



Dear Parent / Guardian

Your son or daughter has expressed a desire to participate in the Athletic Program in the Bridgeport ISD. It is the belief of the coaching staff that athletics can do more for your child than teach him/her to play the sport he/she has chosen.

We believe athletics instills the desire to win, attain personal goals ensuring maximum team effort, builds strength of body, and strength of character. The latter of these qualities determines the success of the first three.

Our Athletics Staff is building on all of the successes that we have had, while also staying progressive in our approach to maximize all of our student athlete's capabilities and character. Our goal is for each athlete that enters our program is that they leave in the best shape, and with the best character possible.

Because of our belief that TEAMwork, dedication, commitment and character are the cornerstones of our program, we have established the following set of guidelines to be followed by all athletes in the Bridgeport ISD.

ALL ATHLETES, REGARDLESS OF SPORT, MUST :

- 1 Abide by all University Interscholastic League (UIL) rule specifications, and abide by local athletic policy.
- 2 Attend every practice session and athletic contest unless ill or emergency situations. (Parents or athlete must call in if the athlete is not attending a practice session.)
- 3 At all times, respond to every situation as a young lady or gentlemen.
- 4 Abide by all Bridgeport ISD, Athletic Department, and campus guidelines and policies.
- 5 Maintain academic intensity to achieve success in the classroom

We ask your cooperation in motivating your son or daughter to observe these rules and the Athletics Code of Conduct. We have discussed these rules with your son or daughter . Please read them, discuss them again with your son or daughter. As parents and coaches we want your child to be the best that they can be, have great experiences and be part of a special group. It is our responsibility as coaches to teach each child dedication, hard-work ethic, and persistency; all of which they will need upon leaving our program. We value and need your support at home to complete this goal. As parents and coaches, together we can create great experiences and special young men and women that are fully capable of successful futures.

Sincerely,

Shannon Wilson
Athletic Director





**BRIDGEPORT ISD
PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS**

The Bridgeport Independent School District believes that a dynamic program of student activities is vital to the educational development of the student.

The Bridgeport ISD Department of Athletics should provide a variety of experiences to enhance the development of positive student habits and attitudes that will prepare them for adult life after they leave our program.

Athletics should function as an integral part of the total curriculum. It is our responsibility to demonstrate a team first environment, promote sportsmanship, and helping our community. We must teach student athletes that hard-work, responsibility, dedication and commitment along with TEAMwork are the keys to success not only in our athletics department; but in the class, outside the school and into their future.

The Bridgeport ISD athletic program is based on the premise that student athletes are students first and that athletic participation is a privilege rather than a right. Students learn teamwork and group responsibility. They also learn to deal with success and to overcome adversity.

**BRIDGEPORT ISD
DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS**

GOALS

- 1 To provide a positive image of athletics in Bridgeport I.S.D. and our community
- 2 To strive always for excellence that will produce winning teams within the bounds of excellent sportsmanship
- 3 To develop high ideals and morals that positively effect our school and community
- 4 To put-forth a well-trained, well behaved, product for our school and community
- 5 To be the example for others to imitate in sportsmanship and effort
- 6 To develop a year round program 6 year program that ensures that athletes that enter our athletics program will be in the best possible condition possible when they graduate
- 7 To promote a "FAMILY" outside of the home environment
- 8 To be together as one great force in which everyone is aware of expectations and everyone is involved and provides input.
- 9 To provide opportunities for student athletes to learn responsibility and communication in preparation for adulthood upon graduation from Bridgeport High School





EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

- 10 To get an education
- 11 To give your total effort, to make the most with what you've got
- 12 To give unselfish respect towards your teammates
- 13 To practice to the best of your ability
- 14 To be totally honest in all your dealings
- 15 To be extremely loyal to your school, administration, teachers, coaches, teammates, families and friends
- 16 To be prompt
- 17 To be courteous
- 18 To always encourage
- 19 To be positive and enthusiastic

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM COACHES

To be loyal to you in all areas

To be totally honest

To provide the leadership and training necessary to achieve our goals

To treat you as a young adult and to love and respect you

To demand that you give your maximum effort

To make all decisions predicated on what is best for the team and then what is best for the individual.

To help you mature and grow as a person

To help you reach your goals





ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

The discipline code for athletes has been developed to comply with the District's Board-approved Bridgeport ISD Student Code of Conduct, but with increased requirements due to the leadership role assumed by athletes. It is the intent of the athletic staff of Bridgeport ISD to emphasize that self-discipline is an integral and essential part of any successful academic and athletic program. Specific definitions of the various levels of discipline violations can be found in the Board-approved Student Code of Conduct which is given to every student at the beginning of the school or when they enroll. Student discipline for infractions at the campus-level may also receive further consequences in regards to athletics.

