculum that is being used.
- 7. Courses for which the Menno School District would not grant credit towards graduation such as religion courses or driver's education will not be recognized as meeting the minimum academic requirements outlined in sections 4 and 5 above.
- 8. Satisfy the responsibilities and standards of behavior and performance, including related class or practice requirements, as expected of other student participants as a condition for both initial acceptance and continued membership in the activity including, but not limited to:
  - A. The Menno School District Co-Curricular Activity Rules Policy.
  - B. The submission of current forms for parent permit and SDHSAA physical examination.
  - C. Participation in any facet of the music program is conditioned upon the following:
    - 1. Attending the parallel music class daily. The Menno School District High School attendance policy will be followed. If an alternative instruction student accumulates absences from the class that would have resulted in a district student failing the class, the alternative student will be dropped from the class and from all activities related to the class.
    - 2. Participating fully in all activities required of district students. An alternative instruction student can only choose to participate in select activities when the option whether to participate is also available to district students.
  - D. A student who is a member of a high school team may not participate in games, practice, tryouts, etc. in that particular sport during the same season on an independent or non-high school team, or as a member of any "all-star" team, or completely unattached on an individual basis.

- E. The alternative instruction student and/or his or her parent/guardian are responsible for any expenses related to participation in an activity to the extent district students and their parents are responsible for such expenses.
- 9. Eligibility is established at the first school in which the alternative instruction student decides to participate.
- 10. Students may transfer their eligibility to another school one time during their high school career. An alternative instruction student who has established eligibility at another school and who subsequently transfers his or her eligibility to the Menno School District will become eligible following 45 school days unless the transfer occurs at the beginning of the school year, in which case the student would be eligible immediately.
- 11. A student who leaves an accredited school for any reason to enter an alternative instruction program, shall be ineligible for interscholastic competition for a period of one year, beginning on the date the student enters the alternative instruction program. Re-enrollment in an accredited school shall not nullify the year of ineligibility.
- 12. All Menno School District policies that apply to activities and district students will also apply to alternative instruction students regardless of whether the policies were specifically addressed in this policy.

# ACCIDENT AND DENTAL INSURANCE

At the beginning of each school year, every student is provided with forms concerning accidents and dental insurance. These forms are sent home to parent(s)/guardian(s) who may or may not opt to subscribe. The school does not provide this insurance. The forms are simply distributed by the school. Policies offered are limited pay policies and are not major medical policies. Limitations are placed on many types of injuries. Students and parent(s)/guardian(s) should make certain they understand what is and is not covered in the policy before subscribing for the insurance.

# ACTIVITY TICKETS

Fans may purchase a blanket ticket to cover admissions charges to all school events at Menno School District except for the variety show and school plays. If a financial problem exists, please feel free to stop in the office; some arrangements can be made.

Menno Students home games and Trapper games	No Charge
Parent Activity Ticket	\$55.00
Adult Activity Ticket	\$70.00
Golden Age Pass	\$40.00
Adult Punch Ticket (good for 10 games)	\$40.00

# ACTIVITY BUS

In the interest of school safety, program cohesiveness and school liability, it is recommended that

each student who rides the team or activity bus to an out-of-town event should ride home on the bus. Students not riding the bus home will be permitted to ride with their parent(s)/ guardian(s) only if they have notified the school administration, program director or coach with a written note and verbal confirmation from the parent or guardian. Parent(s)/guardian(s) must sign their student out by signing a release with the coach, director, or advisor prior to leaving the event. Parents/guardians wanting their child to ride home with another adult (other than a parent/guardian) must obtain prior administrative approval. Students not following this policy will be referred to the discipline policy.

#### **CHURCH NIGHT/SUNDAY**

Students or teachers will schedule no formal school events on Wednesday nights. The local school is not responsible for conference, region, or state events sometimes scheduled on Wednesdays. ONLY upon the Superintendent's or Principal's permission may non-mandatory activities be scheduled on Sunday. There will not be mandatory practice on Sunday.

