



2020-2021
Activity
Handbook

Fort Scott High School

1005 S. Main
Fort Scott, KS 66701-2697
620.223.0600



Amber Toth, Principal
Robyn Kelso, Assistant Principal
Jeff DeLaTorre, Activities Director

Dear Tiger Parents and Guardians:

We are excited that your child has chosen to be a Tiger. We believe that the Fort Scott High School Athletic Programs have proven themselves to be a vital part of our students' overall educational experience. The unfortunate events of last Spring and the COVID-19 pandemic forcing our programs to be shut down was a devastating loss to many of our students. It is our hope that they are even more excited to participate and compete as Tigers this year!

We ask that you help foster good sportsmanship in our effort to keep our athletic/activity contests to be recognized as educational settings that promote leadership and competition without degrading participants. We believe very strongly that these types of activities are an extension of the classroom.

We do feel that it is important to inform you that in any athletic activity there is a possibility of physical injury. These injuries could range from very minor bruises and pulled muscles to major injuries including paralysis or permanent disabling injury. Fort Scott High School, the KSHSAA, and the National Federation of High School Associations have taken every foreseeable precaution to prevent serious injury. Rules for safety have been established and are enforced.

No student will be allowed to participate in any athletic practice or contest without a valid physical form signed by a physician and by a parent or guardian. Before students will be able to participate, they must also have a concussion and head injury release form on file in the FSHS office that has been signed by the parent and student. Fort Scott High School does NOT provide athletic insurance. In the event of an injury that requires an ambulance, doctor, or hospitalization, the parent or legal guardian is responsible for financial obligations. Note: The student is catastrophically insured while practicing, participating, or traveling in or to any interschool activity sponsored by Fort Scott High School. Please contact the building principal for statement of coverage and other details.

This year brings new challenges to us, not only in activities and athletics but also during the school day. We have been following the KSHSAA guidelines that were published this summer in regards to COVID-19. The health and safety of our students is our first priority, and our coaches are taking every precaution to ensure their safety. There is a possibility that schedules could change at any time this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. We will do our best to communicate those changes as soon as possible.

Again, thank you for choosing Fort Scott High School. It is our sincere hope that you will continue to encourage your child to participate in all of our activity/athletic programs and be a positive supporter of Fort Scott High School.

Sincerely,

Jeff DeLaTorre
FSHS Activities Director

USD 234 ATHLETIC PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

1. Athletic participation is a worthwhile educational activity, and all students should be encouraged to participate.
2. All members of the USD 234 athletic program believe that, while winning may not be everything, preparing and striving to win are most important goals.
3. All students should be given an equal opportunity to become members of an athletic team.
4. No athlete may be denied season-long competition for a position or place on a team because of his or her ability, unless prior board approval has been granted.
5. All members of an athletic team should receive as much playing time in a contest as possible, based upon playing standards established by the coaching staff.
6. All administrators and coaches shall support every sport in the athletic program through a spirit of cooperation with recruiting endeavors and positive reinforcement of all athletes' efforts and accomplishments.
7. The purpose of off-season conditioning programs shall be to prepare athletes for a particular sport and shall be non-mandatory.
8. The Board of Education, administration, and coaches shall continually strive to improve facilities, equipment, and policies for the benefit of the athlete.

BONA FIDE STUDENT IN GOOD STANDING

To be eligible to participate in school activities, Fort Scott High School students must be classified as bona fide students in good standing. Students who are under penalty of suspension or whose character or conduct, as determined by the administration, discredits the school or themselves shall be classified as students not in good standing and thus shall be ineligible to participate in school activities for a period specified by the administration.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR ACTIVITIES

To be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities at Fort Scott High School, students must meet all criteria established by the Kansas State High School Activities Association, all criteria established by USD 234, and be enrolled as full-time students at Fort Scott High School.

Student-athletes at Fort Scott High School involved in extracurricular activities will be subject to the academic requirements set forth by the Kansas State High School Activities Association (pass the required amount of classes the semester prior). In addition to those requirements, students at FSHS will be expected to meet the following expectations during their particular season:

1. Students must be passing all courses to be eligible for participation.
2. At the completion of the third full week of each semester, there will be a weekly grade check done each Friday morning. Students not passing one or more classes will be on an academic watch list and will be subject to the following consequences:
 - First time:
 - Probation - Students will be allowed to participate.
 - Second time:
 - Ineligible for the following week - Sunday through Saturday. Even if grade is raised during that time period, they will still remain ineligible for that entire week.
 - Students may attend practices/travel with team to competitions (may not play) if it does not force the student to miss class time.
 - Third time (and any subsequent times):
 - Ineligible for the following week – Sunday through Saturday.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION

Any student who is not making adequate progress in a class as determined by the teacher may not be allowed to miss that class for a school activity without permission from the teacher and administration, unless the activity is of graded educational value for another class.

