

**2022-2023**

**Marfa Junior-Senior High School  
Extracurricular Handbook**



***One Team, One Dream  
Excellence Every Day***

**Marfa Independent School District  
P.O. Box T  
Marfa, TX 79843  
(432) 729-5500**

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### Marfa ISD Coaching/Sponsor Staff

Ballet Folklorico.....	Arturo Alferez
Basketball.....	Arturo Alferez (girls) and Edgar Ramirez (boys)
Cheer.....	Crawford Marginot and Victoria Villarreal
Cross Country.....	Edgar Ramirez
Football.....	Arturo Alferez and Edgar Ramirez
One Act Play.....	Donel Lara
Powerlifting.....	Linda Ojeda
Robotics.....	Robert Klockman
Softball.....	Arturo Alferez, Melissa Firmin, Linda Ojeda, and Lakin Tucker
Track.....	Linda Ojeda and Edgar Ramirez
UIL Academic Coordinator.....	Donel Lara
Volleyball.....	Lora Loya, Melissa Firmin, Priscila Serrano, and Lakin Tucker
Welding.....	Juan Martinez

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## **PREFACE**

We hope this handbook will serve as a reference guide in answering some of the questions you might have during the course of the year.

The University Interscholastic League is the governing body of the athletic programs and many academic programs in Texas public schools. The Marfa ISD Board of Education, administrators, coaches and teachers fully support the UIL and its enforcement of the rules.

Understand that extracurricular activities are designed to assist students who have the ability and emotional and physical stability to handle competition. Although not all students are capable of competing due to their own physical or emotional limitations, in the MISD extracurricular program each coach (or sponsor) will always encourage and promote the health of each student. One of the difficult tasks faced as a coach is making the judgment as to who should be selected to compete in these programs. Students are not obligated to take part in extracurricular activities, nor is it required for graduation. It should be stressed that being a member of an extracurricular activity is a privilege and not a right. Since it is a privilege, the coach has the authority to revoke the privilege when rules are not followed.

We are all aware that being involved in extracurricular activities demands a lot of time and dedication from students and coaches alike. As a coach, the student and program reflect a coach's attitudes, beliefs and your work ethic. This does not necessarily translate into a superb win-loss record but it does mean that players and the program will have discipline, responsibility, and a strong work ethic as these traits will always be demonstrated. Not all students are born with strong traits in each extracurricular activity. Therefore, these traits need to be brought out through a developmental process by the coach. We all desire an extracurricular program that will support the mission of Marfa ISD and we ask that each student and coach is involved in hard work to make success a reality.

We believe extracurricular activities instill the desire to succeed, attain personal goals that ensure maximum team effort, and build strength of mind, body and character. It is our belief that strength of character is the foundation upon which to build a well-developed, productive individual. Student participants, as people in any specialized field, have a unique role to play. They are constantly being monitored by their peers, teachers, and the community. Being under this scrutiny, student participants must have a strong character and remain constantly aware of the role they have assumed. They must be certain they present to their peers, teachers and community the respect, sincerity and honesty expected of upstanding ladies and gentlemen.

Students in extracurricular activities represent Marfa ISD and we strongly believe that our students should possess the best qualities. Our students are held to a higher standard in behavior, appearance, dedication, and work ethic at all times. Because of this belief, we have established the following set of guidelines to be followed by all students who participate in extracurricular programs.

For information about your rights and grievance procedures, contact the Title IX Coordinator, Luane Porter, or the Section 504 Coordinator, Amy White, at 400 W. Lincoln, Marfa, Texas 79843, or at 432-729-5500.

## Vision Statement

The vision of the Marfa ISD extracurricular program is to provide student-athletes a safe and healthy environment that promotes and supports academic, athletic, and personal achievement. Extracurricular programs will encourage and empower student participants to become better students, athletes, leaders and citizens; to prepare for the transition to the next level of participation both academically and athletically.