#### GAMES, EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, FIELD TRIPS

All basic school rules apply to athletic contests, music and any other school-related activity including field trips. All school employees or chaperones have authority over students during the above activities. Students violating the rules of good conduct are liable to disciplinary action, including suspension. When activities (field trips, etc.) require a student to pay money, it must be paid in advance before the student is allowed to attend. Field trips shall be completed no later than two weeks before the end date of the year. Classes should be combined for field trips whenever possible.

#### **OPEN GYM POLICY FOR MENNO STUDENTS**

The Menno School believes that its facilities should be used to further the education of all its students. A policy has been set to monitor open gym for members of the student body. This is to ensure that all students are allowed to have access to this educational activity, with the idea of safety in mind.

#### **City/School Auditorium**

The Auditorium is open with the Wellness Center except when activities are scheduled through the administration office. Rules of the auditorium are attached to the Wellness Center Agreement. Anyone wishing to conduct an open gym in the auditorium for people who are not members of the wellness center must schedule times with the administrative office. These people must abide by the auditorium rules and have an adult present for supervision. It is recommended that age groups be established for each open gym time.

#### School Gymnasium

The school gymnasium will be open to Menno students in grades 6-12 during the summer months with the Menno School coaches supervising. Dates and times of open gym will be set up by the coaches and subject to approval by the administration. These are not mandatory but encouraged for team building and skill development.

#### Wellness Center

Students aged 14 and older may use the Wellness Center and Old Gym at no charge. They will

be required to pay a deposit fee for a fob at the cost of \$25/family. Menno Families wishing to use the Old Gym **ONLY** may purchase a fob for \$25 and are not required to pay a Wellness Center membership fee. Fobs must be reactivated each year. No one under the age of 14 is allowed in the wellness room. Each paid member is entitled to one guest. Guests are only allowed to enter with the member present. Each guest needs to pay a \$2.00 visitation fee. Anyone using the Wellness Center must sign in and out. Students must follow the rules for the Wellness Center and Old Gym.

#### Wellness Center Membership Fees

Menno Student	\$25 for fob deposit
Adult Single	\$125 per year
Family	\$260 per year

# HAZING PROHIBITED

Soliciting, encouraging, aiding, or engaging in "hazing" on or in any school property at any time, or in connection with any activity supported or sponsored by the Menno School District, whether on or off school property, is strictly prohibited.

"Hazing" means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act meant to induce physical pain, embarrassment, humiliation, deprivation of rights or that creates physical or mental discomfort, and is directed against a student for the purpose of being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization, club, or athletic team sponsored or supported by the district and whose membership is totally or predominately other students from the district.

Students engaging in any hazing or hazing-type behavior that is, in any way, connected to any activity sponsored or supported by the district, will be subject to one or more of the following disciplinary actions:

- a. Removal from participation in extracurricular activities
- b. Conference with parent(s)/guardian(s)
- c. Suspension for up to 10 days
- d. Long term suspension for the remainder of the school term

e. Long term suspension for the remainder of the school year ie: Longer than one term or semester, but less than a full school year

- f. Referral to an appropriate law enforcement agency
- g. Permanent expulsion from the School District

# ATTENDANCE

Unless approval is made with administration prior to the absence, students must be in school half of the school day to participate in co-curricular activities on that day. Students who are ill and not in school are not allowed to attend any school activity that evening. (Example: The student has the flu during the day but then attends a high school ballgame that evening.) The student will be sent home from the activity. Make-up slips will be issued by the activities advisor or coach, no later than three days before students will miss school for any school event. The make-up slip must be returned to the respective advisor or coach for verification that all work is completed before the student leaves for the activity. Advisors or coaches will notify the office of any students who have not completed the work and will not be attending the school event. (Note: Any student wishing to attend a school event who is not a participant in the activity must three days before the activity bring a note from his or her parent or guardian requesting that the student be released to attend the event. The make-up slip must be returned to the secretary the day before the event with all work completed to be released to the event. Any student not attending an event they have been approved to go to will no longer be considered for future releases to upcoming activities. In the event make-up slips have been issued for an event that is canceled for whatever reason, students who have received make-up slips must attend the classes covered by the make-up slip during the regular class period time.

# ELEMENTARY STUDENTS AT SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Students in Preschool through Grade 5 must have supervision at any event by either the parent/guardian or a designated school or adult supervisor. The superintendent, principal, activities director, or other designated person will call parents/guardians or those next on the emergency list to come and get the child. The child will be requested not to attend the next game or other games without adult supervision.

# PARTICIPATION DURING SCHOOL HOURS

Students who are participating in any school activity during school hours must stay at the activity until school is dismissed for the day, regardless of whether the student is going with their parent(s) or not. If a parent has a note that their child has an appointment, the student may leave with their parent and the student will be counted absent from those class periods. Students are not allowed to leave at any time, except with a parent, who has given a note and talked with the coach.

# PHYSICALS

Students in grades 6 through 12 that are involved in sports that play other schools must have a physical examination and a copy of such to be in the school file. (Forms are available at the school.) Physicals must be taken every year.

# CONCUSSIONS

Each year students in grades 6-12 and their parents will have to sign a concussion fact sheet for athletes and a concussion fact sheet for parents before the student can participate. These forms must be on file in the school office. Student/athletes must have a return to competition form signed by a medical doctor before they can return to practice if they had suffered a concussion and/or been removed from a game due to exhibiting concussion like symptoms. Return to competition forms are in the school office.

# PARTICIPATION OF JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT ATHLETES

Guidelines for participation of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade student athletes on high school teams.

- 1. If the coaches determine a need to fill rosters for JV or Varsity, they may bring up 8<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> graders to participate at the JV level. All 8<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> grade participants asked to move up will be asked to join the JV team.
- 2. Once the 8<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> grade athlete begins participating at the JV level, he/she may participate at the Varsity level, if the head coach deems the athlete is capable. It needs to be noted to the players that being called up does not guarantee equal playing time for all players. It is the responsibility of the head coach to talk with the parent and student athlete prior to the call ups.

- 3. The JH basketball season will take priority over the high school season. If there is no conflict, the JH players may practice and play in games before the JH season is finished.
- 4. High School coaches must have emergency forms for all athletes and must take those forms to all games.
- 5. JH athletes will be excused from Wednesday practices.
- 6. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade track athletes will be allowed to participate in varsity track meets, provided that the track meet does not take the student/athlete away from **academic classes no more than a total of twice per week**. These two times include high school and junior high meets. If the track meet is one that had been re-scheduled, then the track athletes may be allowed to participate, regardless of the number of meets that were held that week.

# ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

#### **Class Organizations**

- Each class (6-12) will have a Menno class advisor and officer positions: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer (Secretary/Treasurer may be one position).
- A financial record must be kept written in a ledger form and the contents verified with the school business manager.
- Before a class meeting is announced, the president of the class must secure the consent and approval of the advisor.
- Plans for class parties must be approved by the administration.
- Sponsors for junior-senior banquets, concerts, organization banquets, class plays, fundraisers, etc., must submit to the office an itemized expense account before final plans are made. Sponsors are directly responsible for maintaining an approved budget.

#### National FFA Organization

This is the Future Farmers of America vocational agriculture organization. It is commonly called FFA. Students enrolled in the FFA may earn the following degrees: Green Hand, Chapter Degree, State Degree, and American Degree.

The motto of the FFA is: Learning to Do Doing to Learn Earning to Live Living to Serve

Through Career and Leadership Development Events, participating FFA members in grades 9 to 12 are challenged to develop critical thinking skills and effective decision-making skills, foster teamwork and promote communication while recognizing the value of ethical competition and individual achievement. CDE and LDE events occur at the local, state and national levels.

