



## **EXTRACURRICULAR PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES**

### **– Behavior for Cassia Joint School District**

Extracurricular or co-curricular activities are supplements to the regular instructional programs and afford students opportunities for enrichment. **However, participation in extracurricular and co-curricular activities is a privilege, not a right.** As representatives of their school and District, students participating in such activities are expected to meet high standards of behavior.

Extracurricular, and co-curricular activities will be defined as: Activities sanctioned by the Idaho High School Activities Association (IHSAA) and their middle school counterparts. These activities include but are not limited to: Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Track & Field, Volleyball, Wrestling, Cheer, Dance, Music, Debate, Drama, and Speech.

Students of Cassia Joint School District, who wish to participate in interscholastic activities, must adhere to the Idaho High School Activities Association (IHSAA) rules and regulations; this District's activities association; local city ordinances and the laws of the State of Idaho; and this District's policies.

Interscholastic activities and competitions are recognized as a valid part of the total school program. Expenditure of school District funds in accordance with the District's expenditure and budgetary regulations are authorized for the support of these activities. The District will maintain membership in the IHSAA for the appropriate grade levels.

All student participants in a sponsored IHSAA activity must purchase a school activity card.

Students are not required to have parental permission to join extracurricular clubs but must have parental permission to participate in any IHSAA sanctioned team. In addition, extracurricular clubs may engage in specific activities for which parental permission must be obtained prior to the student's participation in the specific activity.

### **GENERAL REGULATIONS:**

#### **Sportsmanship**

All schools and athletic programs will comply with Cassia Joint School District policies and with the Idaho High School Activities Association (IHSAA) sportsmanship guidelines manual. Sportsmanship, as defined by the IHSAA, is those qualities of behavior which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. Further, awareness is expected of the impact of an individual's influence on others' behavior as well. Coaches, administration, athletes, and spectators should exhibit good, positive sportsmanship.



### **Use of Equipment and Facilities**

The use of equipment and facilities are to be cleared with the building principal or their designee.

### **Participation Standards**

Activities will be open to all students (subject to tryouts, when applicable) and administered according to the following standards:

The building principals or their designees of each school shall certify the eligibility of all participants in accordance to the participation requirements stated herein. This includes homeschooled and dual-enrolled students.

### **Activities Minimum GPA Requirements**

High School Activities - Students who wish to participate in high school activities will be subject to eligibility requirements. Students must be enrolled full-time, on target to graduate based on State Board of Education requirements, and have received passing grades and earned credits in the required number of courses during the previous reporting period. Equivalency is determined by the following criteria:

- 7 classes attempted – must pass at least 5
- 8 classes attempted – must pass at least 6
- 9 classes attempted – must pass at least 7
- 10 classes attempted – must pass at least 8

All activities governed by the Idaho High School Activities Association are covered by this policy. Students falling below the minimum standard will become academically ineligible (see definition below.) Any student on academic probation (see definition below) who fails to meet the requirements of that probation will also become academically ineligible.

### **Definitions:**

\*Academically Ineligible – Any student whose previous semester GPA is below 2.0 or did not pass the appropriate number of courses will be deemed academically ineligible. Any student on academic probation who has an I (incomplete) or an F for two or more consecutive grading periods in the same class will be declared academically ineligible. Academically ineligible students will not be allowed to participate in competitive contests within their chosen activities. Students will have the opportunity to attend tutoring (see definition below) in an effort to bring their grades back up to a level above the 2.0 minimum; If a student earns D's or above in all classes on their progress report during the current grading period, he/she will be declared eligible.

\*Academic Probation – If a student has an F in any class, he/she shall be placed on Academic Probation. During the probation period, the student will still be able to practice and participate in the chosen activity. While on probation, the student will be required to attend tutoring until there is verification from the teacher that the grade is above an F. If the student fails to attend tutoring or still has an F for two consecutive grading periods, he/she shall become academically ineligible.



\* Tutoring – All students will be required to attend academic tutoring at least two times a week until there is verification from the teacher that the student no longer has an F. The tutoring may be provided the following ways:

1. Tutoring provided by the classroom teacher in that particular class.
2. Study tables led by coaches.
3. Student peer tutors with approved supervision.
4. Student may attend school-wide extra help sessions.
5. Any other tutoring approved by principal or designee.

**High School grades will be pulled as follows:**

Fall Activities:

- Check 2nd semester grades from previous year
- Check 1st qtr. Mid-term
- Check 1st qtr. Report card
- Check 2nd qtr. Mid-term if needed

Winter Activities:

- Check 2nd semester grades from previous year
- Check 2nd qtr. Mid-term (if applicable)
- Check 1st semester grades from current year
- Check 3rd qtr. Mid-term if needed

Spring Activities:

- Check 1st semester grades.
- Check third qtr. Report card
- Check 4th qtr. Mid-term

\*Initial eligibility for participation in fall activities will be based on the student's semester GPA from the end of the previous semester (spring). Grades will be checked by the athletic director at the end of the 1st quarter midterm.

