



# **Westside High School** **School-Sponsored Activities, Clubs** **and Athletic Programs**

## *Conduct of Participants* *and* *Guidelines for Restriction on Participation*

All students are required to abide by the Westside Community Schools Student Code of Conduct (contained in Board Policy 5300 and reprinted in the Warrior Bulletin). During any time period that a student is excluded from school due to short-term suspension, long-term suspension, expulsion or emergency exclusion, the student is also prohibited from attending any extracurricular activities that take place on district property and from participating in any school-sponsored activities, clubs and athletic programs (Board Policy 5300).

*In addition*, a student may also face restrictions on participation for a time period *greater than* the length of the student's removal (suspension, etc.) from school. Restrictions on participation may also be imposed in instances where no removal (suspension, etc.) occurs, but the student's conduct nevertheless has violated the Student Code of Conduct or is contrary to any other conduct prohibited in these Guidelines (Board Policy 5300).

The rules of conduct and guidelines for consequences contained herein are in addition to any eligibility rules of the Nebraska School Activities Association.

*Note: These are guidelines. Individual school sponsored groups may adopt, with approval of the principal or designee, consequences more restrictive than those contained herein for its members.*

## **Definitions**

### **Activities**

“Activities” are any school-sponsored activities that occur outside of regular school hours. Examples include (but are not limited to):

*\*Instrumental Music*                      *\*Show Choir*  
*\*Vocal Music*                              *School Dances*  
*\*Jazz/Pep Band*                         *Prom*  
*School Theatrical Productions,*  
*Musicals and Performances*

*\*Curricular requirements of these activities are excluded from this policy.*

### **Clubs**

“Clubs” are school-sponsored clubs. A list of school-sponsored clubs is published yearly in the Warrior Bulletin.

### **Athletic Programs**

“Athletic programs” include all school-sponsored athletic programs and competitions. A list of school-sponsored athletic programs is published yearly in the Warrior Bulletin.

### **Competition/Performance Week**

A competition/performance-week is defined as a Sunday through Saturday that has at least one competition or performance during that week.

## **A. Student Code of Conduct**

The following restrictions from participation in school-sponsored activities, clubs and athletic programs may be imposed on students who engage in Prohibited Conduct as set forth in Policy 5300. If the club or activity, or the season for the athletic program, ends prior to the student's completion of the exclusion period, the consequences will carry over to the next club, activity or athletic program that the student is involved in during that school year.

### **1. Alcohol/Drugs (both on or off school grounds)**

Prohibited Conduct: "Engaging in the unlawful possession, selling, dispensing, or use of a controlled substance or an imitation controlled substance, as defined in section 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, a substance represented to be a controlled substance, or alcoholic liquor as defined in section 53-103 of the Nebraska statutes, or being under the influence of a controlled substance or alcoholic liquor."

#### **First Offense:**

##### Possession/Use

For the above offenses that involve possession or use (but not selling or dispensing), exclusion from attendance at activities/clubs for up to four weeks and exclusion from competition/performance in activities and athletic programs for up to four competition/performance-weeks.

##### Selling/Dispensing

For the above offenses that involve selling or dispensing, exclusion from attendance at activities/clubs for up to eight weeks and exclusion from competition/performance in activities and athletic programs for up to eight competition/performance-weeks.

For any first offense under this section (whether for possession/use or for selling/dispensing), the student must satisfactorily complete a school-approved evaluation in order to be eligible to return to the activity/club/athletic program.

### Self-Report

If the student self-reports a first offense, the consequences may, in the discretion of the principal or designee, be reduced (see information on self-reporting requirements contained in Part C).

**Subsequent Offenses:** Exclusion from all attendance, competition, and performance in activities/clubs/athletic programs for up to the remainder of the school year. If the student wants to remain eligible for participation in activities/clubs/athletic programs for future school years he/she may be required to satisfactorily complete a school-approved evaluation/education/treatment program at his/her own expense.

## 2. Tobacco Use or Possession (on school grounds or at school event)

Prohibited Conduct: “Use or possession of any form of tobacco.”

**First Offense:** Exclusion from attendance at activities/clubs for one week, and exclusion from competition/performance in activities and athletic programs for a period of one competition/performance-week.

**Subsequent Offenses:** Exclusion from attendance at activities/clubs for a period of two weeks and exclusion from competition/performance in activities and athletic programs for a period of two competition/performance-weeks.

## 3. Causing Personal Injury to Employee, Volunteer or Student (both on or off school grounds)

Prohibited Conduct: “Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, to a school volunteer, or to any student.”

**First Offense:** Exclusion from attendance at activities/clubs for not less than four weeks and from competition/performance in activities and athletic programs for not less than four competition/performance-weeks, and for up to the remainder of the school year for all activities/clubs/athletic programs.

**Subsequent Offenses:** Exclusion from all attendance, competition, and performance in activities/clubs/athletic programs for up to the remainder of the school year.

#### 4. **Sexual Assault/Attempted Sexual Assault**

Prohibited Conduct: On school grounds or at school event: “Sexual assault in the first or second degree as defined in sections 28-319 and 28-320 of the Nebraska statutes, or attempted sexual assault of any person if a complaint has been filed by a prosecutor in a court of competent jurisdiction alleging that the student has sexually assaulted or attempted to sexually assault any person, including sexual assaults or attempted sexual assaults which occur off school grounds not at a school function, activity, or event”.

Prohibited Conduct: Off of school grounds and not at school event: “Sexually assaulting or attempting to sexually assault any person if a complaint has been filed by a prosecutor in a court of competent jurisdiction alleging that the student has sexually assaulted or attempted to sexually assault any person”.

**First Offense:** Exclusion from attendance at activities/clubs for not less than eight weeks and from competition/performance in activities and athletic programs for not less than eight competition/performance-weeks, and for up to the remainder of the school year for all activities/clubs/athletic programs.

**Subsequent Offenses:** Exclusion from all attendance, competition, and performance in activities/clubs/athletic programs for up to the remainder of the school year.

#### 5. **Hazing (On school grounds or at school event)**

Prohibited Conduct: “Participation in hazing in connection with initiation, orientation, or similar activities intended as an induction into any school program or activity.

**First Offense:** Exclusion from attendance at activities/clubs for not less than four weeks and from competition/performance in activities and athletic programs for not less than four competition/performance-weeks, and for up to the remainder of the school year for all activities/clubs/athletic programs.

**Subsequent Offenses:** Exclusion from all attendance, competition, and performance in activities/clubs/athletic programs for up to the remainder of the school year.

**6. All other conduct prohibited by the Student Code of Conduct (whether on or off school grounds)**

**First Offense:** Exclusion from attendance at activities/clubs for not less than four weeks and from competition/performance in activities and athletic programs for not less than four competition/performance-weeks, and for up to the remainder of the school year for all activities/clubs/athletic programs.

**Subsequent Offenses:** Exclusion from all attendance, competition, and performance in activities/clubs/athletic programs for up to the remainder of the school year.

## **B. Other Conduct**

Coaches and sponsors of activities and clubs are authorized under Board Policy 5300 to impose eligibility restrictions for student participation in school-sponsored activities, clubs and athletic programs for behaviors beyond those contained in the Student Code of Conduct.

The following conduct, **regardless of whether it occurs during the regular school year or during any period of vacation**, may result in the following consequences regarding the student's participation in school-sponsored activities, clubs and athletic programs:

**1. Criminal Charges - Misdemeanors**

**Prohibited Conduct:** Being charged in any court with a misdemeanor involving any conduct prohibited under the Student Code of Conduct.

**First Offense:** Exclusion from activities/clubs for up to four weeks and exclusion from athletic programs for up to four competition/performance-weeks.

### Self-Report

If the student self-reports a first offense, the consequences may, in the discretion of the principal or designee, be reduced (see information on self-reporting requirements contained in Part C).

**Subsequent Offenses:** Exclusion from all attendance, competition, and performance in activities/clubs/athletic programs for up to the remainder of the school year.

## 2. Criminal Charges - Felonies

**Prohibited Conduct:** Being charged in any federal or state court with any felony, regardless of whether the conduct that forms the basis of the felony charge occurs on or off school grounds.

**Any Offense:** Exclusion from attendance at activities/clubs for a period of not less than eight weeks and from competition/performance in activities and athletic programs for not less than eight competition/performance weeks and for up to such time as the charge(s) have been fully dismissed or have been concluded. "Concluded" shall be defined as 1) the completion of a trial and sentence imposed and no appeal pending; or 2) a plea of guilty or no contest to the original felony charge or any other reduced charge, and sentence imposed, and no appeal pending.

## 3. Criminal Convictions – Felonies

**Prohibited Conduct:** Conviction in any court of any felony, regardless of whether the conduct that formed the basis of the felony charge(s) occurred on or off school grounds.

**Any Offense:** Up to permanent exclusion from all attendance, competition, and performance in activities/clubs/athletic programs.

## 4. Hazing (not on school grounds or at school event)

**Prohibited Conduct:** Participation in hazing in connection with initiation, orientation, or similar activities intended as an induction into any school program or activity.

**First Offense:** Exclusion from activities/clubs for not less than four weeks and from athletic programs for not less than four competition-

weeks, and for up to the remainder of the school year for all activities/clubs/athletic programs.

**Subsequent Offenses:** Exclusion from all attendance, competition, and performance in activities/clubs/athletic programs for up to the remainder of the school year.

#### 5. **Unexcused Absences from Athletic Practices**

Prohibited Conduct: Unexcused absences from practices.

**Any Offense:** Unexcused absence from a practice may result in the student not participating in a scheduled contest. A repeat of unexcused absences from practice may result in dismissal from the team. The merit of the excuse is to be initially decided by the Head Coach or Sponsor.

### **C. Other Information**

#### **Self-Reporting:**

Consequences may, in the discretion of the Principal or designee, be reduced for self-reporting of the offenses specifically designated in these guidelines. In determining whether a reduction will be made, the facts, circumstances and all other relevant information will be considered. Participants must self-report to one of the following individuals: a Coach, Sponsor, Principal, Vice-Principal, Assistant Principal, Athletic Director or Dean at the next available opportunity after violating the Student Code of Conduct or these rules. (Example: Where a violation occurs over the weekend, the student's next available opportunity to report to a Coach or Administrator should be no later than Monday morning. Where a violation occurs on a school night, the student's next available opportunity to report to a Coach or Administrator is the next school day).

### **D. Notification**

The student and his or her parent/guardian will be notified as set forth in the Board Policy 5300 and in the Regulation to Board Policy 5300, and the procedures set forth in the Policy and Regulation will be followed.