

## **EATONVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT ACTIVITY AND ATHLETIC CODE**

(Revised August 19, 2008)

This code of behavior for Eatonville School District students involved in activities and athletics is designed to:

- (1) promote good citizenship and sportsmanship;
- (2) promote self-discipline by setting high expectations for student behavior; and
- (3) establish procedures by which decisions are made regarding eligibility for participation in activities and athletics.

It is based on Eatonville School District Board Policy and the athletic code of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA).

This agreement begins for all student athletes and parents on the date of first scheduled practice for that sport or activity and terminates on the date the student is released by the coach at the completion of the season.

The code consists of four parts: A) General Requirements; B) Grade Requirements; C) Substance Abuse Procedures; and D) Parent/Student Code of Conduct.

### **A. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

In order to participate in an activity or a sport in which he or she represents the Eatonville School District either in a performance or in a competition, a student must:

1. be present a minimum of three (3) periods on the day of an activity or athletic event in which he/she is scheduled to take part or he/she will not be allowed to participate in the event. Exceptions will be made for verified doctor or dental appointments or other cases prearranged through the building principal or his/her designee;
2. have met all requirements for rehearsal or practice as set forth by the activity advisor or coach;
3. prior to the first turn out, have purchased an Eatonville School ASB card of the current school year (except in performances or competitions that do not receive ASB funding such as FFA, FHA, etc. where dues are paid to a state or national organization and funding is through the dues paid and fund raising done);
4. **(high school only)** have paid the athletic user fee of \$30.00 per sport with a student maximum per year of \$60.00 and a family maximum per year of \$180.00;
5. prior to the first turn out, have on file proper parent permission forms, physical forms, proof of medical insurance, etc. as called for by the advisor/coach of the activity/sport and/or athletic director;
6. be personally responsible for any school equipment or materials issued to them. Failure to return such items will result in the student being assessed a fine to be paid in the amount of the cost to replace the unreturned or damaged equipment or materials and associated costs.

### **B. ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS**

#### **High School**

To participate in an activity or sport representing Eatonville High School in a performance or in competition, a student must pass all classes. Students must be continuously enrolled in school and taking at least five (5) classes (or the equivalent college level credits). All students are subject to grade checks every four and a half weeks.

1. High School eligibility will be checked at the beginning of each season and at every regular reporting (semester, quarter, midterm) of student grades. Students, who fail to meet the Eatonville School District grade requirement of passing 6 of 6 classes, will be placed on probationary eligibility for two (2) weeks. If a student's grades have not improved after two (2) weeks, the student will be declared ineligible to participate in interscholastic contests. A student may be placed on probationary eligibility only once per season. The second time a student fails to meet the grade requirement in a season will result in the student being declared ineligible. The ineligible student will retain this status until they meet the grade requirement. The student must initiate a grade check on the first day of the week to become eligible again. Ineligible students may still practice but cannot travel with the team if classes will be missed. Each head coach will determine how long an ineligible athlete may remain on the team.
2. A student who fails to meet the WIAA grade requirements at the end of a semester, WIAA minimum academic eligibility requirement of passing 5 of 6 classes, shall be placed on WIAA suspension.
  - a. The student shall be ineligible during the suspension period.
  - b. The WIAA mandates the suspension period for high school students shall be from the end of the **Spring semester through the last Saturday of September in the fall** and from the end of the **Fall semester through the first five (5) weeks of the Spring semester**.
  - c. If, at the end of the suspension period, the student is passing the classes required above, the student may then be reinstated for interscholastic competition.
  - d. Each student is eligible on Monday of the week following the end of the suspension period.

### **Middle School**

The first time the student fails to meet the Eatonville School District grade policy, passing all classes, during a sports season that student will be placed on probationary status. If the student fails to meet the grade requirement a second time he/she will be suspended for any games in the coming week to a maximum of two games. The suspension is in effect the school day following notification. If the student fails to meet the requirements a third time during the sports season then he/she will be dismissed from the team. The grade requirements are as follows:

1. In order to participate in an activity or a sport in which he or she represents Eatonville Middle School (EMS) either in a performance or in a competition, a student must have passed all classes in the semester prior to his or her participation in the activity or sport or be passing all classes at each grade check.
2. Middle school eligibility will be checked as follows:
  - a. The first grade check will be two (2) weeks after the start day of the season, using a pass/fail system.
  - b. The second grade check will be conducted at the scheduled progress report.
  - c. The third grade check will be conducted two weeks after the progress report.
  - d. The fourth/last grade check (if needed) will be conducted when quarterly/semester report cards are done (if needed).
3. A student who fails to meet the WIAA grade requirements at the end of a semester, WIAA minimum academic eligibility requirement of passing 5 of 6 classes, shall be placed on WIAA suspension.
  - a. The student shall be ineligible during the suspension period.
  - b. The WIAA mandates the suspension period for middle level students shall be from the end of the **Spring semester through the first three (3) weeks of the Fall semester** and from the end of the **Fall semester through the first three (3) weeks of the Spring semester**.
  - c. If, at the end of the suspension period, the student is passing the classes required above, the student may then be reinstated for interscholastic competition.
  - d. Each student is eligible on Monday of the week following the end of the suspension period.

## C. SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROCEDURES

### Substance Violations:

#### Alcohol and tobacco:

The use or possession of any tobacco product at any time is a substance violation. The carrying of, the distribution of, the possession of, the being under the influence of, or being in proximity to alcohol, is a substance violation. Such violations will be addressed according to the procedures outlined below in the "Procedures for Exclusion from Participation" section. All exclusions may be appealed to a Review Panel. The Review Panel will be comprised of an administrator, an in-season coach/advisor, an out-of-season coach/advisor, the athletic director, and an additional certificated staff person.

#### Procedures for Exclusion From Participation

1. All violations are treated on a school year-by-year basis.
2. First Violation – The student is suspended from performance of competition for four (4) weeks. The student may continue with rehearsals or practices but may not participate in performances or competitions. Upon appeal to a Review Panel, the student may have his or her suspension reduced provided that he or she participate in a learning project in cases involving tobacco and be assessed for substance use by an accredited assessment agency in cases involving alcohol. Any reduction of suspension is up to the judgment of the Review Panel and may vary from case to case.
3. Second Violation – The student is suspended from that activity or sport for the duration of that activity. Upon appeal to a Review Panel, the student may have his or her suspension reduced to no less than three (3) weeks provided he or she does ten (10) hours of community service in cases involving tobacco and enters professional treatment for substance use with the cost to be borne by the family in cases involving alcohol. Any reduction of suspension is up to the judgment of the Review Panel and may vary from case to case.
4. Third Violation – The student is excluded from participation in any Eatonville school activity or sport for remainder of the school year with no chance to appeal for reduction of the suspension.
5. Any student voluntarily admitting to tobacco or alcohol use and seeking help from the school staff will be recommended for assessment by an accredited assessment agency, and the student will be allowed to continue full participation in activities and/or athletics provided he or she seeks treatment within one (1) week of the admission of the violation of the code. Once a student has used this approach to deal with problems of substance use, any subsequent involvement in substance use will be dealt with at the next step called for based on past violations by the student.

#### Prescription drugs (including anabolic steroids) and controlled substances

Violations of this portion of the code are cumulative for the student's middle school career, and then again during the student's high school career. The penalties for the use (unless prescribed by a physician) or sale of prescription drugs and controlled substances are:

1. First Violation: Immediate ineligibility for the remainder of the current sports season. The first exclusion may be appealed to a Review Panel. The Review Panel will be comprised of an administrator, an in-season coach/advisor, an out-of-season coach/advisor, the athletic director, and an additional certificated staff person. Upon appeal to a Review Panel, the student may have his or her suspension reduced provided that he or she be assessed for substance use by an accredited assessment agency, and they follow through with the recommendations of the assessment.

2. Second Violation: Ineligible for a period of one (1) calendar year from the date of the second violation.
3. Third Violation: Permanently ineligible for interscholastic competition.

#### **D. ACTIVITY/ATHLETICS PHOTOGRAPHY RELEASE**

Currently, students who participate in any number of the activities and athletic programs available in the Eatonville School District are photographed. These photographs often appear in newspapers, calendars, and the "Scoop 29" cable channel (available through Rainier Connect). If you do not wish your child/ward's photo to be published, reproduced or used in any manner or form in any medium for the purpose of illustration, advertising, trade, publication or display without restriction or limitation or any compensation during the current season, please contact the main office at 360-879-1400 (middle school) or 360-879-1200 (high school).

#### **E. STUDENT/PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

##### **Parent Expectations**

The role of the parents is to be a support system for the participants, players, teams, coaches, or advisors. This entails respecting the rules and decisions made by those in charge, staying positive about every aspect of the team/activity and by refraining from expressing negative expressions. It also entails respecting the role of the coaches/advisors and knowing not to interfere with that role.

##### **What to do if you have a question or concern:**

Take the time to first think about exactly what your question is. If it ultimately has to do with playing time or strategy, keep it to yourself. Otherwise, follow our three-step process:

1. If appropriate, talk with your son/daughter about your question. What is the perspective of the participant? Can the participant solve the problem himself/herself?
2. Set up a meeting with the coach/advisor if you still have questions. This should be an informational meeting where you ask questions, listen, and have a discussion. Emotions and language must remain professional. Remember that the coach makes decisions for the good of the team based on practice, ability, attitude, and chemistry.
3. If questions remain, set up a meeting with the activity director, coach or advisor, and yourself.

##### **Six simple guidelines for meetings:**

1. Conversation must be in a professional manner with regard to both language and conduct.
2. Everyone gets a chance to talk, but everyone must listen as well.
3. Emotional control by all parties is imperative.
4. Meetings must not occur on game days, but rather by appointment.
5. Parents are welcome to discuss issues that relate to the health or safety of the athlete or ways that the athlete can improve his/her skills.
6. The following topics are inappropriate and will not be discussed:
  - the amount of participation time that the participant is receiving
  - strategies, tactics, methods
  - other participants in the activity