LDE's (Leadership Development Events) take place in the fall. Typically, there is 1 practice LDE and then a District LDE contest. Members must qualify in their contest at the District level in order to move on to the State LDE contest that takes place the beginning of December. The different LDE contests that members can compete in are Ag Sales, Ag Marketing, Ag Communications, Ag Issues, Employability Skills, Prepared Public Speaking, Extemporaneous Speaking, Creed Speaking, Conduct of Chapter Meetings, and Parliamentary Procedure.

CDE's (Career Development Events) take place in the spring. Members will compete at 3 - 5 local practice contests in March & April. There are currently no qualifying requirements for contests (except for Food Science), but it is each chapters' advisor's decision whether to require a certain placement at the local CDE contests in order to compete at the State FFA Convention, which takes place in Brookings, SD every April.

The different contests that members can compete in are Horse Evaluation, Livestock Evaluation, Dairy Cattle Evaluation, Poultry Evaluation, Ag Mechanics, Agronomy, Nursery Landscape, Floriculture, Natural Resources, Milk Quality, Ag Business, Food Science, and Veterinary Science.

#### Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)

Any student in grades 9-12 is eligible for membership in the Family and Community Career Leaders of America (FCCLA) if he or she is enrolled or has been enrolled in a semester course of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS). The mission of FCCLA is to promote personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences courses which focus on the multiple roles of the family member, wage earner, and community leader. Members can develop skills for life through character development, creative and critical thinking, interpersonal communications, practical knowledge, and preparation for career and technical education. By joining FCCLA, members can meet new people and hear motivational speakers at district, state, and national meetings. Through active participation, members can gain experience in community service projects, which can aid them when applying for scholarships and/or employment. Our main goal is to help youth assume roles in society through home economics education in areas of personal growth, family life, vocational preparation, and community involvement. The Menno FCCLA chapter meets once a month and chapter officers meet twice a month; the dates of these meetings are not the same every month. As a member you are expected to attend and actively participate in these meetings and other FCCLA events we have throughout the school year.

# Menno National Honor Society

Membership in the National Honor Society is one of the highest honors that can be awarded to a high school student. Membership is for junior and seniors only. Induction will be at the beginning of each school year. The National Honor Society has worked to bring the accomplishments of outstanding students to the attention of parent(s)/guardian(s), teachers, peers, and community. Chapters in more than 22,000 high schools across the nation strive to give practical meaning to the society's goals of scholarship, service, leadership and character. These four ideals have been considered as a basis for a student's selection. No student is inducted simply because of high academic average. The National Honor Society strives to recognize the total student; one who excels in all these areas.

Membership into the Menno National Honor Society Chapter is based on the "B" average, as well as the qualities of character, service and leadership.

- CHARACTER:
- A. Industriousness.
- B. Emotional stability and self-control.
- C. Cooperation and compliance with school regulations.
- D. Honesty, courtesy, concern, and respect for others.
- E. Acceptance of criticism willingly and advice graciously.

#### LEADERSHIP:

A. Demonstrates leadership in class, work, and in school or community activities.

B. Exemplifies positive attitudes and inspires positive behavior in others.

C. Exercises influence on peers in upholding school ideals

D. Successfully holds school offices or positions of responsibility and delegates responsibility.

E. Dependable in any responsibility accepted.

#### SERVICE:

- A. Participates in activities outside of school.
- B. Renders service to school during school time.
- C. Provides service to school outside of class
- D. Volunteers dependable and well organized assistance
- E. Does committee and staff work without complaint.

A five-member faculty committee selects students for induction using the following point scale for each subdivision:

5 points.....Always 4 points....Usually 3 points....Sometimes 2 points....Seldom 1 point ....Never

The maximum score for each of the subdivisions is 5 points, with a possible score of 75 points. The high and low evaluation will drop out and the middle three will be averaged. A student must have an average of 65 out of the total of the three teacher's evaluations in order to be accepted as a member of the Menno National Honor Society.

