

Levelland Independent School District

2015-2016 Extracurricular Code of Conduct

1. Extracurricular Activities: General Provisions

What is an Extracurricular Activity?

- < Any University Interscholastic League (UIL), School District, or campus-sponsored or related public performances, events, contests, demonstrations, displays, club activities, athletics, whether on- or off-campus;
- < Any elected offices and honors (such as student counsel and homecoming queen);
- < All co-curricular activities, which are those held in conjunction with a credit-bearing class, but that may take place outside of school and outside of the school day (such as band and choir);
- < All national organizations (such as National Honor Society or Future Farmers of America); and
- < Any activity held in conjunction with another activity that is considered to be an extracurricular activity (such as a meeting, practice, or fundraiser).

Why are Extracurricular Activities Important?

- < They promote self-discipline, responsibility, leadership, teamwork, self-confidence, commitment, and student wellness.
- < They enhance and enrich curricular educational offerings.
- < They offer participants the opportunity to be leaders and role models on campus and in the community.
- < They enable participants to represent the School District in a positive manner.

2. Jurisdiction

Who is Subject to the Extracurricular Code of Conduct?

Any student who participates in one or more extracurricular activities is subject to the Extracurricular Code of Conduct (ECC). A student is subject to the ECC from the time he/she is selected for, elected to, or otherwise joins an extracurricular activity and continues to be subject to the ECC from that point forward unless or until the student no longer participates in extracurricular activities.

When Does the Extracurricular Code of Conduct Apply?

The privilege of representing the School District carries with it a greater responsibility to conduct oneself with respect and dignity, and to serve as a role model for all students. Consequently, extracurricular activity participants are expected to comply with the ECC at all times, regardless of location. This includes both on and off-campus conduct as well as evenings, weekends, holidays, and summer vacation.

3. Conduct Expectations

What is Expected of Extracurricular Activity Participants?

Participants in extracurricular activities are representatives of the School District, and must conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on the School District at all times. Specifically, they must:

- < Maintain an average of 70% or better in all academic courses, except as provided in District policy FM (Legal), and any student who is ineligible to participate in an activity due to poor grades for two consecutive six-weeks grading periods may be removed from extracurricular activities;
- < Be punctual and prepared for all games, practices, meetings, performances, camps, and/or other scheduled events related to an extracurricular activity;
- < Treat all school property with respect and ensure that school property is returned upon request and in good condition (excluding reasonable wear and tear);
- < Abide by the District's dress and grooming standards for students as well as any dress and grooming standards applicable to the specific extracurricular activity;
- < Comply with UIL rules, including those related to random steroid testing, if applicable;
- < Not participate in a second activity if the student has quit another activity until that first activity has concluded;
- < Not participate in another activity for one calendar year if the student has quit two activities in one year.
- < Be courteous and respectful toward all fellow participants, school faculty and staff members, spectators, parents, and officials, whether from Levelland ISD or from any other school district;
- < Provide 24 hours advance written notice to the coach or sponsor of an activity if they are unable to attend a game, practice, meeting, performance, and/or other scheduled event related to the extracurricular activity;
- < Complete safety training and maintain certification as required regarding: the use of automated external defibrillators (AED's), recognizing the symptoms of injuries, and the risks of using dietary supplements;
- < Comply with all rules and guidelines in the ECC and those established for a specific extracurricular activity in which the student participates;
- < Abide by any curfews set by an activity coach, sponsor, or chaperone;
- < Comply with and adhere to the behavioral standards identified in the District's Student Code of Conduct.
- < Behave during team transportation, e.g., they will keep the vehicles clean, will not yell or extend their arms and/or legs out of the windows, or throw any objects inside or outside the vehicle.
- < For athletes suffering from injuries, abide by the following:
 - No student will receive treatment during athletic periods unless injured during that period (exception – students having signed notes from doctor or trainer);
 - The trainer will be on duty 30 minutes before school and one hour after the last practice of the day, and students who are injured must see the trainer at these times or other times as designated by the trainer;
 - Students who do not see the trainer in the morning or after school will be assumed to be healthy and able to return to full workout status, unless notes from a doctor indicate otherwise.
 - All insurance claims for athletic injuries must be routed through the trainer to ensure that any medical expenses are covered by the district's insurance—Parents/student are cautioned not to incur medical expenses of any sort before checking with the trainer.

4. Prohibited Conduct

What Conduct is Prohibited for Extracurricular Activity Participants?

