

A STATEMENT

This handbook is an extension of the general handbook and is designed to answer questions about extra-curricular activities which may be posed by the participants and/or their parents.

A PHILOSOPHY

An extra-curricular program should accomplish several goals to justify its existence. One of the prime goals should be to secure the maximum participation of all eligible young people. Along with securing participants, we must establish and maintain a sound program of development so that the participants can compete favorably against the opponents scheduled. A well-structured developmental program will do much to move our young people into a sensible balance of being able to win and to lose. It should also serve to develop the proper attitudes toward individual and group effort.

NORTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

The North Dakota High School Activities Association (NDHSAA) has set minimum requirements for their member schools in matters of participation and general eligibility in extracurricular activities. These requirements include standards/rules for school attendance, transfer, age of participants, residency, contests and seasons, and suspensions related to alcohol, tobacco and controlled substance violations. A complete version of the NDHSAA rules and guidelines is on file in the office of the Secondary Principal and Superintendent.

The Scranton Public School adheres to these minimum standards set forth by the NDHSAA and reserves the right to enforce its own rules and standards within the district.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

These are instructions which are common to every extra-curricular endeavor under the sponsorship of the Scranton School System. These will be presented in this handbook with specific instructions for a particular area being presented separately by the head coach or advisor.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION, PARENT'S CONSENT

No pupil shall be allowed to represent his/her school in high school/junior high athletics until there is on file with the superintendent or the principal a statement signed by a qualified medical professional and the parent/guardian as in accordance with the NDHSAA.

The procedure for physical examinations and health history is as follows:

The initial year, a physical examination is required by a Medical Doctor, Doctor of Osteopathy, Nurse Practitioner or Physicians Assistant. The health history screening

(Front page of Form A) is to be completed by the parent or guardian. The back page is to be completed by the individual conducting the physical examination. The Health History Screening must be updated (Form B) the second year by the student and parent/guardian. Any change in the Health History Screening (from the previous year) will require a physical examination for year two. Physical examinations or health history screening updates must be completed on or after May 20 of the past school year. It is highly recommended that all students involved in pee wee activities (sports) obtain a physical examination before participating.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

Grades 3-6: Students must be passing in all subjects and have all work completed to be eligible.

Grades 7-12: Eligibility in grades 7-12 shall be based on the student carrying a required course load. If any student is failing in two subjects they will be considered ineligible. *If junior high students are participating at the high school level, they must be passing in ALL subjects.*

To help reinforce Scranton High School's commitment to education, the following academic standards will be implemented:

Team/Organization Members:

Academic eligibility will be taken every week following an initial grace period at the beginning of the year to establish scores (first mid-term). If after beginning participation in an extra-curricular activity a student is found to be ineligible for a third consecutive time, a student may no longer practice or travel with the organization until eligibility is again achieved. It is counterproductive for students to take on added responsibilities while their school work suffers.

Members of the Student Body:

Students who do not belong to an extra curricular team or organization and are ineligible are not allowed to sign up for fan buses or related activities until they once again become eligible.

Students are responsible for checking their own eligibility between official eligibility checks.

Eligibility is cumulative from the first week of the semester. The academic eligibility rules cover all NDHSAA sponsored events, school tours, conventions, rallies, as well as any school sponsored activities that are in direct competition with other schools. Students may participate in activities that are extensions of the classroom and not in competition with other schools.

ALCOHOL, TOBACCO OR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES:

Use or possession of tobacco, alcohol, or any controlled substance as defined by North Dakota Law is prohibited. Any extra-curricular participant who indulges in any of these harmful practices will be suspended from all participation for a period of six consecutive school weeks for the first offense and for a period of eighteen consecutive school weeks for any subsequent offense.

The period of suspension shall begin from the date and time notification is given to the student by the school administrator. The student shall have the right to a hearing within three school days after such notification. During the period between notification and hearing, the suspension may be deferred for good cause shown. **HOWEVER, IF THE SUSPENSION IS NOT IMPOSED AND THE STUDENT IS FOUND TO BE IN VIOLATION OF THE ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE RULE, ANY INTERSCHOLASTIC CONTESTS OR ACTIVITIES PARTICIPATED IN BY THAT STUDENT AFTER THE INITIAL HEARING WILL BE FORFEITED AND THE SUSPENSION WILL START FROM THE DATE THAT THE GUILT WAS ESTABLISHED.** Such a hearing shall be on notice and conducted by a school administrator. The student shall have the right to be present at the hearing and offer such testimony and other evidence the student deems material. Such student shall also have the right to confront and question the person or persons who complained of such student's violation of this rule. If the student is not satisfied by the ruling of the hearing officer, such student shall have the right to have the ruling reviewed by the local Board of Education.

If there is legitimate concern by students, parents or community members about an event involving the behavior or actions of Scranton students, these concerns should be reported to the administration within approximately one week after the occurrence. Due to the difficulty of investigating incidents that go beyond this time-line, the administration will rely on information provided by law enforcement in these instances.