#### STUDENT GOVERNMENT

#### Menno School District Student Council Constitution

Preamble: We, the Student Council of Menno Public School, in order to have a more democratic and efficient government whereby we can promote and uphold the rights and privileges of the student body, to ordain and establish this constitution for the students of Menno School district.

#### Article I Executive Department

*Section I-Membership.* The executive department shall be composed of three members, namely a president, a vice-president, and a secretary-treasurer.

*Section 2-Nomination and Election.* The names of all candidates for the office of president, vice-president, and secretary-treasurer shall be presented for nomination by individual nominating petition. Such petitions shall be signed by a least ten per cent of all students of the high school and shall have been filed at least one day prior to the election.

*Section 3-Qualifications.* No person shall be elected as president of the student council who will not obtain the stature of a senior during his/her term of office. Juniors can hold any office other than president. No person shall be denied the right to hold office on account of race, sex, or creed. No person shall be elected an officer of the student council who shall not have enrolled in Menno Public School before September 30 of the ensuing year. No person shall be elected as a member of the student council who does not obtain a C average.

*Section 4-Term.* The newly elected officers shall take their oath of office before school is out for the year. Such an oath shall be administered by the outgoing president. The term of office shall begin on the day of inauguration and shall terminate upon the following inauguration.

Section 5-Duties. The duties of the president shall be to preside at all Student Council meetings. The president will preside at all student assemblies scheduled for the year and will also carry out whatever duties are necessary and proper for the execution of the laws and resolutions which the student body passes. The duties of the vice-president shall be to carry out the duties of the president in the event of his/her absence or expulsion from office. The duties of the secretary-treasurer are to keep an accurate account of student council proceedings and record them in the Student Council Journal.

*Section 6-Impeachment.* If any member of the Executive Department fails to carry out the foregoing duties, he/she may be impeached. The members of the council, by a two-thirds majority vote, may impeach a member of the executive department; whereby he/she is placed on trial before the student body and upon his/her conviction by two-thirds majority vote of the student body he/she shall be removed from his/her office.

#### Article II Legislative Department

*Section I-Membership.* Each class shall have a representation of two members, namely, a class representative and the class president, both to be elected by the class members. Each properly constituted organization of the school shall have one representative on the council elected by the members of the organization.

*Section 2-Qualifications.* Any person who is a regular member of his class or group he/she represents shall be admitted to the council. No person after being elected to the council shall be denied membership on account of race, sex, or creed.

*Section 3-Impeachment.* The members of the council, by a two-thirds majority vote, may impeach one of the members, whereby he/she is placed on trial before the class or organization which he/she represents and upon his/her conviction he/she shall be removed from his/her office.

*Section 4-Duties.* The duties of the members are to represent and promote the interests of the class or organization which they represent and take an active part in all council meetings and its functions.

#### Article III Judicial Department

*Section 1-Membership.* Membership shall consist of the high school Principal, Guidance Counselor and CEO/Superintendent.

*Section 2-Advisor.* The duties of the Principal and Superintendent are to offer opinions and guidance to the student council and also report back to the faculty the proceedings at the council.

*Section 3-Powers.* The Principal and Superintendent have the power to override the decisions of the student council whenever, in the opinion of the administration, the student council steps beyond its power.

#### Article IV How to Propose and Ratify Amendments

An amendment may be proposed at any student council meeting and voted upon. If the proposed amendment does not receive a two-thirds majority of those present and voting it is dropped. If it does receive a two-thirds majority, it is brought before each class of the student body and must be ratified by a majority vote of the class present and voting. If it does not receive the necessary 3 or 4-class approval, it may be appealed, through the council, to the vote of the student council. The proposed amendment must receive a three-fourths majority of the students present and voting.

Co-Curricular Activities ATHLETICS

Cross Country Football **Boys Basketball Boys Track Boys Golf** Girls Basketball Girls Golf Girls Softball Girls Track Girls Volleyball Statisticians Athletic manager (each sport) SPEECH **Oral Interpretation** OTHER Band

Chorus Assistant Librarian Band Manager Video Camera Newspaper Yearbook Cheerleading One-Act Play FFA FCCLA QUIZ BOWL Note: All co-curricular activities are subject to the co-curricular policy as stated.

