

## **GOOD CONDUCT RULE**

### **Statement of Philosophy:**

- A. Encouragement of Participation - The Board of Directors of the Center Point-Urbana School District encourage students to participate in the program of co-curricular activities that are offered, recognizing that such activities are of significant educational benefit. These educational benefits are as follows:
- B. The development of good citizenship and moral character.
- C. The development of personal habits aimed at lifetime success.
- D. The promotion of the image and identity of the school and community.
- E. The training for successful life-long careers.
- F. Participation is a privilege; by legal interpretation, participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege extended to students by the citizens and taxpayers of the district.
- G. Participation carries responsibilities: This privilege carries with it a corresponding responsibility to represent the school and community in an appropriate manner. The Directors recognize that participants in co-curricular activities are respected and emulated by the community as a whole. Therefore, a Good Conduct Code is established to set forth behavioral expectations of those students involved in co-curricular activities. Those expectations shall be applicable on a year-round basis.

### **Applicable Activity Programs:**

The following school sponsored extracurricular activities, including but not limited to, are covered:

- A. Athletics
- B. Band & Choir (co-curricular activities that have academic components are not included)
- C. Clubs
- D. Fine Arts/Speech/Drama
- E. Student Council and other elected officers
- F. School Royalty (e.g. Homecoming Court)
- G. Other, similar co-curricular activities that may be added

### **Violations of the Good Conduct Policy:**

Violations of the Good Conduct Policy include but are not limited to the following:

- A. Selling or distributing illegal drugs, alcohol, controlled substances, tobacco products, or imitation substances (also known as “look alike”).
- B. Possessing, using, or being under the influence of illegal drugs, alcohol, controlled substances, tobacco products, imitation substances, e-cigarettes, vaping, or drug paraphernalia.
- C. Possession or distribution of pornographic materials.
- D. Participation in any conduct which is illegal in Iowa except for simple misdemeanor traffic violations or hunting/fishing violations.

- E. Involvement in an altercation in or outside of school, involving charges for malicious intent to harm another individual.

### **Determination of Violation:**

A student may be considered in violation of the Good Conduct Policy by:

- A. Being reported/cited by law enforcement.
- B. Self-reporting or through own admission.
- C. Parents/guardians reporting their child.
- D. Being directly observed by a school employee (agent of the school).

### **Valid Reporters:**

1. All reports and evidence from a reliable source will be investigated by the school administration. Reliable information may include but is not limited to witness statements, police reports, photographs, or information from social networking and/or websites
2. Generally speaking, anonymous reports may be investigated, but necessarily may not be processed based solely on the report itself.
3. Each school administrator will determine the reliability of the reporting source and any evidence presented.

### **Penalties for Violation(s):**

- **First Offense:** Student will miss 20 consecutive calendar days beginning on the day of the student's first competition/performance/activity/event following the violation.
- **Second Offense:** Student will miss 60 consecutive calendar days beginning on the day of the student's first competition/performance/activity/event following the violation.
- **Third Offense:** Student will miss all competitions/performances/activities/events for one calendar year following the violation.
- **Fourth Offense:** Student will miss all activities for the rest of their high school career.

### **Middle School:**

- **First Offense:** Student will miss 10 consecutive calendar days beginning on the day of the student's first competition/performance/activity/event following the violation.
- **Second Offense:** Student will miss 30 consecutive calendar days beginning on the day of the student's first competition/performance/activity/event following the violation.
- **Third Offense:** Student will miss all competitions/performances/activities/events for one calendar year following the violation.
- **Fourth Offense:** Student will miss all activities for the rest of their middle school career.

