

## **KENTON CITY SCHOOLS EXTRACURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT**

Kenton City Schools (KCS) makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program, with this 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. This privilege can be taken away if a student violates this Extracurricular Code of Conduct or the Student Code of Conduct.

Students engaging in extracurricular activities represent not only themselves, but also other students and the District whether or not they are actively performing, competing, or participating in extracurricular activities and whether or not they are wearing uniforms or other clothing that identifies the student to the community or public in any setting as KCS students. For this reason, their behavior must be exemplary and reflect the finest attributes of the total KCS student body at all times and places. This Code of Conduct applies at all times to participating students, whether on or off school property. 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.

The District shall post this policy in a central location in our school and each student shall receive and acknowledge receipt of this policy before the beginning of a sport or activity.

### **I. Extracurricular Activities**

The term “extracurricular activities” means, without limitation, all interscholastic athletics, cheerleading, drill team, clubs, top 20, dimensions, student government and any other activities or groups that participate in contests, competitions, or otherwise on behalf of or as representatives of KCS. The term includes any non-curricular event or membership or participation in groups, clubs, and organizations recognized or approved by the Board of Education.

### **II. Jurisdiction**

Because participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right, KCS is authorized to set higher standards than it would for those students who choose not to participate in these activities. Therefore, this Code of Conduct extends beyond building Student Code of Conduct not only in types of behavior prohibited, but also in corresponding consequences and jurisdiction for imposing discipline.

This Code of Conduct will be enforced with all students grades 7th-12th participating in extracurricular activities, regardless of:

- whether school is in session;
- whether the student is directly involved with the extracurricular activity at the time the prohibited conduct occurs;
- where or when the conduct occurs during the season.

A student who violates the Student Code of Conduct may incur consequences from the appropriate school administrator and also from his or her coach or advisor for the same violation. (For example, a student who is suspended or expelled from school shall not participate in or attend any extracurricular activities for the duration of the suspension or expulsion.) A student participating in extracurricular activities also may violate this Code of Conduct and be subject to discipline by a coach or advisor even if the student's violation does not also violate the Student Code of Conduct.

### **III. Prohibited Conduct Involving Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco**

Except as otherwise noted, KCS counts violations separately during the middle school years and high school years; therefore, all students start their high school years with no violations. All violations are cumulative from season to season.

KCS students who participate in extracurricular activities are prohibited at all times from:

- Selling or distributing drugs/alcohol;
- Using or possessing materials for smoking or tobacco in any form;
- Using or possessing alcoholic beverages;
- Using or possessing mind altering and body enhancing substances that are not prescribed by a physician;
- Attending or remaining at any activity where illegal alcohol consumption is occurring;
- Attending or remaining at any activity where prescription or non-prescription drugs are being misused, or where other mood-altering substances are being used.

#### *PENALTIES*

##### Selling or Distributing Drugs or Alcohol:

Any student selling or distributing drugs or alcohol may be denied participation in extracurricular activities for a minimum of one calendar year and a maximum of the rest of their high school and (if applicable) middle school years.

##### Using or Possessing Drugs, Alcohol or Tobacco:

1. **First Violation** – If the athletic director or principal finds a student guilty of a first violation, the student shall be denied participation in extracurricular activities for a period of one calendar year from the date of determination of guilt.

The athletic director or principal, upon request of a student, may reduce the one year denial of participation if the student:

- A. Elects to participate in a drug or alcohol/tobacco assessment program approved by the Kenton City School administration.
- B. Fully participates and cooperates with the approved program.
- C. Provides proof from the program stating the student has cooperated and is continuing to cooperate with said agency, and rejoining the extracurricular activity will not be detrimental to the student's recovery process.

Provided the above is followed by the student, the following penalty will be imposed:

A reduced denial of participation shall be immediately imposed and may be for no less than twenty percent of the student's current and/or next occurring extracurricular activity. Attendance at practice will still be required.

2. **Second Violation** – The student will be excluded from further extracurricular participation for the remainder of the activity and will be required to attend an approved drug, alcohol or tobacco assessment program prior to further participation in any other extracurricular activities. If the student does not comply with the foregoing requirements, the athletic director or principal shall deny the student participation in extracurricular activities for the remainder of the student's high school and (if applicable) middle school career.

3. **Third Violation** – Will result in the denial of participation in extracurricular activities for the remainder of the student's high school and (if applicable) middle school career.