# Homecoming

The number of king and queen candidates for Homecoming Royalty:

1) Class enrollment 20 and under – 3 candidates

2) Class enrollment 21-25 – 4 candidates

3) Class enrollment 26 or more – 5 candidates. Note - Selection of royalty shall be by ballot containing all seniors' names distributed to all grade 9-12 students who will have one vote each for a king and a queen. Seniors must be full-time students and have attended Menno High School the previous school year. Attendants shall be decided by the highest vote getters in descending order.

# Prom

- 1. Formal dress is required to attend the Junior/Senior Banquet and Prom. The administration and prom advisors reserve the right to determine what is and is not formal dress. Formal dress shall be worn at the Prom until the dance is completed. Clothes must remain on, and shirts must be buttoned up. This is a formal dance. There will be no videos playing at the Prom.
- 2. Students are not to be on the stage at any time. Students cannot pick other students up off the floor. There will be no running, skipping, body bumping, slamming, lewd dancing, or grinding at any time.

- 3. All juniors and seniors will be required to register their dates no later than three weeks prior to prom. Out of town dates must be enrolled in an accredited high school, unless he/she has graduated from an accredited high school. All dates must be approved by the administration. Parents/guardians will complete the Menno School form for an out-of-town date.
- 4. All dates to the Junior/Senior Banquet and Prom must be freshman or older. However, if the dates are out of high school, they must be under the age of 21 and are required to follow the same rules set up for the students.
- 5. No beverages may be brought to the Junior/Senior Banquet and Prom. If students bring a beverage in, regardless of the content, they will be required to leave and will not be readmitted.
- 6. No pools, ponds, waterfalls, and vehicles allowed in the decorations.
- 7. Only juniors, seniors, and Waiters/Waitresses from Menno High School and their dates will be allowed in the Grand March.
- 8. Any student serving an out of school suspension or an in-school suspension will not be allowed to attend the prom.
- 9. Juniors who do not help decorate on Thursday evening will not be allowed to decorate during the day on Friday. They will have to attend their classes.

# **LETTERING POLICIES**

# ACADEMIC LETTERS

The following would be the guidelines for receiving an academic letter:

1. 4.0 average – All Four Years: Receive a Letter, Plaque, and Certificate signifying the achievement and name on plaque in the school hallway.

# Yearly letters:

1. Cumulative 4.0 Average: Receive a Letter, medallion, and Certificate signifying the achievement

2. 3.5 to 3.9999 average gets a letter/pin and certificate

If the student already has received a letter in an activity, a pin will be given to signify the achievement.

# **Most Improved Student Award**

This award is given to students in grades 9-12. It will be based on the improvement of the student's GPA from the previous year. This award will be based on grades alone, no participation in extracurricular activities will be figured in. A medallion and Certificate will be given signifying the achievement.

# **LETTERING POLICIES FOR ATHLETES**

Philosophy:

The lettering policy adopted for Menno High School is intended to utilize consistency and fairness to all participants. We believe it is a privilege to take part in interscholastic athletics and feel that this lettering procedure will allow individual consideration for all athletes. It MUST be understood that the letter is EARNED, and is not a gift.

To be eligible for a letter at Menno High School you must meet the provisions listed below:

# Football:

Varsity Letter --- a participant must play in 14 quarters Certificate Award --- a participant out for a sport, but does not qualify for a major letter award.

# **Basketball: (Boys and Girl)**

Varsity Letter --- a participant must play in 24 quarters Certificate Award --- a participant out for a sport, but does not qualify for a major letter award.

# Volleyball:

Varsity Letter - a participant must play in 30% of the matches Certificate Award --- a participant out for a sport, but does not qualify for a major letter award.

# **Track: (Boys and Girls)**

Varsity Letter --- a participant must score 6 points in a season Certificate Award --- a participant out for a sport, but does not qualify for a major letter award.

