

**WILLISTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
EXTRA CURRICULAR PARTICIPATION/ATTENDANCE POLICY
THIS POLICY IS IN FORCE TWELVE MONTHS PER YEAR**

The use or possession of tobacco, alcohol, non-prescription anabolic steroids, inhalants or any controlled substance as defined by North Dakota Law is prohibited. Any extra curricular participant/attendee who is in violation of the foregoing shall be suspended from participation in or at interscholastic contests or activities for a minimum period of six weeks for the first offense and a period of eighteen weeks for any subsequent offenses.

Any student who is in violation of the code of conduct shall be suspended from participation in, or attendance at interscholastic contests or activities for a period of time up to six weeks for the first offense, and up to eighteen weeks for any subsequent offenses, at the sole discretion of the Principal. This policy is in effect for the entire school year (and summer).

I. Administration of Rule:

Definition of School Year: A school year ends on the last day of the school year. A new year shall begin on the first day after graduation, and conclude at graduation.

1. It is the responsibility of the student and/or parent to immediately notify the school (Activity Director, principal or assistant principal) in writing via United States Postal Service or similar parcel or mailing agency, of the violation of the aforementioned rule(s). Upon the day of receipt of this officially mailed and receipted letter of the violation, the period of suspension from activities will begin (6 or 18 weeks). In the event that the violation occurs during the summer non-school months, any penalty assessed will begin on the first day of school for students, unless the violator is an active participant in a fall activity, upon which time the suspension shall begin on the first day of practice. Should the violation occur near the end of the school year, and the suspension cannot be served in total prior to the end of the current school year, the remainder of the suspension must be served at the start of the first day of official attendance of students in the next school year, unless the violator is an active participant in a fall activity, upon which time the suspension shall begin on the first day of practice for the fall sport.
2. In the event that a possible violation is reported to school authorities by a representative of law enforcement or a school coach and the student/parents have not apprised the school authorities by written correspondence of the violation, the following procedure will be utilized.

3. The student and their parent will be sent a written notification of the alleged violation. The notice will contain the allegations, the potential punishment, as well as an outline of the procedure to be utilized in the event the student denies the violation.
4. The student and parents will be required to attend any meeting regarding allegations of violation of the code of conduct, or NDHSAA policy. Failure to attend may be deemed an admission that a violation did occur.
5. If student admits the violation, the Activity Director, Principal, or assistant principal will immediately institute the required penalty. The principal shall immediately notify the parents in writing of the official action. The suspension begins as of the date of the admission.
6. If the student does not admit guilt, the school shall set a hearing time, place and date to include:
 - A. The Accuser
 - B. Student
 - C. Parents
 - D. Other representatives the student wants present
 - E. Activities Director
 - F. One of the student's coaches/activity instructors
 - G. Principal
 - H. Assistant Principal (Administrative team=EFGH)

No public activity participation or attendance at a school activity will be permitted until the guilt or innocence is determined by the hearing or by the courts if that course of action is requested by the student/parent (NDHSAA Rule, Article 13, Section 12.)

7. The Activity Director, with the advice and recommendation of the Assistant Principal, Principal, and Coach/Activities Instructor, will determine whether the student committed the alleged violation.
8. The Principal or Activity Director will inform the student and parents of the decision within three school days of the hearing. If the decision is that a violation has occurred, the suspension will begin as of this date of the notice to that effect, mailed to the parents and student.

9. During the six/eighteen week suspension the individual will not travel with any activity or team nor be present or on the bench or sideline during any contest.

II. Sports, Cheerleaders and Extra Curricular Participants:

1. Suspensions are six weeks long for the first violation and eighteen weeks for each subsequent violation. All students who are under suspension will not be allowed presence at any school activities which are held after normal school hours or days.
2. Academically, a student must be passing at least four high school subjects with a credit value of one-half unit per semester. Grades will be checked at mid-term and semester. If a student is failing at mid-term, their grades will be checked every week until they achieve a passing grade. They will not be allowed participation until they have passing grades. If the student is failing at semester, they will not be allowed to participate in any activities for a minimum of four (4) weeks.

A middle school student must also be passing 75% of his or her classes in order to be eligible to participate in middle school activities. Middle school students participating in high school activities must be passing all classes.

Students who are academically ineligible will not be allowed to dress, participate, be part of the bench, nor will they be allowed at, or to travel to away events during their time of ineligibility.

III. Alcohol, Illicit Drug, and Smoking Rehabilitation:

(This policy is accumulative over the entire school year.)

1. For the first alcohol or drug offense, attendance at a school-approved drug awareness class is required. For smoking or chewing tobacco, attendance at a school-approved smoking cessation program is required. Rehabilitation/attendance at a licensed addiction center program and successful completion of the same will substitute as the requirement to attend the drug awareness or smoking cessation class before re-entry into any school activity (as long as the 6/18 suspension period has been served).
2. The second offense requires attendance at a school-approved upgrade of the aforementioned programs, or an at-risk or similar program provided by a licensed addiction center. Depending upon their recommendation, an addiction evaluation may be required at student's expense. The 6/18 suspension requirement must also be completed prior to the students re-entry into any school activities.

3. The third offense will result in non-attendance or participation in any school activities for the remainder of the current school year (school year-as outlined on page one).

IV. Code of Conduct:

1. All extra curricular activities participants or attendees will be covered by a Code of Conduct.
2. Any student involved in theft, assault, significant classroom conduct/disruption or damage to school property or is referred to juvenile or adult authorities for theft, assault, significant classroom conduct/disruption or damage to property shall be subject to up to a six or eighteen week suspension at the sole discretion of the Principal.
3. In addition, all student participants or attendees of an activity will adhere to the "Code of Conduct and Sportsmanship". The code will be clearly printed in each student handbook and failure to adhere to the expectations of the code will result in up to a six or eighteen week suspension from attendance or participation in extra-curricular activities, or those held beyond normal daily school hours at the sole discretion of the Principal.

V. High School Graduation:

In the event that the student reaches his or her third strike in their senior year prior to high school graduation, AND they are able to maintain appropriate behavior as per this policy for the remainder of their school career, AND are not subject to any of the aforementioned violations for the last six weeks of their high school career, they will be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremonies.