

Sylvania City School District Bylaws & Policies

5500.01 - CODE OF CONDUCT FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/ATHLETICS

Participation in athletics and extracurricular activities is a privilege extended to all students who meet the eligibility requirements. One of the requirements is compliance with this Code, which supports of the District's commitment to provide a drug-free atmosphere where all students have the opportunity to achieve their academic, athletic, and social potential. To that end, athletic and extracurricular programs promote and reinforce a clear no-use message for students. Students must earn the right to represent the school by conducting themselves in such a manner that the image of the student, team or organization, school and school district are not tarnished in any way.

Failure to abide by the Code of Conduct, or other behavior derogatory to the individual or the program during the calendar year, will lead to denial of participation consistent with this policy. If a student participates in multiple extracurricular activities, denial of participation will apply to all activities. If a student violates the Code of Conduct, it will apply to all extracurricular activities and athletics simultaneously.

This Code of Conduct must be signed before the student participates in any extracurricular tryout, practice, game or event. The student will be subject to the Code of Conduct for the entire calendar year, not just during the period the student is participating in the sport or activity.

The Code of Conduct shall be deemed to have been violated under the following circumstances: (1) when a student is observed in violation of the Code of Conduct by school personnel; (2) when a student has been charged by any law enforcement officer with an activity prohibited by this Code; (3) by an admission of violation by the student or his/her parents; or (4) when an investigation by school officials reasonably determines the student has violated this Code.

Rule 1: Citizenship

Any conduct that results in dishonor to the participant, the team or organization, the school, the school district, or a citizen violation, as defined herein, is prohibited. Dishonorable acts include, but are not limited to, cheating, dishonesty, harassment, intimidation or bullying, hazing, fighting, theft, vandalism, disrespect, unsportsmanlike conduct, or violations of the law. Citizenship violations include any violation of the *Student Discipline Code* and any violation of the rules established by the coach or advisor.

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF RULE ONE: ATHLETICS/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The penalties for a violation of Rule 1 shall range from missing a percentage of the current season/activity to complete denial of participation from athletics/extracurricular activities for the student's academic career, depending on the severity of the offense, any harm or injury to person or property, the remorse of the athlete, and any other relevant factors. The penalty shall be determined by the Athletic Director/Assistant Principal, in consultation with the coach/advisor.

Rule 2: Alcohol and Drugs

No student shall possess, conceal, use, convey to another, or offer for sale, or attempt to purchase any alcoholic beverage, illegal drugs, non-prescribed drugs, prescribed drugs illegally used, look alike drugs, or any mind altering

substance. No student shall be in the presence of illegal drug/alcohol activity. Included in the prohibition are any substances represented as controlled substances, drug paraphernalia, and tobacco, including e-cigarettes.

SELF-REFERRAL/PARENTAL REFERRAL

Any student and parents may employ a "self-referral" procedure, allowing the student an avenue to seek guidance, assessment/counseling and/or treatment in regard to the use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco. Voluntary or parental referrals do not carry punitive consequences. A self-referral/parental referral, however is not to be used by students and parents as a method to avoid consequences once an alcohol and/or drug policy violation has occurred. All self-referrals by a student/athlete must begin by informing a staff member, coach/advisor, or Athletic Director/Administrator. The Sylvania Schools believe it is extremely important to keep the lines of communication open between parents, students, coaches, teachers, and administrators. Parents and students shall be encouraged to discuss problems in a confidential manner with school personnel without punitive consequences, regardless of a student's level of participation in extracurricular and/or athletic activities.

Sylvania Schools will maintain a current list of community treatment and evaluation providers, which will be available to parents and students employing this self-referral procedures, as well as to any student found in violation of this Code of Conduct. The cost as assessment and/or treatment is the sole responsibility of the student, parents or guardians.

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF RULE TWO: ATHLETICS

A. **First violation:** The student shall not participate in any athletic activity for one (1) calendar year. However, students who elect to receive professional assessment and assistance will be denied participation in twenty percent (20%) of the games in the current season immediately following the date of the coding as defined by the published schedule of games. If the assessment recommends treatment, compliance with the treatment plan will be a condition for reinstatement. Fractions of games shall be rounded to the nearest whole number. If the violation occurs at the end of the season or in the off season, such that the full twenty percent (20%) penalty cannot be served, the remaining penalty shall be carried into the next season in which the student is a full time participant of that entire season.

B.

Second Violation: The second violation of the Code of Conduct will result in termination of athletic eligibility for the remainder of the student's career. However, a student who elects to receive professional assessment and assistance will be denied participation in any athletic activity for one (1) calendar year. If the assessment recommends treatment, compliance with the treatment plan will be a condition for reinstatement.

C.

Third Violation. The third violation will result in termination of athletic eligibility at Sylvania Schools for the remainder of the student's career. A student who has received professional assessment and assistance may petition for reinstatement to a committee consisting of the building Principal, Athletic Director and a Board of Education member at the conclusion of one (1) calendar year from the date of the coded violation.

D. **Fourth Violation:** A fourth violation of the code of conduct will result in termination of athletic eligibility at Sylvania Schools for the remainder of the student's career.

Participation in Practice

Pursuant to the stated philosophy of prevention and rehabilitation, Sylvania Schools recognizes the benefit of continuing involvement in structured, positive activities for its students. Therefore, a student who is denied participation from athletics under this Code of Conduct for a first violation of Rule 2 must practice with the team and attend games (out of uniform). Coaches are encouraged to allow full participation in practice. A student who is denied participation for a second, third or fourth violation under this Code of Conduct shall not be permitted to participate in practice, attend any post-season banquets, or receive any awards.

PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF Rule 2: CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- A. **First violation:** The student shall not participate in any extracurricular activity for one (1) calendar year. However, students who elect to receive professional assessment and assistance will be denied participation in twenty percent (20%) of the activities, as defined by each club or organization advisor, if the assessment recommends treatment, compliance with the treatment plan will be a condition for reinstatement. If the violation occurs at the end of the season or in the off season for the activity, such that the full twenty percent (20%) penalty cannot be served, the remaining penalty shall be carried into the next season in which the student is a **full time participant of that entire season**. For year-long clubs and organizations, a 20% loss of participation equates to 9 weeks.
- B. **Second Violation:** The second violation of the Code of Conduct will result in termination of extracurricular eligibility for the remainder of the student's career. A student who has received professional assessment and assistance will be denied participation in any extracurricular activity for one (1) calendar year. If the assessment recommends treatment, compliance with the treatment plan will be a condition for reinstatement.
- C. **Third Violation.** The third violation will result in termination of extracurricular eligibility at Sylvania Schools for the remainder of the student's career. A student who has received professional assessment and assistance may petition for reinstatement to a committee consisting of the building Principal, Athletic Director and a Board of Education member at the conclusion of one (1) calendar year from the date of the coded violation.
- D. **Fourth Violation:** A fourth violation of the Code of Conduct will result in termination of all eligibility for all activities for the remainder of the student's career in Sylvania Schools.

Code Violation Process For Athletics, Clubs and Organizations

When an Athletic Director, Principal, or Assistant Principal has been notified of a student violation of this Code of Conduct, the following shall occur:

- A. The Athletic Director and/or Assistant Principal shall investigate the allegation, including holding a meeting with the student to determine if a violation of the Code of Conduct has occurred.
- B. When a determination of a violation of the Code of Conduct has been made by the Administrator, the parent/guardians of the student shall be notified in writing. The Administrator shall make reasonable efforts to contact the parents or guardians of the student to inform them of the school's determination. All penalties as outlined above shall be imposed from the date of this determination to the end of the specified period.
- C. Any student, parent, or guardian may appeal a violation decision by notifying the Athletic Director/Assistant

Principal of his/her intent to appeal. Such notification must be made in writing to the Athletic Director/Assistant Principal, within five (5) **business days** of the date of determination of violation of the code. The Athletic Director/Assistant Principal will convene the Code of Conduct Committee, and will establish a date and time for the Appeal Hearing. The Code of Conduct Committee shall consist of the Assistant Principal and four other building staff members designated by the Principal. Students shall not participate in athletics and/or clubs and organizations while an appeal is pending.

- D. After hearing the appeal, the Code of Conduct Committee will forward its recommendation to the Principal, who shall have the authority to either accept or overrule the recommendation of the Committee. It shall be the responsibility of the Principal to notify the student and his/her parents of the decision of the Code of Conduct Committee and the determination of the Principal.
- E. The Principal's decision shall be final and no further appeal shall be available.

Notwithstanding the above rules, a student who is subject to suspension or expulsion from school will be excluded from participation during the period of the discipline. A student who is denied participation for more than twenty percent (20%) of the season/activities shall forfeit eligibility for leadership positions and awards.

Violations of the above rules are cumulative. A violation of one rule will lead to the next disciplinary level for a separate violation of the other rule. For purposes of cumulating violations, there shall be two separate periods of the student's academic career: (1) Grades 7 and 8; and (2) Grades 9 through 12. Penalties for violation of this Code of Conduct shall apply to both athletic and extracurricular participation concurrently.

Coach/Advisor Rules

Each coach and advisor may establish and enforce reasonable rules for the sport/activity. The coach/advisor may determine reasonable penalties for violation of team/activity rules, subject to review by the Athletic Director/Principal.

Student Affirmation

As a participant in my school's athletic program, I will conduct myself in a reputable manner. I will cooperate with my coach/advisor, my teammates and abide by the team rules in order to bring honor to my school, to my team, and to develop myself to the best of my ability. I will not be involved in the possession of or use of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs or paraphernalia, or tobacco. I will abide by the Rules, Regulations, and Policies of the Sylvania Public Schools and the laws of the community at large. I recognize that extra-curricular activities are a privilege, not a right, and realize the importance of athletics as an integral part of the total education process; therefore, I will give willingly of my time and talents to improve myself and the quality of competitive athletics in my school.

I have read and understand the above Code of Conduct and agree to be bound by its provisions.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Student Signature Date

Street Address/City/State/ZIP Code Telephone Number

Adopted 5/8/2017

Revised 4/2017