A student who uses, possesses or shows evidence of having used alcohol, tobacco or any controlled substance as defined by North Dakota Law at any school or at any school function will be subjected to five days in-school or out-of-school suspension and from all extra-curricular activities for six consecutive school weeks for the first offense and eighteen consecutive school weeks for any subsequent offense. This suspension may be extended when considering the seriousness of the infraction.

Any student who indulges in any of these harmful practices (listed in item B) *or chooses to be at a location* where minors are drinking alcohol/using drugs, will be suspended from

participating in all extra-curricular activities for six consecutive weeks for the first offense and eighteen consecutive weeks for the second offense.

- D. Suspension from practice will be determined by the coach or advisor of the activity during a suspension period.

If upon questioning a student by the administration of an act described in this section, the student denies activity that is later confirmed through evidence, the administration may impose an additional 3 weeks of suspension from extra-curricular activities as deemed necessary.

NOTE: IF APPLICABLE, CHRISTMAS VACATION MAY BE COUNTED AS PART OF ANY SUSPENSION PERIOD.

CRIMINAL ACTS

Behavior involving criminal acts committed by student/s of the Scranton Public School District are taken very seriously by school and community. Refer to the Student Handbook for further definitions.

CURFEW REGULATIONS

Athletes, cheerleaders, drill team, stats, and other team members will maintain the following curfew hours while competing and participating in the activity. *In the instance of a co-oped sport, the curfew of the home school will prevail.*

10:00 p.m. on school nights or on nights before a contest.

12:00 p.m. on non-school nights

These hours are the latest hours that the school will tolerate. If something special is going on you are to check with your coach on extended hours. Violation of the above mentioned times will result in the following punishment:

Football: One quarter suspension in the next event per violation

Basketball: 1 game suspension

Volleyball: suspension from the next event

Track: suspension from the next meet

It must be understood that the administration and the coaches will investigate all charges and may at their discretion, take further disciplinary action if they deem it necessary toward maintaining the proper educational atmosphere within the structure of the activity programs.

GUIDELINES FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATIONS

FBLA: Dress code and the code of conduct is mandated by state and national guidelines. Students will receive a copy of these yearly. Students must be passing in all subjects in order to

attend the State FBLA Convention; a student may have one “D”.

MUSIC : Students will receive a yearly copy of the grade requirements and special dress code considerations.

SCIENCE FAIR: Dress Code Additions: no straps or strapless tops, no micro skirts.

SCIENCE BOWL & OLYMPIAD: Casual wear is accepted, nice jeans, appropriate shirts and logos

CHURCH NIGHT

In cooperation with the churches and other organizations in the community, Wednesday evening has been designated as “Church Night” at the school. No Student activities will be scheduled after 6:00 p.m. Any exceptions will be cleared through the administration and church clergy.

OUT OF TOWN TRIPS

Students representing the Scranton School will ride to and from an extra-curricular event with the team or organization. A note, phone call, or verbal confirmation to the coach, advisor, or administrator must be given in order to not ride home with the team or organization. A friend, brother or sister will not be allowed to take a student to or home from an event without prior approval from the administration. Students may be released to their parents/guardians at the site of the contest if the coach or advisor is notified by direct communication.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Any student involved in an extra-curricular activity, is required to be in school for a full day (all class periods), in order to practice or participate in an event that night. Any exceptions will be handled by the administration (Dr. Apt., dentist/orthodontist, funerals,etc.).

SCHOOL BEHAVIOR

School behavior reflects the type of person that you actually are. If classroom, hallway, lunchroom or extra-curricular event behavior is derogatory the student should expect a reprimand. Any student that is dismissed from class for disciplinary reasons will make up one hour detention before or after school for each hour of class time missed. The student will make up this detention time before being allowed to participate in an extra-curricular event. The severity of the punishment will depend on the type of infraction.

DRESS CODE

Athletes and organization members will be expected to wear appropriate dress to sporting events and activities. Appropriate dress will be determined by existing school policy. Generally speaking, if a team or organization will appear in public and represent our school, dress clothes will be expected. The head coach/advisor will enforce this policy and take into consideration weather conditions during travel.

OUT-OF-TOWN TRIP EXPENSES AND VALUABLES

Students traveling to and from school sponsored activities should not need to carry large sums of money. If money is carried, keep it to a minimum. Valuables should always be turned in to the coach, advisor, or team manager for safekeeping. Ensuring this is done is the students responsibility.

LETTERING REQUIREMENTS

The school letter is a symbol of achievement and representation of Scranton Public School. It should be worn with pride and given the respect it deserves. The following are the requirements that are necessary in each sport in order to earn that letter:

Boy's and Girl's Basketball: Dress in all varsity games or participate in 16 quarters of varsity basketball.

Football: To earn a letter in football, a player must participate in 8 quarters of varsity games. A player may letter with less than 8 quarters due to injury, illness, or emergency at the discretion of the coaching staff.

Volleyball: dress or participate in varsity competition at discretion of the coach

Girl's and Boy's Track: Participate in all scheduled track meets or place in 8 varsity events.

Band and Choir: Full-year participation

***In the instance of a co-oped sport, the lettering guidelines o of the home school will be followed with all team members.*

Activities Handbook Amended on July, 2010