



2016-2017 EXTRACURRICULAR HONOR CODE

Extracurricular Honor Code

Participation in extracurricular activities in the Birdville Independent School District is a privilege, not a right. The term “extracurricular activities” means, without limitation, all interscholastic athletics, cheerleading, drill 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 Birdville ISD. The term includes any non-curricular event and membership or participation in groups, clubs, and organizations recognized and approved by the school district or campus. All extracurricular activity participants are subject to the provisions of this Extracurricular Honor Code.

Jurisdiction

Student participation in extracurricular activities is encouraged. Birdville 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 the student to the community or public in any setting as Birdville ISD students.

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.

Based on this philosophy, extracurricular participants must do the following at all times:

- Demonstrate the importance of academic excellence by maintaining eligibility through high academic standards.
- Practice good citizenship in all environments by respecting the property and rights of others.
- Be free from activities that result in felonious charges.
- Demonstrate knowledge of and be accountable for the individual rules of the extracurricular organization as outlined by the sponsor.

It is the responsibility of students, parents, sponsors/coaches, and the respective directors to ensure this high level of expectation. This code applies to all participants of extracurricular activities throughout the calendar year.

On Campus Behavior

All students are expected to adhere to the Birdville ISD Code of Conduct as it applies to school-related activities. Students involved in extracurricular activities are expected to exhibit the highest standards of ethics and conduct.

Students who violate school policies and are placed in in-school suspension (until the ISS is concluded), suspended, or sent to the DAEP (District Alternative Education Program), may not practice nor participate during the suspension or placement. Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code prohibits a student who is assigned to the DAEP from being on a campus or attending a school activity whether on or off campus.

Off Campus Behavior

All students who participate in extracurricular activities are expected to exhibit the highest standards of ethics and conduct while off-campus, and these students may be disciplined for their off campus behavior.

Examples of off-campus violations that will lead to disciplinary action:

- Possession of tobacco, e-cigarettes, alcohol, steroids, drugs, look-alike drugs, or other illegal substances on campus or at school-sponsored activities
- Being at parties or other activities where tobacco, alcohol, steroids, drugs, look-alike drugs, or other illegal substances are being consumed by other individuals
- Engaging in serious misbehavior, as defined by the Birdville ISD Student Code of Conduct
- Conduct that causes injury or harm to others property or persons
- Using profanity, lewd or vulgar language, or obscene gestures toward others
- Any conduct that results in an arrest
- Sexting or other inappropriate Internet/electronic communications
- Bullying, harassment, and hazing at all times

(This is a non-inclusive list and must be confirmed by the student, student's parent/guardian, law enforcement official or a school employee who has knowledge of a violation prior to the campus administration making a decision.)

Off Campus Consequences

- 1st Offense – Suspension from extracurricular activities for 15 school days
- 2nd Offense – Suspension from extracurricular activities for 30 school days
- 3rd Offense – Suspension from extracurricular activities for a calendar year.

If the offense occurs during the activity season, the suspension begins immediately.

If the offense occurs in the off-season, post-season or in the summer, the suspension begins on the first date of a scheduled game, competition, or extracurricular event the following school year. Students, who are suspended for off-campus behavior may practice but may not participate in competitions, suit-out, or travel with the team for the competitions.

Non-Inclusive Example of Disciplinary Consequences for Off-Campus

1st Offense incident that occurred on March 15:

	PARTICIPANT	DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCE
Student 1	Fall Sport	15 day suspension begins date of the first competition
Student 2	Spring Sport	15 day suspension begins immediately if competition has begun
Student 3	Band Student	15 day suspension begins immediately if any competitions remain, if concluded, it will begin on first football competition
Student 4	Cheerleader/Drill Team	Student may still try-out for cheerleader/drill team and 15 day suspension begins on date of first football competition
Student 5	Student Council Member	15 day suspension begins immediately
Student 6	FFA Student	15 day suspension begins the date of the next show

The preceding table provides examples; but the campus principal, executive director of student services, and appropriate director may adjust the dates in order to ensure district-wide consistency (based on a consensus of the group). A student who is in multiple activities will serve the penalty once and at the earliest possible time.

Appeal Process

The parent or guardian may appeal the extracurricular suspension using the format in the Code of Conduct Booklet (DAEP placements).

1. Level I – The parents have three days to appeal the suspension to the campus principal.
2. Level II – The parents have three days from the principal's decision to send an appeal to the Director of Student Services.

Any decision by the Level II Hearing Officer/Panel is final and may not be appealed. The student remains suspended from extracurricular activities during the appeal process.

Acknowledgement

A condition to participating in any extracurricular activity or holding an office (elected or appointed) is to sign an acknowledgement that the student and parent have read and understand the Extracurricular Honor Code. Students are unable to participate until this form is signed and returned to the appropriate coach, director, or sponsor.

DATE _____

I have read the Birdville ISD Honor Code and agree to adhere to these rules as a condition for my voluntary participation in Birdville 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 Birdville ISD Honor Code and understand requirements for my child's voluntary participation in Birdville ISD. 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 _____

STUDENTS:

- Please note that students are **UNABLE** to participate until this form is signed and received by the appropriate coach, director or sponsor.
- Please note that this Honor Code will remain in place through all summer activities during the summer of 2017 & summer of 2018.