

EXTRA/COCURRICULAR STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR

Student participation in extracurricular activities is encouraged. Rockwall ISD makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program, with an important difference: participation in the regular curriculum is a right afforded to each student, while participation in the extracurricular program is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable conduct. Students who engage in extracurricular activities represent not only themselves, but also other students and the District when performing, competing, or participating in extracurricular activities and while wearing uniforms or other clothing that identifies the student to the community or public in any setting as a Rockwall ISD student. Behavior must be exemplary and reflect the finest attributes of the Rockwall ISD student body at all times and in all places.

Important goals of the extracurricular program are to give students direction in developing self-discipline, responsibility, pride, loyalty, leadership, teamwork, respect for authority, and healthy living habits.

Since participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right, Rockwall ISD is authorized to set higher standards for participants of extracurricular activities than for students who choose not to participate in extracurricular activities. The expectations for extracurricular activities extend beyond the Rockwall ISD Student Code of Conduct, not only in types of behavior prohibited, but also in corresponding consequences and jurisdiction for imposing discipline. Extracurricular expectations apply to all students participating in extracurricular activities, regardless of whether:

- School is in session;
- The offense occurs on or off school property or at a school-related event;
- The student is directly involved with the extracurricular activity at the time the prohibited conduct occurs;
- The extracurricular activity is in-season; and regardless of where or when the conduct occurs.

It is possible that a student who violates the Rockwall ISD Student Code of Conduct will incur consequences from both the appropriate school administrator and from his or her coach or sponsor for the same particular violation. It is also possible that a student participating in extracurricular activities may violate the Extracurricular Expectations and be subject to discipline or sanctions by a coach or sponsor without having violated the Rockwall ISD Student Code of Conduct. [*Cheerleading and Drill Team Legal Issues*, Presentation by Schwartz & Eichelbaum, P.C., 2007]

Procedures

Coaches and sponsors will review all facts and circumstances surrounding a particular event and determine appropriate disciplinary action or sanctions. FO (LOCAL)

- 1st offense – Parent/student/sponsor conference to discuss the event, possible sanctions*.
- 2nd offense –Parent/student/sponsor conference to discuss the event, sanctions*, possible dismissal.
- 3rd offense –Parent/student/sponsor conference to discuss the event, sanctions*, possible dismissal.

Any event may be serious enough to result in removal from the extracurricular activity at any step. Dismissal will be determined by the parent/student/sponsor conference on the second and third offense.

*Sanctions may include but are not limited to: physical activity, bench time, loss of playing or performance opportunities.

Nothing in the Extra/Cocurricular Standards of Behavior section limits the authority of a sponsor to impose reasonable sanctions for students who breach program conduct expectations but do not engage in prohibited conduct. Signing the *Parent/Student Acknowledgement Form* verifies your receipt and agreement to the expectations outlined in the *Extra/Cocurricular Standards of Behavior* section.

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR

Each extra/cocurricular activity may have specific conduct expectations in addition to the expectations outlined in the *Extra/Cocurricular Standards of Behavior*. The expectations outlined in the Individual Standards of Behavior documents in each handbook are specific to each program and will be developed and approved by the sponsor and principal. The document will be disseminated to students and parents during orientation.

PERMANENT DISMISSAL

Reasons for permanent dismissal but are not limited to:

- Expulsion;
- Failure to meet behavior expectations in the *Extra/Cocurricular Standards of Behavior*;
- Unexcused absence for more than two times over the course of the fall/spring season; and
- Violations as outlined in the *Rockwall Public Schools Activity Student Drug Testing Policy*;

The RISD Student Handbooks are designed to be in harmony with RISD Board of Trustees' Policy, the Student Code of Conduct and University Interscholastic League rules and guidelines. The RISD guidelines are reviewed annually. Changes and revisions will be made available to students and parents. [See FN (LOCAL)]