Rationale: A student involved in activities takes on the responsibility necessary to complete his/her high school education. Regular and prompt attendance is one of those responsibilities. FSHS requests that all parents pledge to maintain that expectation for his/her child. This pledge would signify that FSHS, the student, and parents support the spirit of this philosophy. **Any student**

missing any class for any reason, without prior approval, will not be allowed to practice or play that day. An administrator must give approval for a student to practice or play if a class has been missed.

ACTIVITY TRIPS

Students participating in activity trips are under the supervision of a teacher, and the same general rules apply which are in force during school hours. Parents must sign a written permission slip prior to the trip. Students are expected to use school transportation both to and from the activity. The only exceptions are through administrative and parental approval.

FSHS ACTIVITY POLICY REGARDING THE USE OF ALCOHOL, DRUGS, VAPING, AND TOBACCO POLICY STATEMENT

The Board of Education of Unified School District 234 and the Fort Scott High School administrators, coaches, and teachers recognize a responsibility to promote the health, welfare, and safety of FSHS students and further recognize that the use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, restricted substances, or mood-altering chemicals poses significant health risks for them and negatively affects their behavior, learning, development, participation in extracurricular sports activities, and development of related skills. Students involved in any school sports activity on or off school property are strictly forbidden to use, consume, possess, sell or purchase alcoholic beverages, drugs, vaping, tobacco, controlled substances, or mood-altering chemicals. To be involved or participate in any sports activities, including all athletic programs, cheerleading (fall, winter and spring terms) and dance team (fall, winter and spring terms), FSHS students shall be governed by the policies listed below.

ALCOHOL, DRUGS, VAPING, AND TOBACCO PROHIBITED

During the season of practice and competitive play, a student participating in sports activities at FSHS shall not use, consume, possess, sell, purchase, receive, or distribute (regardless of quantity) any alcoholic beverage, cereal malt beverage, or drug. This includes, without limitation, any restricted or controlled substance or mood-altering chemical. Students shall not use, possess, or consume any vaping or tobacco products. Students possessing or using drugs or medications specifically prescribed for their own use by their doctor or dentist are not in violation of this policy. When it is reported to administration that a student is alleged to have been involved in a situation involving alcohol, drugs, vaping, or tobacco, the administration will notify the student's parent/guardian. Additionally, administration will offer to provide contact information for agencies that may be helpful to the student.

PENALTY

If a student allegedly violates the preceding paragraph by being reported to administration and the violation is substantiated in one of the following ways:

- witnessed by a USD 234 staff member
- reported by the student's parent/guardian
- the student self reports
- two students witness the violation and sign a written affidavit including the details of the violation; additionally, the students must be willing to face the accused student,
- random drug testing

If any person reports a student in violation of the policy and provides the name of the student, date, time, place, and nature of the violation to the high school administration, **or a student fails a random drug test**, the following shall occur:

Self-Reporting

A student or parent/guardian may self-report drug usage when chosen for the random pool or when questioned about a violation of the activity policy. The student may avoid eligibility consequences of the first violation by self-reporting as specified below. **Self-reporting may only be used prior to a first violation.** If a student is honest and forthright about his/her behavior, he/she will be rewarded for his/her integrity. In order to avoid the eligibility consequences when reporting prior to a first violation, students must complete an assessment from a certified addiction counselor at the family's expense, which may be of their choice, or they may utilize the counseling addiction program assessment provider recommended by USD 234. Students should also enroll in counseling about their drug use, at the parent's expense. This counseling can be with a provider of the parent's choosing.

1st Offense: At whatever point in the student's high school career, the student shall be suspended from participation in all extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities, including all performances and competitions for a period of three weeks (15 school days and must include 3 competition dates). Students in co-curricular activities will be provided an alternative assignment. Students

must still attend practice. During this time, it is recommended that the parent/guardian obtain a substance abuse evaluation and education/counseling for the student. If the student and/or parent/guardian can provide proof of a drug and alcohol assessment from a school-approved substance abuse counselor and attends consistent appointments with a mental health professional, the suspension will be reduced to ten (10) school days.

