

Snyder Independent School District Extracurricular Handbook

2020-2021

I. Extracurricular Activities

The term “extracurricular activities” means, without limitation, all interscholastic athletics, cheerleading, drill/dance team, academic clubs, special interest clubs, musical performances, dramatic productions, student government, and any other activity or group that participates in contests, competitions, or community service projects on behalf of or as a representative of the District. The term includes any non-curricular event and membership or participation in groups, clubs, and organizations recognized and approved by the Board of Trustees and the school district and sponsored by the district or a campus. All extracurricular activity participants, including elected and appointed officers of all campus organizations, are subject to the provisions of this *Extracurricular Handbook*.

II. Jurisdiction

Student participation in extracurricular activities is encouraged. Snyder ISD makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program, with this important difference: participation in the regular curriculum is a right afforded to each student, while participation in the extracurricular program is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable conduct. Students engaging in extracurricular activities represent not only themselves, but also other students and the school district when performing, competing, or participating in extracurricular activities and while wearing uniforms or other clothing that identifies students to the community or public in any setting as Snyder ISD students. For this reason, their behavior must be exemplary and reflect the finest attributes of the total Snyder ISD student body at all times and places.

Important goals of the extracurricular program are to give students direction in developing self-discipline, responsibility, pride, loyalty, leadership, teamwork, respect for authority, and healthy living habits.

Because participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right, Snyder ISD is authorized to set higher standards for participants of extracurricular activities than it would for those students who choose not to participate in these activities. Therefore, this *Extracurricular Handbook* extends beyond the *Snyder ISD Student Handbook* not only in types of behavior prohibited, but also in corresponding consequences and

jurisdiction for imposing discipline. This *Extracurricular Handbook* will be enforced with all students in grades 7-12 participating in extracurricular activities:

- regardless of whether school is in session;
- regardless of whether the offense occurs on or off school property or at a school-related event;
- regardless of whether the student is directly involved with the extracurricular activity at the time the prohibited conduct occurs;
- regardless of whether the extracurricular activity is in-season; and
- regardless of where or when the conduct occurs.

It is possible that a student who violates the *Snyder ISD Student Handbook* will incur consequences from both the appropriate school administrator and from his or her coach or sponsor for the same particular violation. It is also possible that a student participating in extracurricular activities could violate the *Extracurricular Handbook* and be subject to discipline by a coach or sponsor without having violated the *Snyder ISD Student Handbook*.

III. Conduct Expectations

The following conduct is expected of all participants. Failure to meet these expectations can result in disciplinary action by the coach or sponsor:

- Student commitment to a team or organization is expected for the entire season or activity. Students are encouraged to participate in more than one extracurricular activity; however, students may not quit one sport or organization in order to participate in another while the sport or club that he or she quit is still active.
- Students who participate in extracurricular activities that involve competition among schools and school districts will conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. This includes behavior toward visiting teams or hosting teams as well as the opponent's fans. Snyder ISD participants will be noted for clean, tough, competitive play. Praise your opponents and play beyond your ability.
- Students should arrive to practices (including workouts), meetings, and events on time and prepared.
- Students who cannot be present for a practice (including workouts), meeting, or event should call the coach, sponsor, team captain, or club president as soon as they are aware that they will be absent. Each activity will decide when missed practices, meetings, or workouts will be made up; however, disciplinary action may still be taken if a participant is absent more than two times in a semester.

- Injured or ill students who are unable to participate, but are able to attend a practice (including workouts), meeting or event are required to dress appropriately and sit or stand with the rest of the group.
- Students are required to show respect at all times to coaches and sponsors.
- Students should refrain from wearing hair styles or hair colors that draw attention to themselves. Male students participating in sports are required to be clean shaven.
- Students engaging in extracurricular activities are required to participate in the extracurricular drug testing program administered under the authority of policy FNF (LOCAL). Students found to have violated policy FNF (LOCAL) will be subject to disciplinary measures as outlined in that policy.
- Students should follow the rules promulgated in the *Snyder ISD Student Handbook*. Failure to do so may result in additional disciplinary measures related to the student's participation in extracurricular activities as determined by the coach or sponsor.