\*Initial eligibility for participation in winter activities will be based on the student's semester GPA from the end of the previous semester (spring). Grades will also be checked by the athletic director at the end of the next grading period.

\*Initial eligibility for participation in spring activities will be based on the student's semester GPA from the end of the 1st semester (fall). Grades will be also checked by the athletic director at the end of the next grading period.

If at any time during the season when the student fails to meet the eligibility standards as stated in this policy, the student will be required to follow the above guidelines. All student participants in high school activities and their parents will be required to read and sign a copy of this policy acknowledging their understanding of the guidelines herein.



Student-athlete grades will be checked the Monday following the end of each midterm, quarter, and end of the first semester. Those will be the grades of record used for eligibility.

### **Middle School Activities –**

Middle School participation standards and grade checks will be as follows:

Definitions:

\*Academically Ineligible - Any student who in the previous semester did not pass the appropriate number of courses will be deemed academically ineligible. Any student on academic probation who has an I (incomplete) or F for two or more consecutive grading checks in the same class will be declared academically ineligible. Academically ineligible students will not be allowed to participate in competitive contests within their chosen activities. Students will have the opportunity to attend tutoring (see definition below) in an effort to bring their grades back up to a passing grade; if a student earns D's or above in all classes on their midterm/report card, he/she will be declared eligible.

\*Academic Probation - If a student has an F or an I (incomplete) in any class, he/she will be placed on Academic Probation. During the probation period, the student will still be able to practice in the chosen activity, but not participate in competition until the grade has improved. While on probation, the student will be required to attend tutoring until there is verification from the teacher that the grade is above an F, or no longer an I. If the student fails to attend tutoring or still has an F or an I for two consecutive grading checks, he/she shall become academically ineligible.

\*Tutoring - All students will be required to attend academic tutoring until there is verification from the teacher that the student no longer has an F or an I. The tutoring may be provided the following ways:

1. Tutoring provided by the classroom teacher in that particular class.
2. Study tables led by coaches.
3. Student peer tutors with approved supervision.
4. Student may attend school-wide extra help sessions.
5. Any other tutoring approved by principal or designee.

Eligibility for participation in Fall Activities will be determined by the student's previous semester grades. All students with an I, D, or an F will be placed on Academic Probation. Grades will be checked by coaches and Activities Director when tryouts begin, as well as weekly for three weeks after the first three weeks of the school year as follows:

Fall Activities:

Check 2nd Semester grades from previous year - 7th and 8th Grade

Check 1: 3 weeks after the start of school

Check 2: 4 weeks after the start of school



Check 3: Mid-term of 1st quarter (5 weeks after the start of school)

Eligibility for participation in Winter Activities will be based on the student's 1st Quarter Grades (Wrestling and Girls Basketball) or 1st Semester Grades (Boys Basketball) at the start of the season. All students with an I, D, or an F will be placed on Academic Probation.

Grades will be checked by coaches and Activities Director when tryouts begin, as well as weekly for three weeks after the first three weeks of the season as follows:

Winter Activities: Girls Basketball and Wrestling (2nd quarter eligibility):

Check 1st Quarter Grades

Check 1: 3 weeks after start of season

Check 2: 4 weeks after start of season

Check 3: Mid-term of 2nd Quarter (5 weeks after start of season)

Winter Activities: Boys Basketball (start of 2nd Semester)

Check 1st Semester Grades

Check 1: 3 weeks after start of season

Check 2: 4 weeks after start of season

Check 3: Mid-term of 3rd Quarter (5 weeks after start of season)

Eligibility for participation in Spring Activities will be based on the student's 3rd Quarter grades at the start of the season. All students with an I, D, or an F will be placed on Academic Probation. Grades will be checked by coaches and the Activities Director when tryouts begin, as well as weekly for three weeks after the first 3 weeks of the season.

Spring Activities: Track

Check 3rd Quarter Grades (previous quarter)

Check 1: 3 weeks after start of season

Check 2: 4 weeks after start of season

Check 3: Mid-term of 4th quarter (5 weeks after start of season)

7th -8th graders who don't pass enough credits the previous semester must have an academic administrative approved program to participate the next semester. Each participant may only be eligible for (1) one academic program contract per year. Eligibility is determined by the previous semester.

### **Other Participation Requirements**

Notwithstanding any other District policy violation, any civil or criminal law infraction or conduct by a student participant that is determined by the team head coach and building athletic/activities director to be detrimental to the activity program, school or school District will result in counseling by the team head coach and the building athletic/activities director with possible suspension or expulsion from activities.

At the beginning of each semester, teachers or coaches of co-curricular courses will identify for students how participation in the co-curricular activity impacts their course grade. Co-curricular



students who are suspended as a result of this policy will have their co-curricular course grade affected only if the reason for the suspension was related to course work or course expectations. Students who miss a co-curricular activity because of a suspension may ask to do, or be required to do, alternative assignments or special projects to make up the missed activity.

**The following travel policy applies to extracurricular activities:**

1. School District approved transportation must be used.
2. Any out-of-state transportation must have prior approval by the School Board in accordance to District policy.
3. In accordance to Idaho Code, at any time that School District approved transportation is being driven by a coach or other authorized individual, the driver must possess a valid Idaho Commercial Driver's License when the occupant load, including the driver, is 16 or more individuals.
4. Participants must travel together to and from contests away from their school in transportation provided by the school. The exceptions are:
  - a. Injury to a participant which would require alternate transportation.
  - b. Arrangements between the participant's parent/guardian and the coach for the student participant to be transported by his/her parent/guardian.
  - c. Participants are not allowed to ride with friends or family members other than a parent or guardian.

**Inappropriate Behavior**

It is considered a privilege to participate in athletics at Cassia Joint School District. Student athletes must assume certain obligations and responsibilities beyond those set for students in general. Student athletes are prohibited from the use of or possession of illegal drugs, use or possession of tobacco, use or possession of narcotics, and use or possession of alcoholic beverages, also includes pep spice (synthetic drugs). Involvement in a felony or misdemeanor crime will also be considered major offenses. When it is determined by the coach or school administrator that a violation has occurred in season (runs from the first day of practice until the completion of state competition), the student athlete will be suspended from athletics as follows:

**First Offense:** The student will be suspended from athletic competition (games, meets, matches) for three weeks. If less than three weeks of competition remain in that season, the penalty will carry over into the next season that he/she competes in. The athlete will also be subject to remedial intervention during the three weeks, and will be required to attend practice during the suspension.

**Second Offense:** Will result in the student athlete being suspended from the athletic program for the remainder of the school year. In subsequent years if another offense is committed the student athlete will automatically be suspended for the remainder of that year. For example, if a sophomore commits two offenses he/she will be suspended from playing for the remainder of that year. He/she will be allowed to compete as a junior or senior, but if another offense is committed they will again be suspended from athletic competition for the rest of that year.



Inappropriate and/or un-sportsmanlike conduct are behaviors that are detrimental to the athletic program and will not be tolerated. Behavior such as, but not limited to, profanity, stealing, equipment or facility abuse, and poor citizenship has no place in the Cassia Joint School District's athletic programs. Abusive behavior of this nature may be cause for the suspension of an athlete from the program.

**School Attendance Requirements:**

1. A student must be in school at least one-half (½) day in order to participate in an activity that day. An exception would be made if the student has an approved medical appointment; in which case, the student must present to the attendance supervisor a signed statement from the doctor. This pertains to practice sessions and contests.

2. For athletic activities, a student who has been injured and has had medical treatment cannot participate again without a doctor's release.

**3. Drugs - Alcoholic Beverages - Tobacco Products:**

Use or possession of alcoholic beverages, tobacco and/or illicit drugs by activities program participants is prohibited. The consequences will apply as outlined in the District Policy.

In activities where the season is not dictated by the IHSAA (i.e., speech, debate, music, and drama), the building principal, building athletic/activities director and team head coach will define the season.

The rules and regulations in this code shall apply to any violation on or off the school premises during the season of participation.

Additional team rules and regulations recommended by the team head coach must be approved in writing by the building principal and building athletic/activities director.

**Due Process**

The administration of the athletic rules is subject to the rights of due process and the student athlete will be afforded the same rights, which are guaranteed by law, as those given the general student population in regards to notification and hearing. If a student or parent is aggrieved of the process or disposition of any discipline or suspension in athletics, they have the right to be heard and should contact the athletic director for further procedure.

I have read and understand the rules and consequences for violations of the Cassia Joint School District Athletic Code.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## Inherent Risk

Every activity contains inherent risks, and it is impossible to insure the safety of students. I understand that the dangers and risks of playing or practicing to play high school athletics include, but are not limited to, death, serious neck and spinal injuries which may result in complete or partial paralysis, brain damage, serious injury to internal organs, serious injury to bones, joints, ligaments, muscles, tendons, eyes, and other aspects of my body and general health and well-being.

I have read and understand the inherent risks in playing high school sports. I am voluntarily participating in these activities.

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Student's Signature

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Date

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Parent/Guardian's Signature

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Date