



Unified School District 268

Parent and Coach Communication Guidelines

Research has shown that students involved in extra-curricular activities have greater chances for success during adulthood. That is the premise for the creation and continued existence of athletic and activity programs in the middle and secondary schools. The character traits required to be a successful participant are similar to those that will promote a successful life after high school. We believe the information provided here will help enhance your child's experience in Cheney schools.

Belief Statement

Involvement in the athletic/activity program at USD 268 schools can be one of the most rewarding experiences of your child's life. It is important to remember that there may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At those times, discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with a coach:

- The physical, emotional, and/or mental treatment of your child.
- Ways to help your child improve.
- Concerns about your child's behavior.

It can be difficult to accept your child's role and playing time on the team. Coaches are professionals. They make judgments and decisions based on what they see in practice every day and what they believe is in the best interest of the team as a whole. The USD 268 administration believes those specific issues must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues not appropriate to discuss with a coach:

- Playing time
- Starting line-up
- Other student athletes

By following the stated guidelines, the USD 268 believes that your child will have a positive experience and gain valuable tools to help them become successful and productive adults through participation in athletics and activities.

The parent/coach relationship

Parenting and coaching are both difficult vocations. By establishing and understanding each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the others and provide greater benefit to children. As parents, when your children become involved in our program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. The process begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

Communication you should expect from your child's coach:

- Philosophy of the coach.
- Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the team.
- Locations and times of all practices and contests.
- Team requirements such as substance abuse policies, transportation policies, attendance policies, special equipment needs, off-season conditioning expectations, etc.
- Procedures to follow should your child be injured during participation.
- Team or school discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation.

Communication coaches expect from parents:

- Concerns should be expressed directly to the coach.
- Notification of any schedule conflict well in advance of the date of the event.
- Specific concerns regarding a coach's philosophy, rules, and other program or team expectations.

If you have a concern to discuss with a coach, this is the proper procedure to follow:

- Call the school office to set an appointment with the coach. If the coach cannot be reached at that time, please leave a message for the coach to return your call.
- If the coach does not return your call, or you cannot reach an agreement on a time to meet, call the school office and ask for the athletic director who will take the responsibility of scheduling a meeting.
- Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a practice or contest. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.

If you feel the meeting with the coach did not provide enough information or a satisfactory solution, follow this procedure:

- Call the school office and ask to set up an appointment with the athletic director to discuss the situation.
- At this meeting, if a resolution has not been reached, the appropriate next step can be discussed.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

USD 268 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or handicap in admission or access to, treatment or employment in its programs and activities.

***USD 268 District Schools
Athletics/Activities
Substance Abuse Policy***

Philosophy Statement:

- Students participating in athletics and/or KSHSAA/USD268 activities will not use or possess tobacco, alcohol/illegal drugs, or substances that are harmful or dangerous to a student(s) health. Because the use of alcohol, illegal drugs, and tobacco is detrimental to the health and welfare of any student and because the use of alcohol and illegal drugs and the purchase of tobacco is illegal for adolescents in the state of Kansas, Cheney School District administrators, coaches and activity sponsors believe that the use or possession of the above substances is unacceptable.
- Students participating in KSHSAA and USD 268 activities are subject to USD 268 rules of conduct as it relates, but is not limited to the use, distribution or possession of tobacco, illegal drugs and alcohol on school property or at school-sponsored events.
- Verified violations which occur other than at school sponsored activities will adversely affect the student's level of participation in a KSHSAA and/or a USD 268 athletic/activity.
- Violation of these regulations may be verified by a school administrator, a staff member, the police, or upon verification by the parents of the accused student and/or the admission of the student/athlete or co-curricular student.
- The administrative options listed in the USD Activities Handbook for implementation of consequences represent minimum consequences. Each administrator may determine whether the violation warrants more stringent consequences.
- USD 268 adheres to the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act for additional disciplinary action concerning particular cases.

***USD 268 District Schools support the
KSHSAA Citizenship/Sportsmanship
Statement Rule 52***

Philosophy

Activities are an important aspect of the total education process in the American schools. They provide an arena for participants to grow, to excel, to understand and to value the concepts of **SPORTSMANSHIP** and teamwork. They are an opportunity for coaches and school staff to teach and model **SPORTSMANSHIP**, to build school pride, and to increase student/community involvement; this ultimately translates into improved academic performance. Activities are also an opportunity for the community to demonstrate its support for the participants and the school, and to model the concepts of **SPORTSMANSHIP** for our youth as respected representatives of society.

***Sportsmanship is good citizenship in action!
Section 1: General Regulations***

Art 1: **SPORTSMANSHIP** is a general way of thinking and behaving. The following sportsmanship policy items are listed below for clarification:

- a. Be courteous to all (participants, coaches, officials, staff, and fans).
- b. Know the rules, abide by and respect the official's decisions.
- c. Win with character and lose with dignity.
- d. Display appreciation for good performance regardless of the team.
- e. Exercise self-control and reflect positively upon yourself, team, and school.
- f. Permit only positive sportsmanlike behavior to reflect on your school or its activities.

**ALL ACTIONS are to be
FOR, not against;
POSITIVE, not negative
or disrespectful!**