# **Cross Country: (Boys and Girls)**

Varsity Letter---participant must medal in at least one varsity meet or participate in at least 4 varsity meets.

Certificate Award --- a participant out for a sport, but does not qualify for a major letter award.

# **Cheerleaders:**

Varsity Letter: participant must play in 100% of the games unless an absence is pre-approved or excused by coaches.

There will be no more than six (6) cheerleaders for football and basketball.

There will be no cheerleading checking account. There will be a cheerleader fund that will be run through the school.

There will be no pep rallies unless an advisor is in attendance.

Excused absences do not affect lettering. (Doctors note)

Unexcused absence will result in no lettering for that season.

If you are ineligible and cannot cheer for a game you will still travel with the squad and participate with the cheering on the bench. You do not wear your uniform.

# Statisticians/Student Managers:

Statisticians/Student Manager may receive a certificate each year provided they fulfill all requirements set forth by the coach of the sport in which the student is involved. If a student is a statistician/student manager for two years, he or she would be eligible for a varsity letter.

# NOTE:

1. For all sports any participant must finish the season barring injury.

2. "B" Teams and Junior Varsity teams do not fulfill requirements for a major award.

3. Any condition not provided for concerning lettering in the above categories will be discussed with the athletic director and individual coach of the sport in question.

4. <u>Senior Oscar</u>: An athlete must letter in two sports in the same year for two of his or her four years and participate for four high school years in both sports --- minimum.

# Letters for oral interpretation and drama:

Drama Participation (medallion): 4 years of participation in Oral Interp, Drama, or a combination of the two.

Drama Oscar (plaque): 4 years of participation in Oral Interp and Drama.

Outstanding Performer (plaque): Any participant in Oral Interpretation or Drama who has received a superior rating at a district, region or state event for his/her performance(s) during the current school year.

# High School Band Lettering Policy

High School Lettering Policy 4 year member – 500 points All State Orchestra Audition – 500 points All State Orchestra Member – 1000 points All State Band Audition – 500 points All State Band Member – 1000 points Color Guard Member – 200 points Section Leader – 300 points Be a Drum Major – 300 points Solo/Ensemble Contest I Rating – 500 points Solo/Ensemble Contest II Rating – 300 points Honor Band Audition (Any) – 100 points Honor Band Member (Any) – 300 points Play a 2nd instrument in an ensemble – 300 points Band Lessons – 200 points Yankton Summer Band (or other community band) – 50 points each concert

TOTAL NEEDED TO LETTER - 1000 POINTS

# Junior High Band Lettering Policy

Solo/Ensemble Contest I Rating – 300 points Solo/Ensemble Contest II Rating – 200 points Honor Band Member (Any) – 300 points Middle School All State Band Audition – 500 points Middle School All State Band Member – 1000 points 3 year member – 300 points Play a 2nd instrument in an ensemble – 300 points Band Lessons (Book 1 Completed) – 200 points Band Lessons (Book 2 Completed) – 300 points

TOTAL NEEDED TO LETTER - 1000 POINTS

#### SENIOR TRIP INFORMATION (BAND & CHORUS)

- 1. Freshmen through seniors must be in band, chorus, or both (not combination) for four consecutive years to participate in senior trips.
- 2. Monies for this trip will be raised entirely by the students (i.e. fundraising, personal contribution.)
- 3. Any seniors unable to accumulate the entire trip money, either through fundraising or contributions, will not be permitted to participate in the senior trip.
- 4. Any monies earned through fundraising but not used for the trip will be placed in the general fund.
- 5. Individual student accounts of security deposit money and/or fundraising will be kept by the director and/or treasurer. The money may be added to an account or passed to the account of a sibling if money is carried over.
- 6. The directors will collect and monitor all student monies. When monies have been verified, the money will be transferred to the Business Manager.
- 7. The location for the senior trip will be determined in the spring of the junior year by the directors and/or students, with administration and board approval.