## Mission Statement

Consistent with the mission of the Marfa ISD, the Marfa ISD extracurricular program will provide a program that helps develop the whole person through education and competition. In addition, the program will provide student participants an opportunity to pursue and understand the values of attitude, character, perseverance, commitment, leadership, sportsmanship, responsibility, accountability, decision-making, work ethic and team.

## Philosophy

Marfa ISD believes that the Extracurricular Program is a means to improve academics, build character, develop life skills, and strive for excellence in extracurricular programs and competition. Extracurricular activities, as a discipline, stress work ethic, team play, sportsmanship, integrity and sacrifice. Extracurricular activities are not a requirement for graduation and participation is strictly voluntary. It is important to note that the United States Supreme Court has ruled that extracurricular programs are a **privilege, not a right**, provided by the school district, Should the actions of a student participant fail to exhibit the characteristics and follow the guidelines outlined in this handbook, the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities may be forfeited.

## Creed

DISCIPLINE - To win without regret and lose without excuse

HONOR - To do ALL things with honesty, fairness and integrity

PRIDE - To hold yourself and your school to an honorable standard of respect and dignity

## Program Objectives

1. Ensure that the Marfa ISD extracurricular program objectives support the overall mission of Marfa ISD.
2. Ensure all programs represent Marfa ISD with class, character, and dignity.
3. Involve as many students as possible in a positive extracurricular environment.
4. Instill in all students an exemplary work ethic and qualities of accountability, citizenship and a high degree of sportsmanship.
5. Instill in students a sense of school pride and loyalty that reflects the principles, integrity, and attitude of Marfa ISD.
6. Establish successful programs that are well-coached, highly disciplined, and well-organized to create a positive learning experience.

## Expectations

1. Abide by all University Interscholastic League (UIL) rules.
2. Abide by District extracurricular program policies and expectations.
3. Must meet age level and grade level requirements set forth by UIL.
4. For athletics, must have passed, and submitted a copy to the Athletic Director, a physical examination conducted by a medical doctor at the required grade levels prior to participation in any sport.
5. Must be officially enrolled in the school for which they are participating.
6. Must be passing all classes for which they are enrolled.
7. Must have on file at the school a signed copy of all required forms.
8. Must attend every practice session and contest unless illness or emergency situations arise. (The student or the guardian/s must notify the coach if the student participant will not attend a session.)
9. Must obey the Marfa ISD dress code at school and all school related activities, in addition to any program-specific dress code requirements.
10. For athletics, develop and maintain a comprehensive off-season program.

## Awards

For athletics, an annual sports banquet is hosted by Marfa ISD and the Marfa Athletic Booster Club. Student participants earn recognition in sports/events as determined by district standings and/or the head coach.

Awards may be earned in the following categories:

Sub-Varsity Certificate - Awarded to athletes who participate in a sport but do not letter.

Varsity Certificate - Awarded to an athlete who receives a letter after the first letter no matter what the sport. An athlete can receive numerous certificates depending on whether he/she earns a letter jacket.

Letter Jacket - Awarded one time during a student's high school career. A letter jacket is received for the first letter an athlete receives. Letter jackets will be paid for by the school. Any additional patches will be paid for by the student/athlete. A student/athlete quitting a sport after the first contest will forfeit any award for that sport.

Junior High Program - a participation certificate may be awarded to each athlete for every sport he/she participates in. Criteria for these awards will be set by the extracurricular program.

For non-athletic activities/programs, an annual awards ceremony is hosted by Marfa ISD. Student participants earn recognition in events as determined by district standings and/or the head coach/sponsor. Awards may be earned in the following categories: certificates, ribbons, medals, or other recognitions as determined by the awarding organization.

## Booster Club Guidelines

The Marfa Booster Club is an organization that is separate from the school district and district funds. The booster club is organized to support students of the school district and to help enrich the school's participation in extracurricular activities.