Category A Violations:

- Engaging in theft, destruction, or misuse of school district property;
- Failing to return school property as directed where the property is valued at more than \$50;
- Engaging in hazing, harassment or bullying of others as defined by the Levelland ISD Student Code of Conduct;
- Buying, selling, giving, delivering, using, possessing, or being under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, a controlled substance (without a proper prescription), or a dangerous drug at any time and regardless of whether the student is on school property or at a school-related activity; See Separate Consequences for testing positive under the District's Deterrent to Illegal Drug and Alcohol Use Policy on page 6 and 7.
- Engaging in any unreasonably dangerous athletic technique that unnecessarily endangers the health or safety of a student;
- Maintaining or being identified on a website or blog that depicts behavior that is illegal or is sexual in nature;
- Being depicted on a website or blog wearing a school activity uniform in a manner that tends to bring discredit upon oneself or the District; and
- Engaging in conduct prohibited by the District's Student Code of Conduct that is punishable by placement in DAEP or expulsion.

Category B Violations:

- Being tardy to games, meetings, practices, performances, camps, and/or other events without permission from the activity sponsor or coach;
- Being absent from games, meetings, practices, performances, camps, and/or other events without permission from the activity sponsor or coach;
- Engaging in acts of poor sportsmanship, such as cheating, using profane language, or taunting other participants;
- Being insubordinate to a coach or sponsor;
- Being disruptive during a game meeting, practice, performance, camp, and/or other event;
- Failing to return school district property as directed where the property is valued less than \$50;
- Violating the established rules or guidelines of a specific extracurricular activity in which the student participates;
- Violating the District's standards for dress and grooming or the standards set for the specific extracurricular activity; and
- Engaging in general misconduct prohibited by the District's Student Code of Conduct not resulting in removal to DAEP or expulsion.

Note: Students placed in DAEP are ineligible to participate in or attend extracurricular activities pursuant to Texas Education Code § 37.006(g).

Note: The standards of the ECC are independent of the Student Code of Conduct. Violations of these standards of behavior that are also violations of the Student Code of Conduct may result in a student being disciplined under both standards.

5. Consequences – Option 1

Category A Violations:

First Offense:

The student will lose eligibility and be suspended from competition for a period of **fifteen (15) school days**, following the date the student and parent are notified of the infraction.

During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices, but shall not be allowed to compete or participate in extracurricular activities.

The student will be placed on a behavior contract for twelve (12) weeks.

Second Offense:

The student will lose eligibility and be suspended from competition for a period of **thirty (30) school days**, following the date the student and parent are notified of the infraction.

During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices, but shall not be allowed to compete or participate in extracurricular activities.

Third Offense:

The student will lose eligibility and be suspended from competition for a period of **one calendar year**.

During the period of suspension, the student may not participate in practices or in extracurricular activities.

Fourth Offense:

The student shall be suspended from all extracurricular activities for the **remainder of the student's school career**.

Category B Violations:

First Offense:

The student will receive a verbal warning and reprimand and will be directed to refrain from future violations.

Second and Third Offenses:

The student will be suspended from participation for **at least** the next week's contest(s) and will be placed on a behavior contract for 12 school weeks.

Fourth Offense:

The student will be suspended from participation from **all** extracurricular activities for one full calendar year.

Fifth Offense:

The student's participation in **all** extracurricular activities will be revoked for the remainder of the time the student attends that campus, or any other Levelland ISD campus serving the same grade levels as the campus the student currently attends. For example, the remainder of the student's high school career.

Sixth Offense:

The student's participation in **all** extracurricular activities will be revoked for the remainder of the time the student attends Levelland ISD.

Violations Related to Testing Positive Under the District's Deterrent to Illegal Drug & Alcohol Use Policy

First Offense:

The student will lose eligibility and be suspended from competition for a period of **fifteen (15) school days**, following the date the student and parent are notified of the infraction.

The student will be required to be tested at each random testing for the remainder of the school year.

The student will complete a District-approved drug/alcohol counseling service program at parent/student expense. Proof of completion shall be given to the district before the student will be eligible to compete or participate. The school district will notify the parent and student of drug and alcohol abuse prevention resources available in the area.

During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices, but shall not be allowed to compete or participate in extracurricular activities.

The student will be placed on a behavior contract for twelve (12) weeks.

Second Offense:

The student will lose eligibility and be suspended from competition for a period of **thirty (30) school days**, following the date the student and parent are notified of the infraction.

The student will be required to be tested at each random testing for the remainder of the school year.

The student will complete a District-approved drug/alcohol counseling service program at parent/student expense. Proof of completion shall be given to the district before the student will be eligible to compete or participate. The school district will notify the parent and student of drug and alcohol abuse prevention resources available in the area.

During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices, but shall not be allowed to compete or participate in extracurricular activities.

Third Offense:

The student will lose eligibility and be suspended from competition for a period of **one calendar year**.

The student will be required to be tested at each random testing for the remainder of the school year.