IV. Prohibited Conduct

Snyder ISD students who participate in extracurricular activities are prohibited at all times from:

- possessing, smoking, selling, or otherwise using tobacco products;
- possessing or using electronic cigarettes or other non-tobacco nicotine-delivery products or accessories;
- possessing or using drug paraphernalia;
- possessing, selling, or delivering to another person look-alike drugs or items represented to be drugs or contraband of any kind;
- possessing, selling, giving, delivering to another person, using, or being under the influence of marijuana, alcohol, a controlled substance, or any dangerous drug;
- engaging in conduct that contains the elements of an offense relating to glue, aerosol paint, or volatile, mood-altering chemicals;
- engaging in serious misbehavior, as that term is defined in the Snyder ISD Student Handbook;
- attending any event at which underage drinking or smoking or any drug use is occurring (students will be allowed a slight concession for an amount of time long enough to determine that a violation is occurring and to leave the premises);

- riding in a vehicle containing alcohol unless a parent, guardian, or other responsible adult is present and aware of the presence of the alcohol;
- stealing;
- conduct that causes injury or harm to persons or property;
- using profanity, lewd or vulgar language, or obscene gestures;
- fighting;
- any conduct resulting in arrest and/or citations from law enforcement officers;
- inappropriate touching, including “making out” in public places; sexual gestures; or exposing parts of the body that are ordinarily covered up in public; and
- inappropriate behavior in public places.
- student tattoo’s must be kept covered during times of competition

V. Procedures

The coach and/or sponsor will determine whether an *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* violation has occurred.

Upon determination of an *Extracurricular Handbook* violation, the following individuals will be notified:

- the student and the student’s parent(s) or guardian(s); and/or
- the appropriate school counselor to provide counseling, support, and guidance in dealing with issues associated with alcohol, drugs, mood-altering chemicals, and other prohibited activities.
- the appropriate school administrator

Nothing in this *Extracurricular Handbook* limits the authority of a coach or sponsor to impose reasonable sanctions, which may include extra workouts, suspension from practice or competition, or removal from the activity, for students who breach team or organization conduct expectations but do not engage in prohibited conduct.

VI. Disciplinary Action

Violations of policy FNF(LOCAL) will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the policy. For other infractions, coaches and sponsors will review all the facts and circumstances surrounding a particular violation and impose appropriate disciplinary action. Coaches and sponsors will strive for consistency in meting out punishment for *Extracurricular Handbook* violations, but will also exercise sound professional discretion. Violation of any of the above-mentioned rules (except those referenced in policy FNF(LOCAL)) by a student participating in extracurricular activities will be subject to the following disciplinary action:

- suspension from all extracurricular activities for the following time periods:

<p>1st Offense – 14 Day Suspension from extracurricular activities from the date the offense occurred, and parent contacted</p> <p>2nd Offense – 30 Day Suspension from extracurricular activities from the date offense occurred, and parent contacted</p> <p>3rd Offense – One calendar year suspension from extracurricular activities from the date offense occurred, and parent contacted</p>
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A coach or sponsor may elect to use the following disciplinary procedures in addition to the suspensions as described above:

- Receive verbal warning or caution if infraction is minor, judged to be easily and successfully correctable, and does not require a stronger punishment as per the Snyder ISD Student Handbook;
- Placed on a behavioral contract for week(s), month(s), or semester;
- Extra workouts, drills, or assignments
- Expulsion from extracurricular activities for a full semester or the remainder of the school year

Either the specific nature of the offense or the repeated violation of an offense can be considered in setting the punishment that is deemed appropriate, as per the organization's constitution or by-laws, or the coach/sponsor exercising their consistent and professional judgement.

The principal will not ordinarily interfere in a coach's or sponsor's judgment regarding appropriate discipline but has the authority to increase or decrease the punishment based on his or her assessment of the situation.

VII. Insurance for Students in Extracurricular Activities

Snyder ISD is not responsible for injuries of its students who are participating in sports. However, Snyder ISD will carry insurance covering participation in practice or competition for athletes. The coverage for each injury will vary according to the accident. More detailed information can be obtained by calling the Snyder ISD. We will attempt to answer any questions you have concerning the supplemental athletic insurance program. While district staff may provide assistance to parents in filing claims, it is the parents' ultimate

responsibility to file claims and provide the information necessary for the insurance company to properly assess the claims and any benefits available.

VIII. Acknowledgement

A condition to participating in any extracurricular activity or holding any office (elected or appointed) is to sign an acknowledgement that the student has read and understands the *Extracurricular Handbook*. The student's parent or guardian must also sign an acknowledgement. The acknowledgement states that the signing party understands the consequences for engaging in prohibited conduct.



-----Please Sign and Return-----

Date _____

I have read the Snyder ISD *Extracurricular Handbook* and agree to adhere to these rules as a condition for my voluntary participation in Snyder ISD extracurricular activities. I understand that failure to do so will result in disciplinary measures related to my extracurricular participation.

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

I have read the Snyder ISD *Extracurricular Handbook* and understand the requirements for my child's voluntary participation in Snyder ISD extracurricular activities. I understand the consequences that my child will face if he or she fails to adhere to these rules and agree to such terms.

Parent Name _____

Parent Signature _____