The UIL has set forth guidelines to govern fundraising activities and the expenditure of funds.

## Cell Phones

Cell phones are not considered a necessary accessory at practice, events, or on trips. If the coach/sponsor feels that the cell phone is a distraction, the cell phone may be confiscated and returned at the end of the trip. Coaches will have cell phones for emergency situations.

## Code of Conduct

Participation in extracurricular programs and in related activities, while being an honor, is an opportunity for their administrators, young student participants to learn important lessons about the responsibilities that are assumed by individuals in leadership roles. Therefore, all student participants are expected to adhere to the following:

1. Student participants will be tough competitors in their respective events. Outside the competitive arena, they are expected to conduct themselves as gentlemen and ladies at all times, demonstrating respect for their administrators, teachers and fellow students.
2. Student participants are to display/model behaviors associated with positive leaders both in the school and in the community.
3. Student participants are to exhibit good citizenship at all times.
4. Student participants are to serve as positive representatives for their event, coaches, school district, and community during competitions and interactions with rivals.
5. Student participants will not conduct themselves in a manner unbecoming to young gentlemen and young ladies, nor one that might reflect negatively on Marfa ISD.
6. Student participants are expected to strive for academic excellence and to adhere to the Board-approved *Student Code of Conduct* and Student Handbook, as well as the Extracurricular Handbook, including **FNF [Local] Drug Testing Policies and Criteria**.
7. Student participants will not consume or possess alcoholic beverages of any kind.
8. Student participants will not use illegal substances of any kind.
9. Public display of affection, and/or evidence of public display of affection, will not be tolerated.
10. Students shall not steal or willfully destroy any school property, property of a fellow student, or property of other schools. If found guilty, the student is subject to punishment or dismissal from the extracurricular program. Any student found charged/guilty of a crime as described by the Texas Criminal Statutes may be dismissed from the extracurricular program indefinitely or for a time period specified by campus administration.

Head coaches have the right to correct, remove, or suspend, a student participant whose conduct or actions are detrimental or distracting to the team and integrity of Marfa ISD Extracurricular Program or any other such violations of which the head coach deems necessary. The head coach will also inform the Principal and/or Athletic Director.

## **Conflict Resolution**

Students and parents need to respect the rules and decisions made by those in charge, staying positive about every aspect of the group, team, coaches/sponsors, and officials. Parents are welcome to ask a coach/sponsor for a meeting or to ask a question. Parents should never approach the coach/sponsor or their child in a negative manner during the game/performance, at half-time or immediately after a game/performance. Proper deference should be shown toward the coach/sponsor by scheduling an appointment with him/her to discuss concerns in private when he/she can offer his/her undivided attention.

If a student or parent has a grievance, concern, or problem, it is his/her responsibility to follow the proper chain of command in the order listed below. If a resolution cannot be reached, then a conference may be scheduled with the next person in the chain of command.

1. Immediate coach/sponsor
2. Head coach/sponsor (athletics)
3. Athletic Director (athletics)
4. Campus principal
5. Superintendent
6. School board

## **Discipline**

1. Warning—this handbook constitutes your warning.
2. Reprimand/Extra Exercising—a private reprimand by the head coach and/or Athletic Director. In athletics, additional exercising may follow regular workout as deemed by the head coach, and according to the severity of the offense.
3. Loss of Privilege—a suspension or reduction in participation time at the discretion of the head coach to ensure conduct is followed.
4. Removal from extracurricular program—removal from the activity/program which may be up to one calendar year.
5. ISS Assignment—if a student participant is assigned to ISS, the student participant is suspended from interscholastic activity until the ISS assignment is completed. The suspension begins when the student begins his/her day(s) in ISS. The suspension is concluded the day following the last day of ISS. For athletics, any athlete suspended from school may be ineligible to participate in his/her team's next competition following their return to school. Students who are in ISS may not participate in practices, after-school activities or other school sponsored or on-campus events.

