



# **DWIGHT MORROW HIGH SCHOOL**

**274 KNICKERBOCKER ROAD, ENGLEWOOD, NJ 07631**



**Vice Principal/Athletic Director:**

**Matthew Lawrence**

**(201) 862-6047**

## **Athletic Code of Conduct**

All student athletes participating in both high school and middle school interscholastic athletic programs are held to the highest standard of character and sportsmanship. Each coach will issue our Board of Education Athletic Code of Conduct contract. The Code of Conduct must be signed by both the participant and his/her parent or guardian and returned to the coach prior to the first interscholastic contest. Failure to do so may result in delays in participation.

### **Academic Eligibility**

The New Jersey Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) Rules and Regulations regarding eligibility are mandatory. In addition, Englewood School District Board of Education has adopted the following guidelines for students participating in all school athletics.

- A 9<sup>th</sup> grade student will automatically be eligible in his/her first semester. All 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students are to be eligible for athletic competition during the first semester so long as the pupil has passed 25% of the credits (30) required by the state of New Jersey for graduation (120), during the immediately preceding academic year. To be eligible for athletic competition during the second semester, a pupil must have passed an equivalent 12.5% of the credits (15) required by the state of New Jersey for graduation (120) at the close of the preceding semester. Full year courses shall be equated as one half of the total credits to be gained for the full year to determine credits passed during the immediately preceding semester.
- ~~All students (grades 9 – 12) must maintain a 2.0 GPA to participate in extra-curricular/athletics under District Policy 2431.~~ ***Policy 2431 is currently suspended.***
- These academic requirements will apply to all cheerleaders, student managers, student trainers, and athletes. Athletes struggling academically must attend tutorials offered by the teachers for as long as the Athletic Director deems necessary.

### **Age Eligibility**

A student cannot participate if she/he has reached the age of 19 prior to September 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year. A 9<sup>th</sup> grade student cannot reach the age of 16 prior to September 1<sup>st</sup> of his/her freshman year.

### **Attendance Eligibility**

For students to participate in a scheduled athletic event, practice, or school function, he/she must be in school on the day of the event or the last day of school prior to the Saturday event based on the following time frame:

1. Entry to school by 8:00 am – No note required to practice or play.
2. Entry to school between 8:46 and 9:46 – Note required, approved by Athletic Director upon approval, eligible to practice or play.

### 3. Entry after 9:50 – Note required or not eligible to practice or play.

An excuse from a doctor or prior written approval from the director of athletics or administrator is the only VALID excuse.

Excessive absenteeism, tardiness, and cutting class or lack of participation in physical education class will not be tolerated and can warrant removal from any curricular activity. Students that are unprepared for physical education class on the day of an athletic contest or practice may not compete or practice. The offenses justify the removal from a team at the discretion of the Director of Athletics.

#### **Athletic Equipment Accountability**

Athletic equipment used by student participants must be returned or paid for at the end of the sports season and prior to the issuance of any awards or recognition. Equipment will not be issued for any upcoming season until all equipment accounts are cleared from the preceding season.

#### **Awards**

Awards are to be considered a privilege. They, therefore, can be revoked or recalled (including violations of any Athletic Code Policies).

#### **Cause for Suspension from an Athletic Team**

To be eligible, a student must have an acceptable academic, citizenship, and disciplinary record. Gambling, stealing, the use of tobacco (in any form), possession, sale, and the use of drugs (including steroids), and/or alcoholic beverages are prohibited and will be discipline as follows:

- A first offense by a violator shall be suspended for a period of at least one week. This will include all games and practices.
- Additional expenses for the same violation listed above will result in his/her dismissal for the remaining part of the season, involving intervention with the Director of Athletics.
- In addition, Board Policies, and the Student Handbook, clearly detail all aspects of drugs, alcohol, substance use and abuse, including other sanctions.

Suspension for a cause other than the above-mentioned is at the discretion of the Athletic Director and/or coach. These violations include, but are not limited to insubordination, profanity, fighting, un-sportsmanlike conduct, an unexcused absence from practice, unsatisfactory attitude, and a failure to follow additional rules and regulations that athletic department deems necessary to maintain discipline and facilitate the efficient execution of daily procedures. Discipline referrals and school suspensions are justifications for suspension and removal from a team.

#### **Conflicting Activities During a Sports Season**

Prior to the start of the season, athletes must realize his/her obligation to the team and refrain from scheduling any conflicting activity during that season.

#### **Injuries**

Any athlete who sustains an injury during a school related athletic activity must report it to his/her coach IMMEDIATELY, who in turn will report it to the Athletic Trainer. The Athletic Trainer will then be responsible for providing the information to the school nurse. If any injury occurs outside of school, it must be reported to the coach prior to the athlete's next practice or game.

**Transportation To and From Events**

No student is permitted to use personal transportation to or from any away athletic event. Official school transportation will be provided, originating at the school, and returning to the school. In a family emergency, this rule will be waived if prior approval is given by the Athletic Director.

**Personal Conduct**

As an athlete, pride in your school, team and self is all part of good sportsmanship. Your pride is reflected in your personal conduct. Student athletes will not violate the rules of common decency with each other. They shall respect the authority of coaches and other school staff and shall conform to requests made by them.

In addition, an athlete's appearance should be a matter of pride, which means cleanliness and neatness in dress and equipment. Student athletes are expected to dress properly when representing their team and school at any athletic or academic function.