### **A definition/example of "consecutive calendar days" implementation is as follows:**

*Example: A student is found in violation on a Saturday entering the last regular season football game (week 9). Their 20 days of suspension begins on the following Friday (ie - October 20) which is their first competition following their cited violation. Their period*

*of suspension ends 20 days later (on November 9) following the 20 consecutive calendar days regardless of whether there are additional competitions or not.*

#### **Additional Provisions:**

- **Clean Slate Provision:** A student's "good conduct record" will be wiped clean at the conclusion of the last day enrolled at the middle school level. The student's high school "good conduct record" will begin immediately upon completion of their middle school classes unless they are currently serving a suspension. A student's first violation in high school will be treated as a first offense even if the student has previous violations in middle school.
- **Practice Expectation Provision:** Students are expected to continue practicing with the team during the period of ineligibility at the discretion of the coach/director and Activities Director.
- **Good Standing Provision:** Students are required to begin and complete each season in "good standing" in order to fulfill all requirements to regain eligibility once a participant has violated the good conduct policy. If a participant does not complete a season in "good standing" then the participant will be ineligible for the next activity for which he/she participates and start the period of ineligibility over.
- **Multiple Penalties Provision:** Multiple penalties will be served consecutively. Each penalty begins after the prior one has been served. If a student violates the policy while under suspension, the penalty will begin immediately after he/she would have become eligible. Academic and Good Conduct penalties will be served consecutively (not at the same time).

#### **Determination and Appeal Process:**

A student who has allegedly violated the Good Conduct Rule will be notified of the alleged violation of the Good Conduct Rule, given the information which supports the allegations, and will be given an opportunity to respond. Upon review of all evidence and circumstances, the Activities Director or the Principal will make a decision regarding the alleged violation of the Good Conduct Rule. If the Activities Director or the Principal determines that the student has violated the Good Conduct Rule, the Activities Director or the Principal will then determine a period of ineligibility based on the before-mentioned guidelines.

The penalty will remain in effect during the entire appeal process which generally follows the below organizational flow chart in respect to the Appeals Process:

**Activities Director > Principal > Superintendent > School Board**

Whenever a student is declared ineligible under the Good Conduct Rule, the following procedures shall apply:

1. A conference will be held with the Activities Director or the Principal and the student. At that time, the period of ineligibility and a specific explanation of the reasons for ineligibility will be discussed. The offense and the consequences will thereafter be put in writing and sent to the student and parent(s). If the student or parent(s) do not wish to appeal the ineligibility decision, the Activities Director or Principal's decision will be in effect and be considered final.
2. If the student or parent(s) wish to appeal the Activities Director or the Principal's decision, they must do so in writing to the Superintendent within three (3) business days of the receipt of the Principal's or his/her designee's decision. Any student who is ruled ineligible prior to the appeal will remain ineligible until the appeal process is completed. The Superintendent shall consider the circumstances and evidence of the case and shall make a decision, which will be communicated in writing to the student, parent(s), and the Principal. The decision of the Superintendent shall be made within ten (10) business days following the date on which the appeal was received.
3. If the student or parent(s) wish to appeal the Superintendent's decision, they must do so in writing to the Board of Education within three (3) business days of the receipt of the Superintendent's decision. The review shall be held by the Board at the earliest possible opportunity; however, a special meeting of the board need not be called. The review by the board will be in closed session unless the student's parent (or the student, if the student is 18) requests an open session.

The grounds for review by the School Board are limited to the following:

1. New evidence is presented that indicates that the student did not violate the Good Conduct Rule;
2. The student was given inadequate due process in the investigation and determination; or
3. The penalty is in violation of the Handbook Rule or Board Policy.

If the school board reverses the decision of the administration, the student shall be immediately eligible and shall have any record of the ineligibility period and violation deleted from the student's record.

A student or parent(s) contesting the declared ineligibility of a student based on the rules in this policy may request a formal meeting with the superintendent. They must request the hearing in writing within five (5) days of the meeting with the principal/activities director. All parties shall appear before the superintendent and present their side of the issue. The penalty will be in effect until reviewed by the superintendent. The superintendent will make a determination on the violation.

**Legal References:**

Bunger v. Iowa High School Athletic Assn., 197 N.W.2d 555 (Iowa 1972)

In re Jason Clark, 1 D.P.I. App. Dec. 167 (1978).

Iowa Code §§280.13, .13A (1989).

281 Iowa Admin. Code 11.5(2).

281 Iowa Admin. Code 12.3(8)

**Cross Reference:**

501.03	Compulsory Attendance
503.01	Student Conduct
503.01-R(1)	Student Conduct: Student Suspension
503.04	Good Conduct Rule
504.02	Student Organizations
504.06	Student Activity Program

Reviewed March-April 2023

Approved TBD