6. DAEP Assignment—if a student is assigned to DAEP, the student participant may receive up to a 30-day suspension from the extracurricular activity/program. Subsequent placements in DAEP may warrant removal from the extracurricular program for a calendar year.

## **Dress Code and Grooming**

All students/athletes will abide by the District code of conduct as well as the extracurricular program policy on dress code and grooming as outlined below. If appropriate dress code is not met, the student may not be permitted to compete/perform or to travel with the team.

All students/athletes:

1. Tattoos must not be visible in competition.
2. Coach-approved apparel must be worn during practice and on game days.
3. Travel dress code may be determined by season, by the head coach.
4. School dress code will be followed if not otherwise designated by the coach/sponsor
5. For female athletes, fingernail length will be determined by the head coach of the sport.

## **Drug Testing**

The district requires participation in the drug and alcohol testing of any student in grades 7-12 who is participating in or desires to participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities or requests a permit to park a motor vehicle on school property. The students shall be randomly tested throughout the school year.

The District has a vital interest in maintaining a safe and healthy environment for all students. The use of illegal drugs and alcohol poses serious health and safety risks to the user and those interacting with the user. The purposes of the drug-testing program set out in this policy are to: prevent injury, illness, or harm resulting from the use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs or alcohol; assist in providing for the health and safety of all students; help enforce a drug-free and alcohol-free educational environment; deter student use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs or alcohol; educate students regarding the harm caused by the use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs or alcohol; and undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing a legitimate reason for students not to use alcohol or illegal or performance-enhancing drugs.

The District shall provide each parent and student a copy of the drug testing policy and consent form prior to the student's participation in a covered activity. In addition, a copy of the policy shall be distributed to all students in grades 7-12 as part of the registration at the beginning of each school year, along with the required consent form. Students enrolling at other times shall receive a copy of the policy and the consent form when they register.

The District shall conduct orientation meetings with parents and interested student participants at the beginning of each school year. A student enrolling at other times and wanting to participate in extracurricular activities or park a motor vehicle on campus shall be required to attend, with a parent or guardian if the student is under 18 years of age, a similar orientation meeting at a date and time designated by the District.

District employees shall explain the drug-testing program, review the policy and consent form, and provide an educational presentation on the harmful effects of drug and alcohol abuse. Student attendance at the orientation meeting is mandatory.

Parent or guardian attendance at the orientation meeting is mandatory for students under the age of 18. If a minor student's parent or guardian fails to attend the orientation meeting, the student shall not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities or park a motor vehicle on school property.

### **Consent**

Before a student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities or park a motor vehicle on school property, the student shall be required to sign a consent form agreeing to be subject to the rules and procedures of the drug-testing program. If the student is under the age of 18, the student's parent or guardian shall also sign a consent form. If appropriate consent is not given, the student shall not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities or park a motor vehicle on school property.

The student and parent consent forms shall be signed and placed on file with the designated district official, and a copy maintained at the school attended by the student. Consent forms shall be valid for the current school year only; that is, the necessary consent forms shall be signed and provided to the District every school year before a student shall be eligible to participate in the activities covered by this testing program.

### **Use of Results**

Drug-test results shall be used only to determine eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities and parking a motor vehicle on school property. Positive drug test results shall not be used to impose disciplinary sanctions or academic penalties.

Nevertheless, while positive test results shall not be used as evidence in a disciplinary proceeding, nothing in the policy shall limit or affect the application of state law, local policy, or the Student Code of Conduct. A student who commits a disciplinary offense shall be subject to consequences in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

### **Confidentiality**

Drug-testing results shall be confidential and shall be disclosed only to the student, the student's parents or guardian, and designated district officials who need the information in order to administer the drug-testing program. Drug-test results shall be kept separate from all other school records involving the students, including the student's academic record. Results shall not be shared with law enforcement officials or otherwise disclosed except as required by law.

## **Testing Laboratory**

The Board shall contract with a drug-testing laboratory to conduct testing of students' urine samples. The testing laboratory shall be certified by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Testing laboratories shall not release statistics regarding the rate of positive drugs tests to any person or organization without consent of the District.

## **Testing Standards**

Testing shall be conducted through accepted scientific means using approved practices and procedures established by the testing laboratory. The testing parameters shall be set at industry standards as defined by the National Institute for Drug Abuse.

## **Substances for which Tests Are Conducted**

The drug-testing laboratory may test for the presence of alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, methaqualone, benzodiazepines, phencyclidine (PCP), methadone, barbiturates, propoxyphene, amphetamines, opioids, and metabolites of any of these substances. The district reserves the right to revise this list at any time. A current list of substances being tested for shall be provided at registration and shall be available for review at the administration office of campus and at the district's central office.

## **Collection Procedures**

Personnel from the drug-testing laboratory shall collect urine samples under conditions that are no more intrusive than the conditions experienced in a public restroom. When selected for testing, a student shall be escorted to the school's testing site by a district employee and shall remain under employee supervision until the student provides a sample. The testing site shall be a restroom or other private facility with a closed stall, and the student being tested shall produce a urine sample within a closed stall. A district employee of the same gender as the student shall be present when any samples are collected, but neither the employee nor the drug-testing laboratory's representative shall directly observe a student providing his or her urine sample. The testing facility shall be secured, and only one student shall be tested at a time in order to ensure security and confidentiality. The urine sample shall be collected in a sealed split-specimen container (parts A and B) provided by the testing laboratory's representative, and appropriate chain of custody procedures shall be initiated and followed to help ensure accurate record-keeping and security. A copy of the specimen collection and chain of custody procedure used by the testing laboratory shall be made available to any parent or student upon request.

## **Random Testing**

Random tests shall be conducted on as many as nine dates throughout the school year.

The middle school and high school groups shall be considered separate programs in regard to random testing. Ten students participating in each program shall be randomly selected for each random test date. The district shall provide the drug-testing laboratory with a list of students participating in the testing program; the drug-testing laboratory shall use a random selection method to identify students chosen for random testing. Students shall not receive prior notice of the testing date or time.

Upon the arrival of the drug-testing laboratory's representative at school, the randomly selected students' names shall be given to the designated school official, who shall arrange for the students to report to the collection area. The names of selected students shall not be called out over the school's public address system.

### **Refusal to Test or Tampering**

A student who refuses to be tested shall not be able to participate in any extracurricular events until a time when he or she is willing to submit a sample. Further, students shall not be permitted to park on campus should they withhold a sample. Students deemed to have tampered with a sample shall be deemed to have a positive test result and shall be subject to the appropriate consequences as set out in this policy. If a student is absent on the day of the random test, a sample shall be collected on the next random testing date.

An initial positive test shall be confirmed by a second test of the same specimen before being reported as positive.

### **Confirmation of Positive Results**

Upon receiving results of a positive drug test, the district shall schedule a meeting the student, the student's parent or guardian if the student is under the age of 18, and the coach or sponsor of the extracurricular activity, as applicable, and any other designated school office to review the test results and discuss consequences. The student or parent shall have two school days following the meeting to provide a medical explanation for a positive result.

### **Retesting**

If the student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities or to park a motor vehicle on school property after completing any applicable period of suspension, the student must be retested at the end of the period of suspension and have a negative test result; following that, the student shall be retested on at least the next two random test dates so long as the student wishes to participate in extracurricular activities or park a motor vehicle on school property.

### **Drug Abuse Prevention**

The district will encourage parents and students to learn about drug and alcohol abuse prevention from their local medical provider.

## **Consequences**

Consequences of positive test results shall be cumulative through the student's enrollment in middle school and shall begin anew for high school; the consequences for positive test results during high school shall also be cumulative.