2nd Offense: At whatever point in the student's high school career the student shall be suspended from participation in all extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities, including all performances and competitions, for a period of eighteen school weeks (90 school days). Students in co-curricular activities will be provided an alternative assignment. During this time, it is recommended that the parent/guardian obtain a substance abuse evaluation and education/counseling for the student. If the student and/or parent/guardian can provide proof of a drug and alcohol assessment from a school-approved substance abuse counselor and attends consistent appointments with a mental health professional, the suspension will be reduced to ten school weeks (50 school days).

3rd Offense: The student shall be suspended from participation in all extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities, including all performances and competitions, for thirty-six school weeks (180 school days). Students in co-curricular activities will be provided an alternative assignment. This policy governs student participants throughout their entire career as FSHS students.

PROCEDURE

If any person reports a student in violation of the policy and provides the name of the student, date, time, place, and nature of the violation to the high school administration, the following shall occur:

- The Superintendent is notified by the administration so that proper procedures are reviewed before they are implemented.
- After investigation with the student, the high school administration (to include any one or more of the following: principal's designee, assistant principal, activities director) shall have the full and exclusive right and authority to invoke penalties against that student. The student and the parents/guardians will be advised immediately.
- If the student is dissatisfied with the findings of the administration, the student shall have ten (10) days to file a written request for an appeal to the principal of the high school. In the event of such an appeal, the high school principal shall conduct a hearing and conference with the accused student, the parent/guardian, and the head coach of the sport involved. During the hearing, the person or persons reporting the violation must also appear to substantiate the claim and give the student the right to defend his or her position. No other persons shall be permitted to attend the hearing without permission from the principal. If the principal finds that there is not substantial evidence presented to indicate a violation of this policy, the complaint shall be dismissed. Alternately, if the principal finds that there is substantial evidence to support a violation of the policy, the principal shall invoke the penalties set forth in this policy. During this appeal process, the student will be suspended from further competition in the sport involved. The findings and determination by the principal of the high school shall be final and conclusive.

HAZING

"Hazing" is recklessly coercing, demanding or encouraging another person to perform, as a condition of membership in a social, academic, athletic, or other school-sponsored activity or group, any act which could reasonably be expected to result in great bodily harm, disfigurement or death, or which is done in a manner whereby great bodily harm, disfigurement, or death could be inflicted.

Hazing is prohibited on school property, in school vehicles, and at school-sponsored activities or events. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to having does not lessen the prohibition contained in this policy.

No administrator, teacher, or other employee of the school district shall encourage, permit, condone, or tolerate any hazing activities. No students, including leaders of student organizations, are permitted to plan, encourage, or engage in any hazing.

Administrators, teachers, and all other district employees shall be particularly alert to possible conditions, circumstances, or events that might include having. If any of the prohibited behaviors are planned or discovered, involved students shall be informed by the discovering district employee of the prohibition contained in this policy and shall be required to end all such activities immediately. All hazing incidents are to be reported immediately to the superintendent or building principal, and appropriate discipline shall be administered.

Administrators, teachers, other employees, and students who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action and may be liable for civil and criminal penalties under state and/or federal law.

No one is permitted to retaliate against an employee or student because he/she files a grievance or assists or participates in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing regarding a charge of hazing of an individual.

FRESHMAN ELIGIBILITY

Most sports teams at FSHS do not have separate freshman squads and allow freshmen to compete at appropriate levels within the program. Volleyball, football, and basketball do have separate squads for freshmen only. In these three sports, freshmen will be allowed to compete at the varsity level subject to the following guidelines:

1. Any decision to do so must be in the best interest of the athlete (what is best for the athlete over what is best for the program).
2. The head coach of the sport must recommend the freshman's participation at the varsity level.
3. The parents of the athlete must agree to the freshman's participation at the varsity level.
4. The activities director must review each situation and agree to the freshman's participation at the varsity level.

HEAT POLICY FOR ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

Prior to the first practice of each sport season, the administration will provide inservice to athletic coaches on current guidelines from the Kansas State High School Activities Association regarding heat-related stress – its signs, symptoms, precautions, and treatment procedures. Training will include the importance of proper supervision until medical personnel arrive in an emergency, as well as the notification of parents when athletes experience heat-related stress symptoms.

BENGAL AWARD

This award is given annually to any athlete who earns a varsity letter in three (3) sports the senior year and has a total of at least six (6) varsity letters in any combination of sports.

LETTERING POLICIES

BASEBALL - To obtain a varsity letter in baseball, an athlete must participate in half of the total number of games.

BASKETBALL - To obtain a varsity letter in basketball, athletes must meet at least two of the following:

- Participate in half of the total number of varsity games.
- Contribute daily to varsity team in practice.
- Finish season in good standing.
- Seniors must have competed at FSHS a minimum of two years.

CROSS COUNTRY - The top five to seven runners of the boys' and girls' varsity squads will receive a varsity letter. These runners must run a minimum of four varsity races. Any athlete placing in the top 15 in a varsity meet will also receive a varsity letter, provided they have run a minimum of four cross country meets for that season. All runners who do not make the top five to seven varsity squad will be awarded a junior varsity letter, provided they have competed in a minimum of four cross country meets for that season. A varsity and junior varsity letter may be awarded at the coach's discretion.

FOOTBALL - Participation in half of all the quarters of the regular season allows a player to be eligible for a varsity letter. There are 36 quarters in a regular nine-game season. A player must play in no less than 18 of those quarters to be eligible for a varsity letter. Any overtime period will count as one quarter towards the individual's quarters, but not toward the season total of 36. Also, all games after the district play will not count toward the season total. One play in any quarter will constitute a quarter of play. The play may be a part of a specialty team situation or the regular offensive and defensive scheme. A player eligible for the letter could lose his eligibility in various ways:

- Dismissal from the team for breaking team rule.
 - Dismissal from school during the football season.
 - Violating the Drug & Alcohol Policy during the football season.
 - Failure to return all team equipment or failure to provide reimbursement for equipment not returned.
- Any unforeseen situations that may arise will be dealt with in a fair and equitable way.

Loaning Football Equipment – Football coaches from FSHS may loan football equipment to their student athletes so they can participate in the Pittsburg State University Football Camp. Loaning district football equipment for use at other football camps requires prior approval by the Board.

GOLF – In order to obtain a letter in golf, an athlete must do the following:

- Play in two or more varsity matches.
- Shoot in three qualifying rounds for 40 or better.
- Coach’s discretion.

SOCCER - To obtain a varsity letter in soccer, an athlete must:

- Participate in half of the total number of varsity games.
 - Contribute daily to varsity team development through practices.
 - Finish the season in good standing. *
 - Coach’s discretion regarding contribution and performance.
- *Good standing pertains to one’s behavior and conduct. A player, even though eligible for the letter, could lose his/her eligibility in various ways. This includes, but is not restricted to:
- Dismissal from the team for breaking team rules.
 - Dismissal from school during the season.
 - Violating the Drug and Alcohol Policy during the season.
 - Failure to return all team equipment or failure to provide reimbursement for equipment not returned.
 - Behaving in a manner that is detrimental to team morale and effectiveness.

Any unforeseen situations that may arise which will be dealt with in a fair and equitable way.

SOFTBALL - To obtain a varsity letter in softball, an athlete must participate in half of the total number of games.

TENNIS - To receive a varsity letter in tennis, an athlete must do the following:

- Play in at least three varsity competitions (duals or tournaments).
- Win at least one-third of his/her varsity matches or place in the top half of his/her division in tournament play. (3rd in 5, 3rd in 6, 2nd in 4, 4th in 8, etc.)
- By coach’s recommendation in special situations.

TRACK -

- Any track athlete scoring five points in an individual track meet(s), or placing in the top six at the league meet, or no lower than fourth in the regional meet will qualify for a varsity letter.
- Provisional letters may be given at the discretion of the head coach.
- Any athlete being considered for a letter must have displayed good sportsmanship and cooperation throughout the season.
- Any athlete who quits the team before the season is over will not be eligible for a letter.
- Track managers will receive a letter if they attend all practices and meets.

VOLLEYBALL - To obtain a varsity letter in volleyball, an athlete must:

- Complete the season.
- Play in half of the total number of matches.

WRESTLING -

- A wrestler receives two points for wrestling in a varsity match.
- In addition, wrestlers are given extra points for the following:
 - 1 Extra Point - Draw
 - 2 Extra Points - Decision
 - 3 Extra Points - Major
 - 4 Extra Points - Superior Decision
 - 5 Extra Points - Pin, Forfeit, or Default
- Any wrestler participating in a junior varsity match receives two points for a decision, or three points for a major or superior decision
- The number of points necessary to qualify for a varsity letter will be 65.

- Wrestlers who don't earn a varsity letter for the current season will carry points over to the next season. If a wrestler quits the team, he will lose all points earned.
- Any qualified letter winner behaving in a manner which is not a credit to himself or his team will not have the privilege of becoming a varsity letter winner. In the same respect, if a wrestler is short on points, but has at some time during the season brought credit to his team proving himself to be of championship caliber, he will be awarded extra points at the coach's discretion. The coaches will review each wrestler's record at the end of the season.
- At the end of the season, all wrestlers (except seniors) who are in contention for a varsity letter will total and give their points to their respective coaches for comparison.

FACULTY ASSIGNMENTS

ATHLETICS:

Baseball – Josh Regan, Head Coach
 Assistants: Jared Martin, Adam LaRoche, Josh Messer

Basketball –
 Boys – Clint Heffern, Head Coach
 Assistants: Jason Young, Joel Harney
 Girls - Pechone Stepps, Head Coach
 Assistants: Gary Floyd, Dillon Duffy

Cross Country - Tracey Bogina, Head Coach

Football – Bo Graham, Head Coach
 Assistants: Alvin Metcalf, Jr., Josh Messer, Adam Clements, Matt Glades, Dane Cummings, Jared Martin

Golf –
 Boys – Ken Klassen, Head Coach
 Girls – Julie Heatherly, Head Coach

Soccer – Gary Floyd, Head Coach
 Assistant: Shaunn Pytlowany

Tennis -
 Boys – Lynn Barr, Head Coach
 Girls – Allison Gorman, Head Coach
 Assistant, Kenny Hudiburg

Track
 Boys – Bo Graham, Head Coach
 Girls – Tracey Bogina, Head Coach
 Track Assistants: Curt Toll, Kelly Toll, Kenny Hudiburg, Matt Glades, TBA

Volleyball – Jacy Walker, Head Coach
 Assistants: Abi Duffy, Kourtney Harper, Kelli Davis

Wrestling – Alvin Metcalf, Jr., Head Coach
 Assistants: Alvin Metcalf, Dakota Hall, Kathi Hall (Girls)

Softball – Danny Renfro, Head Coach
 Assistants: Allison Gorman, TBA

MUSIC:

Band Presentations Aaron Shockley
 Orchestra Presentations Carson Felt

OTHER DUTIES:

Art Club	Larry Amer
Audiovisual Coordinator	Tracy Homan
Cheerleading	Kristin Duffey
Assistant:	Delynn Abati
Choral Club	TBD
Class Assignments	
Freshmen	Polly Mayberry
Sophomores	Amy Harper
Juniors	Roberta Lewis
Seniors	Roberta Lewis
Dance Team	Amy Drake
Debate	Angela Curran
Ed Rising	Roberta Lewis
FBLA	Morgan Sage
FFA	Kyle Parks/Dane Cummings
Global Culture Diversity	Polly Mayberry
Forensics	Angela Curran
FSHS Play	Angie Bin
Interact	Tami Campbell
Key Club	Roberta Lewis
NFL, 1 st /2 nd Semester	Angela Curran
National Honor Society	Mark Spore
Newspaper	Brian Pommier
Physics Club	Mark Spore
PRIDE	Angie Bin
Scholars Bowl	Bert Lewis
Science Club	Julie Heatherly/Linda Houston
Student Council	Roberta Lewis
Thespians	Angie Bin
Yearbook	Michelle Laubenstein

Helpful Contact Information:

Southeast Kansas Mental Health Center, 212 S. State Street, Fort Scott, [620-223-5030](tel:620-223-5030)
 Narcotics Anonymous, Al-Anon Family Group, Alcoholics Anonymous, 6th & Little, Fort Scott
 KanQuit 1-800-QUIT-NOW (784-8669), Sign up for Text2Quit
http://www.kdheks.gov/tobacco/download/Quitline_Fact_Sheet.pdf
<https://www.drugabuse.gov/patients-families>
<https://addictionresource.com/parents-and-educators/>
<https://www.samhsa.gov/underage-drinking/parent-resources>

www.drugfree.org

<https://www.getsmartaboutdrugs.gov/>

FIND ANSWERS TO SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING PARTICIPATION OR ELIGIBILITY: www.kshsaa.org