Make sure athletes understand these 2 statements:

Athletics Program

****the following excludes excused tardies / attendance pre-arranged between head coach and participant

| | | |
|-------------|-------------|--|
| Tardiness: | consequence | form of conditioning or otherwise approved by A.D. |
| Attendance: | consequence | form of conditioning or otherwise approved by A.D. |
| Profanity: | consequence | form of conditioning or otherwise approved by A.D. |

The Infractions that may result in removal from athletics :

| | | |
|----------|------------------------|---------|
| stealing | conduct / behavior | arrests |
| bullying | sub-standard academics | |

Other infractions will result in Board-approved Student Code of Conduct Policies.

Our District has an extra-curricular participant Drug / alcohol testing program, in which all athletes may be tested and the BISD Student Code of Conduct Disciplinary Procedures regarding this will be enforced.

from BISD Student Code of Conduct

Plan

"All students who are participating or plan to participate (male or female) in Bridgeport ISD (grades six through twelve) extra curricular programs must have a Bridgeport ISD Drug Testing Authorization form on file."

QUITTING A SPORT

Any athlete that quits a sport before the season is completed is not allowed to participate in any other sport contests until the previous sport has been completed. Furthermore, the participant will not be eligible for any awards in the sport the he/she quit. Only the athletic director can make an exception to this rule.

REMOVAL FROM ATHLETICS

Any athlete that is removed from our athletics program may be placed in a physical education class. All removals must be approved by the athletic director. Participants may be eligible for re-entry, but must meet with head coach and possibly with parent and athletic director to do so. It is our program's philosophy to uphold the highest standards in which our athletes stand out as great role models for the entire district and community. We must try to rehabilitate the negative element not just eliminate the participant themselves, therefore if a student is removed , there will be heavy consideration to allow students to re-enter.





ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

REGARDING WHAT YOU CONTROL

- It is expected that you are:
- In attendance at all practices / games / contests
 - Prompt to all of the above
 - Respect adults and students
 - wear school issued equipment to practices / games / contests
 - have no facial hair
 - have no body piercings and no visible tattoos (exc. Girls earrings) (exception girls earrings)
 - have no extreme hairstyles, appearance etc.....
 - diligent in the classroom and maintain academic eligibility
 - diligent in taking care of equipment, and responsible for all items taken home or on away trips
 - conduct yourself with class on the playing field (court), in the classroom, halls and in the community

REGARDING EQUIPMENT LOSS

You will be responsible for any equipment issued to you. Take care of this equipment because any equipment that is lost or torn must be replaced. You will be responsible for paying replacement costs on any equipment that is not turned back in or turned in torn etc... This excludes all equipment that is torn/worn due to normal wear within that sport. Please make sure you lock all equipment and ensure that no one is capable of "taking" your equipment. You are responsible for any lost equipment no matter the reason.

REGARDING SPORTS OUTSIDE OF BISD

You may be involved with other club style athletics outside of Bridgeport Athletics. To remain a member of any Bridgeport ISD sport you must attend all practices / games / contests. Failure to attend a Bridgeport ISD sport's practice, game or contest in lieu of any outside of the district sport may result in removal / suspension from Bridgeport Athletics.





REGARDING PARENTS AND COACHES

It is Bridgeport ISD Athletics' policy to ensure that our coaches are professional, positive role models and progressive with trends in their respective sports. Because of this, you son or daughter will receive outstanding coaching. You may or may not agree with your son's or daughter's coach philosophically, and that is understood by our coaching staff. However, our coaches are paid and work extremely long hours to ensure that the direction their sport is headed is in the greatest interest of the team. It is not acceptable for our coaches to change their philosophical beliefs, workouts, and or game plans to suit any parent's philosophy of that particular sport.

In coordination with B.I.S.D. Athletics Goal (9) the PROTOCOL for concerns from a student athlete is for that athlete to meet with coach, and if the issue cannot be resolved then a PARENT COACH conference may occur. We will not have a PARENT COACH conference without a STUDENT COACH conference already have taken place.

Appropriate things to discuss with the coach

- The mental and physical treatment of your child
- What your child needs to do to improve
- Concerns about your child's behavior

Items that should not be discussed with the coach

- Playing time
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Any situation that deals with other athletes

PROTOCOL FOR PARENT COACH CONFERENCE

- Check to see if child has met with coach, then call and set up a meeting
- Think about what you expect to accomplish as a result of the meeting
- Only discuss your son or daughter
- Do not confront the coach before during after a practice or contest

If you have a situation in which you want to discuss items with a particular coach, use these guidelines.

Head Coach

step 1 if problem is not resolved contact A.D.

Athletic Director

step 2

***** to eliminate confusion and a clear understanding of the situation contact the head coach of the particular sport first.

Many things that seem to be huge problems are simply lack of communication and most matters can be solved just by discussing the issue.





I have read and understand the Bridgeport ISD Student Code of Conduct.

athlete

date

parent or guardian

date

Please return to the head coach of your sport. Thank you and BE PROUD TO BE IN BRIDGEPORT