### *First Positive Test Result*

The student shall be allowed to resume participation in extracurricular activities or park a motor vehicle on school property as soon as the student submits to a retest and a negative test result is received by the district. The student shall be tested at each of the next two random test dates following being allowed to resume participation in extracurricular activities or park a motor vehicle on school property.

### *Second Positive Test Result*

Upon a second positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from participating in extracurricular activities and shall not be permitted to park a motor vehicle on school property for 60 school days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test result.

Before being allowed to resume participation in extracurricular activities or park a motor vehicle on school property following a second positive test result, the student will be retested at the end of the period of suspension and have a negative result. The student shall be tested at each of the next three random test dates following being allowed to resume participation in extracurricular activities or park a motor vehicle on school property.

### *Third Positive Test Result*

Upon a third positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from participating in extracurricular activities and shall not be permitted to park a motor vehicle on school property for 90 school days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test result.

Before being allowed to resume participation in extracurricular activities or park a motor vehicle on school property following a third positive test result, the student will be retested at the end of the period of suspension and have a negative result. Any student having a third positive test result shall be tested at each random test date for one calendar year from the date the student is permitted to return to participation in extracurricular activities or park a motor vehicle on school property.

### *End-of-Semester Suspension*

If a student's suspension from participation in extracurricular activities or parking a motor vehicle on school property is not completed by the end of the semester, the student shall complete the assigned period of suspension during the following semester or during the first semester of the following school year.

[Also see FNF(LEGAL) and FNF(LOCAL)]

## **Ejection from Contest**

If a student participant is ejected or suspended from a contest by an official or coach, it is the head coach's responsibility to notify the Principal and/or Athletic Director as soon as possible as per UIL rules.

For athletics, UIL requires ejected players to be suspended for the following game and the athlete could receive an automatic one-game suspension from the head coach. A second ejection may lead to suspension from the team. An ejected athlete's coach is required to provide in writing to the Athletic Director preventative measures designed to avert future athlete ejection.

## Eligibility

A student must meet all of the criteria listed below in order to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities/sports. The student participant:

1. Has not graduated from high school;
2. Is full-time, day student in the school, and has been in regular attendance at the school since the 6th class day of the present school year, or have been in regular attendance for 15 or more calendar days before contest of competition;
3. Is in compliance with state law and rules of the Commissioner of Education, (TEA-UIL Side By Side);
4. Is enrolled in a four-year, normal program of high school courses, and initially enrolled in the 9th grade not more than 4 years ago nor in the 10th grade not more than 3 years ago;
5. Must be passing all subjects with a grade of 70 or above at the end of the six weeks grading period. Students who have a 75 or below at the progress reporting period, or who do not have a 70 or above at the end of the six weeks grading period must attend mandatory tutorials daily until his/her grades indicate the above criteria.
6. Is not recruited;
7. Is not in violation of the awards rule;
8. Meets the specific eligibility requirements for competition;
9. Is less than 19 years old on September 1 preceding the contest or have been granted eligibility based on a disability that delayed their education by at least one year,
10. Lives with parents or legal guardians inside the school district attendance zone their first year of attendance (see your school administrator for exceptions),
11. Has not moved or changed schools for athletic purposes,
12. Has not violated the athletic amateur rule;
13. Is eligible according to the fifteen day rule and the residence rule prior to district certification;
14. Must maintain a favorable attitude and conduct during the school year. Should the attitude or conduct of any student participant become detrimental to the rest of the team, the student may be dismissed. Dismissal of this type will be considered the same as quitting a team, since both involve an attitude problem;
15. NOTE: a student/athlete is allowed to compete in multiple sports. A student/athlete will not be allowed to miss three or more days of school, in a school week, because of athletic activities without permission from the Principal.

In addition, for a student to participate in a practice, a game, or event that occurs on a school day, that student must be present on the same day. If the activity is an all-day event, the student must have been present the previous day. In addition to being in attendance on game day, students must also be in attendance at school on

the day following the event. Students are responsible for completing all work missed prior to leaving for competition.

The only exception for the above is given to the student who secures prior permission from the Principal for that absence. If this permission is granted, the student will be considered eligible for either a practice, game, or performance.

## **Forms (Athletics)**

An athlete will not be permitted to try-out, practice, or compete for any sport without a COMPLETE MARFA ISD Athletic Participation Packet on file. The packet includes, but is not limited to, the following forms:

1. Acknowledgement of Rules
2. Concussion Acknowledgement
3. Sudden Cardiac Arrest
4. Parent/Student Steroid Agreement
5. Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation (physical evaluation must be completed after May 1 of the preceding school year)
6. Athletic Code of Conduct
7. Consent to Treat

## **Fundraising**

Fundraising is a means to supplement budgets of the athletic and/or other departments. At times throughout the year you may be asked to help in said fundraising activities. Please be aware if a fundraiser is conducted, the student will be responsible for monies relating to the fundraiser. All sponsors must receive permission from the principal to conduct any fundraiser.

The UIL has set forth guidelines to govern fundraising activities and the expenditures of funds.

## **Hold Harmless Agreement**

When conducting any activity not directly associated with any UIL sanctioned practice or competition, a Hold Harmless Agreement must be completed by all participants and kept on file for 2 years by the head coach/sponsor.

## **Insurance**

(Athletics)-

Extra-curricular insurance has been provided for all students who participated in athletics in the past; however, the district will **NO LONGER** be providing this coverage. Parents and guardians are encouraged to seek primary, and supplemental, insurance coverage for the children participating in sporting events and activities.

## **Issued Equipment**

(Athletics)

Each student athlete may be issued workout clothing and sport-specific equipment throughout the year. It is the responsibility of the student athlete to care for such clothing and equipment. Laundry services are provided; therefore student athletes are not permitted to take home issued clothing or equipment. If issued clothing or equipment becomes damaged, lost, or stolen the student athlete will replace the equipment or clothing at replacement cost before any other equipment will be issued.

(Other extracurricular activities)

Each student who is issued equipment, clothing, etc. for his/her extracurricular activity must return all school-issued equipment, clothing, etc. at the end of the season/school year. If the issued equipment, clothing, etc. becomes damaged, lost, or stolen the student will replace the equipment or clothing at replacement cost.

Any student participating in any UIL and/or extracurricular activity may not be permitted to participate in graduation ceremonies if money, equipment, or clothing is owed to the school.

## **Language—Inappropriate**

Inappropriate language will not be tolerated at any time. The coach/sponsor will determine what is inappropriate and consequences will be determined by the coach/sponsor.

## **Lettering**

Students may receive one major award (letter jacket) during his/her high school career. Each head coach is responsible for establishing and adhering to the criteria by which a student participant/athlete may letter. As the demands and expectations of each extracurricular program/sport are different, so will be the letter criteria. Basic considerations such as attendance, eligibility, sportsmanship, citizenship, training rules, participation and general attitude will be included in each coach's criteria. It is up to each head coach to inform his/her students of the Marfa ISD extracurricular award guideline criteria prior to the start of his/her specific season. Lettering criteria for each event should also be submitted to the Principal and/or Athletic Director and communication to the parents of athletes via pre-season parent information meeting.

### **General Requirements for Lettering**

1. Students in grades 9-12 are eligible to earn a letter jacket if the criteria are met in their respective sport or event.
2. A student must make a significant contribution, as determined by the head coach, in his/her extracurricular program in order to earn a letter jacket.
3. Practice habits and attendance are criteria for lettering and are left up to the discretion of the individual head coach.