The student will complete a District-approved drug/alcohol counseling service program at parent/student expense. Proof of completion shall be given to the district before the student will be eligible to compete or participate. The school district will notify the parent and student of drug and alcohol abuse prevention resources available in the area.

During the period of suspension, the student **may not** participate in practices or in extracurricular activities.

Fourth Offense:

The student shall be suspended from all extracurricular activities for the **remainder of the student's school career**. The school district will notify the parent and student of drug and alcohol abuse prevention resources available in the area.

Definition: "weeks" means school weeks, but also includes any non-school weeks in which an extracurricular competition or event occurs, such as camps during the summer or on school holidays.

Definition: "suspension" means that the student will not be permitted to participate in any competition, contest, scrimmage, performance, or election associated with an extracurricular activity. The student may continue to participate in practices.

Note: An extracurricular activity participant starts each school year with a clean slate, unless he or she had participation in extracurricular activities revoked during the previous school year, in which case that revocation continues from year to year. In addition, any consequences that were assessed during the prior school year for which the student owes additional suspension or behavior contract time must still be completed. For example, a student who was suspended from participation for 15 school days during the last week of school will have to make up the additional uncompleted days of suspension beginning with the next school year.

6. Procedures

Who Determines that a Violation of the ECC has Occurred?

The activity sponsor or coach will determine whether a violation of the ECC has occurred and will assess the appropriate consequence. ECC violations that also constitute violations of the District's Student Code of Conduct will be assessed by the student's campus principal or designee.

How will Consequences be Assessed for Different Violations of the ECC?

Consequences for violating the District's ECC are assessed based on the severity of the violation and the commission of prior ECC violations.

Is a Student Entitled to Participate in Extracurricular Activities?

No. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right. As such, a student's participation may be revoked at the District's discretion.

How Will Parents be Notified that a Violation of the ECC has Occurred?

Parents will be notified of all violations *that result in suspension from participation* in extracurricular activities. The activity sponsor or coach will contact the student and the student's parent via telephone or face-to-face conference within 5 school days from the time the activity sponsor or coach learns of such a violation. At this time, the activity sponsor or coach will inform the parent and student that a violation of the ECC has occurred, discuss with them the applicable consequences, and give the student an opportunity to respond to the allegations.

What if a Parent Does Not Agree with the Decision?

All appeals will be addressed through the District's complaint process, contained in policies FNG (Legal) and (Local). A decision of the Levelland ISD Board of Trustees regarding an extracurricular activity complaint is final and is not appealable.

7. Acknowledgment

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by Levelland ISD's Extracurricular Code of Conduct for the 2015-2016 school year. I understand that I will be held accountable for the behavior expectations and consequences outlined in the Extracurricular Code of Conduct. I understand that by participating in extracurricular activities, I am a representative of Levelland ISD and a role model to my peers and throughout the community; therefore, the Extracurricular Code of Conduct governs my behavior at all times, and applies both on and off school property. I understand that the behavior expectations of the Extracurricular Code of Conduct are in addition to those included in the Levelland ISD Student Code of Conduct. I understand that violations of the behavior standards of the Extracurricular Code of Conduct that are also violations of the Student Code of Conduct may result in my being disciplined under both the Extracurricular Code of Conduct and the Student Code of Conduct.

*Note: this acknowledgment form is in effect as long as the student is enrolled in Levelland ISD and participates in extracurricular activities.

Student Name:

Parent/Guardian Name:

Campus:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Grade Level:

Date:

Student Signature:

Date:

**Levelland ISD Extracurricular Activity Participant
Behavior Contract [SAMPLE]**

I, _____ [student name], a participant in _____

_____ [list
extracurricular activity(ies)] agree to abide by the Extracurricular Code of Conduct, including all
conduct expectations and the consequences. I understand that my participation in
extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right, and that I am a representative of the
school district and a role model for my fellow students as a member of such extracurricular
activities. Because of my standing as a representative of the school and a role model, I am held
to a higher standard of behavior than those students who do not participate in such activities.

I recognize that I violated those standards by engaging in the following violation(s) of the
Levelland ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct: _____

_____ [student should
describe violations in detail].

I understand that my continued participation in extracurricular activities is contingent upon my
successful completion of this Behavior Contract.

I pledge to do the following: _____

Deadline for completion: _____

I understand that if I do not successfully complete this contract by the specified deadline, I will
be suspended from participation in extracurricular activities for the remainder of the current
school year. I understand that if the end of the current school year is within four school weeks
of the deadline for completion listed above, failure to successfully complete this Behavior
Contract will result in my suspension for the remainder of the current school year in addition to
the entirety of the next semester.

Student Name:

Parent Name:

Student Signature:

Parent Signature:

Date:

Date:
