

CLAYTON SCHOOL DISTRICT Athletic/Co-Curricular Activity Code

This code is in effect for 14 months from the date signed by the parent/guardian and applies to all students in the Clayton School District. Student participation in all athletic/co-curricular activities is on a voluntary basis, but all students are encouraged to participate. Since participation is voluntary, students electing to participate in any manner shall comply with all rules and regulations established by the W.I.A.A. and/or the Clayton Board of Education.

Athlete is defined as: Any student participating in a W.I.A.A. sanctioned sport, or other school-sponsored sporting activities including cheerleading, trap shooting, etc.

Co-Curricular participant is defined as: Any student participating in school-related activities outside of any regular classroom activities, i.e., Student Council, non-graded music activities (solo ensemble, honors band or choir, etc.), E-sports, Forensics, Drama, FFA, FHA, National Honor Society, Visual Arts Club, Art Team, Elected Officers, Courts (Homecoming, Prom, etc.)

1. **Scholastic Requirements:** A student must pass all classes in order to be eligible for athletic/co-curricular participation. This eligibility will be checked at the end of each nine-week quarter. Students failing a class in any quarter will be ineligible during the following quarter. A student will be able to regain eligibility by showing satisfactory improvement in all classes after the lesser of 25% of the competitive season or 22 school days. For co-curricular activities it will be 22 school days. If at the end of an ineligibility period, a student is receiving an incomplete or is failing a course, they are ineligible until such time as the incomplete is made up and/or the student achieves a passing grade. Grades earned during the last nine-week quarter in the spring of the current school year will be used as the basis for determining eligibility for the first nine-week quarter of the next school year, which commences in the same year. (Specific instances such as long-term illness or injury will be reviewed at the discretion of the Administration.)
2. **Attendance:** Attendance in school is the priority of the Clayton School District. Students must be in school or at an approved school related activity all day in order to participate in practices or games. (Exception - an appointment that could not be made at any other time. This will be at the discretion of the Administration/Athletic Director and will need prior approval.) Students that are habitually tardy or absent on days following an event will be held accountable. Students in violation of the School District Attendance Policy may be ineligible for participation in events as determined by the Administration or Athletic Director.
3. **Damage to Equipment and/or Facilities:** Students will be held responsible for the replacement costs for damages to equipment or facilities at home or another school.
4. **Student Travel:** Students will travel only with the group to all events in order to participate (this includes participants and school organized fan groups). Special permission, due to extenuating circumstances, may be given for alternative transportation to an event provided 1) the student rides with his/her parent or guardian, 2) the coach/advisor has been notified in person by the parent or guardian that the student is traveling with them, and 3) a written note signed by the parent or guardian explaining the alternative transportation is received by the coach/advisor prior to the group's departure from the school.

Students will return with the group from all events unless the student's parent or guardian provides alternative transportation by 1) contacting, in person, the coach/advisor at the event to request permission to take the student from the event and 2) the parent or guardian provides a signature confirming the alternative transportation.

5. **Coach/Advisor Rules:** Coaches/Advisors may establish team rules beyond those listed in this policy, but such rules must be consistent with District policies. All students will be given a copy of such rules. Consequences for infractions of these rules will be at the discretion of the coach or advisor and may include restriction in participation, demotion of a position or leadership role, or removal from the team or organization.

6. **Drugs, Narcotics, Alcohol and Tobacco**

A. Use of Illegal Substances or Sale of Drugs, Narcotics, Alcohol and Tobacco:

The use, possession or purchase of illegal drugs, narcotics, alcohol and tobacco is forbidden. (Possession includes holding an illegal substance for someone else, i.e., holding someone's cigarette or beer. Violation of these regulations brought to the attention of the Administration or Athletic Director will be investigated and the alleged violator will be asked for an explanation regarding the complaint. A final decision in regard to disciplinary action will be the responsibility of the Administration or Athletic Director. Resolution levels may be skipped depending on the severity of the infraction. School days include any non-school days on which there is a competition for the sport or activity affected.

Violation of rule #6A shall be dealt with in the following manner:

First Violation: Suspension from 25% of scheduled athletic contests and suspension from all co-curricular activity the student is currently participating in for 30 school days (from the day the Athletic Director determines the student is in violation). Student must also meet with the guidance counselor. The only exceptions would be where a student's conduct/behavior violated terms/rules of organization; i.e. such as National Honor Society, (Their code would be in affect throughout the year.) or as listed in Section 8 below.

Second Violation: Suspension from 50% of the scheduled contests and/or suspension from all co-curricular activities for 60 school days. The student must attend verifiable counseling outside of the school at student and/or parent/guardian's expense.

Third Violation: Suspension for 12 calendar months from all school district sponsored athletic/co-curricular activities and the student must verify enrollment in a certified substance abuse counseling program at student and/or parent/guardian's expense.

Fourth Violation: Permanent suspension for remainder of high school career from all school sponsored athletic/co-curricular activities.

B. Association With Drugs, Narcotics, Alcohol and Tobacco or Other Illegal Activities:

Students are not allowed to attend gatherings where they are in the presence of and/or associating with the use of and/or possession of illegal substances (alcohol, tobacco or drugs) or other illegal activities are taking place by others. (Association means being in direct contact with an illegal act, i.e., being at a party where illegal consumption of alcohol, tobacco or other drugs is occurring. It also includes standing in a group of people who are illegally consuming alcohol, tobacco or drugs.

Students who find themselves at a party or in the presence of illegal activities as outlined above and do not leave or make an effort to leave the premise or party will be held accountable as outlined below. Exceptions to this rule are: family/relative or special gatherings, e.g., weddings, graduation parties, family reunions. These exceptions do not, however, allow the use of alcohol or drugs by any student under this Code. If there is any doubt, please contact the school. A final decision in regard to disciplinary action will be the responsibility of the Administration or Athletic Director. Resolution levels may be skipped depending on the severity of the infraction. School days include any non-school days on which there is a competition for the sport or activity affected.

Violation of rule #6B shall be dealt with in the following manner:

First Violation: Suspension from ALL athletic/co-curricular activities for a period 5 school days from the day the Administration or Athletic Director determines the student was in violation. The only exception would be where a student's conduct/behavior violated terms/rules of organization; i.e. such as National Honor Society, (Their code would be in affect throughout the year.) or as listed in Section 8 below.

Second Violation: Suspension from ALL athletic/co-curricular activities for a period of 10 school days from the day the Athletic Director determines if the student was in violation.

Third Violation: Suspension from ALL athletic/co-curricular activities for a period 20 school days from the day the Athletic Director determines the student was in violation.

Fourth Violation: Suspension from ALL athletic/co-curricular activities for a period 12 months from the day the Athletic Director determines the student was in violation.

7. Other Inappropriate Behaviors

A. WIAA Expectations

The Clayton School District supports the W.I.A.A. request for member schools to include penalties for any other conduct contrary to the ideals, principles and standards of the school and the W.I.A.A., including, but not limited to criminal behavior as defined by state or federal statutes or community ordinances such as: theft, burglary, assault, battery, vandalism, sex offenses, bomb threats, criminal disorderly conduct use or possession of explosive devices including illegal fireworks, or possession or use of a weapon as defined in the student handbook.

The minimum penalty for acts outlined in the W.I.A.A. Handbook, Section 2 of the Code of Conduct, which result in a student being suspended for one (1) or more W.I.A.A. tournament competitions, is immediate disqualification of the student for the remainder of the total tournament series in that sport.

A final decision in regard to disciplinary action will be the responsibility of the Administration/Athletic Director. Violation of rule #7A shall be dealt with using consequences from Rule 6A or 6B at the discretion of the Administration or Athletic Director.

B. Actions Unbecoming an Athlete

Students found participating in activities unbecoming an athlete, including but not limited to, harassment, hazing, bullying, cheating, lying, skipping school, or any other behavior that in the opinion of the coaching staff or administration, is considered insubordinate or inappropriate to standards of conduct, attitude or sportsmanship. Violation of rule #7B shall be dealt with using consequences from Rule 6A or 6B at the discretion of the Administration or Athletic Director.

C. Social Media

Use of social media by students is a personal choice. Students found participating in activities unbecoming an athlete while using social media, including video of activities real or pretend of illegal activity will be grounds for disciplinary action to be taken. Violation of rule #7B shall be dealt with using consequences from Rule 6A or 6B at the discretion of the Administration or Athletic Director.

D. Transfer Students

Transfer students that have all or a portion of an ineligibility period remaining from a former school or athletic association, will be required to complete the suspension before becoming eligible at Clayton School. The Administration and Athletic Director will determine adoption or adaptation of another school district's event suspension.

8. Elected Offices and/or Courts

Specific rules concerning nominations and/or election to selected school sponsored activities; including Homecoming, Winter Carnival and Prom courts, elected offices of various school-sponsored activities and class officer positions. Violations of Sections 6 or 7 of this code by students involved with these activities shall be dealt with in the following manner:

First Violation - Ineligible to serve as a court representative or elected officer for six months from the date of infraction. If elections are held during the ineligibility period the student is ineligible to be nominated or serve as a court or elected officer, even if the actual event will occur after the period of ineligibility.

Second Violation - Ineligible to serve as a court representative or be nominated to serve as an elected representative for 12 months from the date of infraction.

Third Violation - Ineligible for High School career.

9. **Due Process:** Due process recognizes the rights of the individual, since it outlines their recourse in the event they feel a wrong decision has been made. The steps below outline the due process procedure for a student and his or her parents to follow in appealing decisions related to suspension from participation, in a school activity. It should be understood that the student and parents are expected to follow these due process steps in the event that legal action should be initiated at some later date.

Step 1: After a ruling of suspension has been made, a student and/or the student's parents may formally appeal the decision in writing to the District Administrator provided the appeal is received within fourteen (14) days from the first day the suspension becomes effective.

Step 2: The District Administrator, within three (3) days of receipt of such written appeal, shall formalize the suspension decision in writing and send a letter by registered mail to the parents

outlining the specific details relating to (1) violation or infraction, (2) date of violation or infraction, (3) period of suspension, and (4) any other pertinent information.

Step 3: After an appeal has been received and the school's reply has been mailed to the parents, a date for a hearing will be established by the District Administrator. The date for such a hearing will not be later than seven (7) days after receipt of the written appeal of the student's parents or the student. The student is allowed to be present at the hearing, in addition to the District Administrator, Athletic Director and the student's parents/guardians, or legal representative; and if a rule relating to specific activities is involved, the advisor of the activity shall also be present. The student will be provided an opportunity to testify and present other evidence in his or her behalf at the hearing. Proceedings of the hearing, including the decision, will be put in writing and a copy of these proceedings will be mailed to the student and the student's parents.

Step 4: If the student and the student's parents are not satisfied with the findings of the hearing, a second hearing may be requested before the Board of Education. The District Administrator must receive, in writing, a request for such a second hearing within fourteen (14) days of the mailing of the outcome of the original hearing. The same provisions relating to the first hearing will be applicable.

Step 5: If in the case of a W.I.A.A. sanctioned activity, and the parents/guardians and/or student are not satisfied with the decision, they may make a request for a review by the Executive Office of the W.I.A.A. The Athletic Director will provide the steps for this procedure to the student and parents.

Step 6: If in the case of a school activity not related to the W.I.A.A., the student and/or parents not satisfied with the final decision of the Board of Education, may make a request to the courts at their personal expense.

During a suspension from an athletic activity or other co-curricular activities covered by this policy, a student may continue to practice or be a regular participant at meetings during the suspension. Classroom activities for band and choir may continue, but student participation in non-graded performances, contests, etc., will be suspended.

Subsequent violations occurring during a suspension period will cause the disciplinary action to advance to the next step. Additional suspensions will be served consecutively. All violations are cumulative during a student's attendance in grades nine through twelve.

Students found to be in violation of any part of rule 6 or rule 7 will forfeit a portion of their eligibility to letter or receive team or activity awards earned for their participation during the current school year.

Parent/guardian notification of a student's suspension from activities shall be done in writing and a copy will be placed in the student's file. Reductions of suspension will be at the discretion of the Administration/Athletic Director, and may include further verifiable counseling at the parent or guardian's expense.