4. A student must complete the entire season of the extracurricular program/sport that lettering is being sought for.
5. If a student fails a class that affects the season, it could be considered grounds for not lettering based upon the judgment of the head coach.
6. For athletics, if a player is injured in a sport, it is up to the head coach as to whether that athlete will letter.
7. All jackets shall be ordered at the same time each year (spring).
8. Letter jackets will be funded by the District.
9. Should a senior transfer their senior year and letter, they may receive a letter jacket if no jacket has been awarded by his/her previous school.
10. The jackets will come with one large "M" and one "insert" for each sport/event that the letter is being earned in. Students are responsible for paying for additional inserts, patches, or monogramming.

## **Practice Policy**

Each student athlete is expected to attend all practices. If extenuating circumstances exist, the head coach/sponsor should be notified immediately. Student athletes are expected to be on time and dressed for practice by the time set by the head coach/sponsor. It is the responsibility of the student athlete to contact the head coach/sponsor as soon as possible if there becomes a conflict with the practice schedule.

In athletics, if a student participant misses a practice, he/she will be responsible for making up missed conditioning, which will be set by the head coach/sponsor of each sport/event. If a student athlete misses two practices without contacting the coach/sponsor of that sport/event, the student athlete may be dismissed for the remainder of the season. If a student athlete is late for practice on a consistent basis he/she may face suspended playing time. Intentionally skipping practice will result in disciplinary action by the head coach which could include, but not limited to, suspension for the next event.

Fighting, disrespect of the coaches, foul language, or public displays of temper are deemed unsportsmanlike conduct, and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken. Insubordination will not be tolerated and will be followed by prompt disciplinary action. These types of conduct are grounds for immediate loss of playing privilege.

## **Quitting Policy**

Quitting an extracurricular event or sport is considered to be a serious matter since it affects teammates and coaches/sponsors. It can reflect upon the integrity and responsibility of the student participant. Student participants must realize that when he/she quits an event, they are affecting other student participants in a negative way. Quitting during the season is strongly discouraged.

For athletics, the following deadlines to quit a sport have been established in order to give the student an opportunity to try the event. If a student quits before these deadlines, there will be no consequences. If a

student quits (or is dismissed) after these dates, they will serve a suspension and will not be allowed to participate in any sports in the season that immediately follows the one he/she quit.

- a. Football, Volleyball, and Cross Country: Labor Day
- b. Basketball: First day of Thanksgiving Break
- c. Track and Softball: Friday before Spring Break

For all non-athletic programs, a student participant also has a deadline to quit the event. The student can quit, without consequence, an event no later than two weeks before the first district-level competition, or similar level of competition. If the student participant quits after the deadline, a student will serve a suspension and will not be allowed to participate in any other extracurricular activity/program in the season that immediately follows the one he/she quit.

## Social Media

Negative, inappropriate, or illegal social media postings WILL NOT be tolerated. Upon verification of such postings, coaches and sponsors will handle all instances in a swift manner in which they see fit. Instances that are also in violation of the Student Code of Conduct will be handled by the administration of Marfa I.S.D.

## Summer Conditioning

(Athletics)

The UIL has granted school districts the right to condition student athletes during a set period in the summer. This period begins the week following the last day of school and continues for six-weeks. Student athletes may condition Monday through Thursday under the supervision of the coaching staff or qualified personnel. Student athletes are encouraged to attend these conditioning sessions as this is a means to reduce injury in the fall and remain in adequate condition throughout the summer.

## Team Travel

Students who participate in school-sponsored events/trips are required to use transportation provided by the school to and from the event. During the school day no student/athlete is allowed to transport himself/herself to an off-campus game or practice facility unless, prior to the trip, a parent or guardian has completed a **Marfa ISD Permission For Student/Parent-Provided Transportation** form. At the completion of an extracurricular event, student participants must travel, and/or return to the school, with the team, organization, or school employee unless, prior to the trip, a parent or guardian has completed the **Student Travel Release** form that entitles the student/athlete to be released to the custody of the parent. **Students will not be transported in coaches' personal vehicles at any time.**