#### *SELF-REFERRAL*

Students participating in extracurricular activities may take advantage of a one-time self-referral to seek information, counseling, and assessment in regard to the student's use of tobacco products, alcohol, and/or other drugs. A self-referral does not carry punitive consequences. Self-referrals also:

1. Are allowed only one time in a student's school career;
2. Must be reported by the student or a member of the immediate family;
3. Cannot be used by a student as a method to avoid consequences after the this code of conduct already has been violated and such violation has been reported;
4. Must be reported to a coach, advisor, athletic director, administrator, guidance counselor, or alcohol and drug abuse counselor.
5. Do not apply to any other Student Code of Conduct or Code of Conduct violations (i.e., those not involving tobacco, drugs, or alcohol).

#### **IV. Additional Expectations**

A student's failure to meet the following expectations will result in counseling by the student's coach or advisor, or other consequences up to and including a denial of participation in any or all extracurricular activities for up to one (1) full school year.

- **Conduct:** KCS expects all students to conduct themselves with self-discipline, self-control, and respect for authority at all times. Students shall follow all school rules and procedures, and shall be held accountable for their actions. Students should "think" before they "act."
- **Attendance:** Students shall not be truant or tardy to class or an extracurricular practice/event. This commitment may include holidays and non-school days. A student should call the coach or advisor in advance if an absence is unavoidable. Students must be in school for at least ½ the day to participate in an activity. Upon receiving advance notice, the athletic director or principal has discretion to grant exceptions for reasons such as medical or dental appointments, court appearances, family emergencies, or any other circumstances deemed appropriate. Students on suspensions may not practice or engage in an activity.

- Profanity: KCS does not allow the use of profane or obscene language.
- Injury: Students or their parents must report all injuries immediately to the student's coach or advisor. A student who has been injured and received medical treatment cannot participate in an activity until the student presents a signed release from a health care provider to the athletic director or principal.
- Eligibility: For all Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) sanctioned interscholastic athletics, OHSAA rules apply in all matters concerning eligibility, transfer, physical examinations, insurance coverage, starting dates, and use of school equipment.
- Promptness: Students shall always be on time to practices, meetings, and games.
- Equipment and facilities: Students shall be responsible and take care of equipment and facilities. Students are responsible for any school-owned property they check out. Students and their parents or legal custodians shall be responsible for the repair or replacement of any property that is broken or destroyed due to the student's misuse or negligence.
- Travel: Students shall travel on school transportation to and from contests or performances away from KCS when transportation is provided by the school, unless the student's advisor or coach grants prior approval for other transportation arrangements.
- Respect for coaches and teachers: Students shall treat coaches and teachers with respect, and in return they will treat students with respect.
- Stealing: Students shall not take property that does not belong to them. Students who violate this rule shall face severe consequences.
- Fighting: Students shall not engage in any fighting or physical altercations that cause or threaten to cause harm to another person at any time.
- Hazing/Bullying: KCS shall not tolerate hazing or bullying in extracurricular activities.
- Activity/Team Rules: A student's head coach or advisor may establish activity rules, expectations and consequences that are approved by the athletic director or principal.
- Dropping An Activity Or Team: Students who are suspended from or quit one activity shall not be eligible to compete in another activity for that season. However, any student who is not selected for an activity may try out for another activity during the same season.
- Delinquent or Criminal Misconduct: Students shall lose the privilege of participation if convicted of, or pled no contest or guilty to, any criminal offense, or if adjudicated as a delinquent for a comparable juvenile offense at any time during the previous twelve (12) months.

Students who violate the Student Code of Conduct or individual extracurricular rules developed by an activity's coach or advisor may face penalties, up to and including denial of participation for a season, depending upon the severity of the offense.

## **V. PROCEDURES**

### **Addressing Concerns**

Students and/or the student's parent or legal guardian who have a concern with any facet of the KCS Extracurricular Code of Conduct must follow these procedures:

1. The student should first contact the Advisor or Coach to discuss the situation. Face to Face communication during regular school hours is always the preferred method.
2. If resolution can not be found, the student's parent or legal guardian should contact the Advisor or Coach to discuss the situation.

3. If necessary, following the discussion with the Advisor or Coach, the student's parent or legal guardian should contact the Athletic Director.
4. If you feel aggrieved after completing the above actions (step 1 through 3), you may request an informal conference with the principal for the purpose of resolving the concern.

#### Permanent Denial of Participation from an extra-curricular activity

If a student is permanently denied the right to participate in an extracurricular activity, the student shall be given notice of the reasons for the denial and an opportunity to respond as a matter of courtesy. The student's coach or advisor may present the charges to the student.

Before the permanent denial of participation is imposed, the athletic director or principal shall follow these procedures:

1. The student shall be given written notice of the intended permanent denial of participation (form 5610.05 F1).
2. The student or student's parent or legal custodian may contact the student's advisor or coach to discuss the intended [permanent denial of participation.
3. If the student or student's parent or legal custodian still feels aggrieved after completing the above actions (Steps 1 and 2), they shall be afforded an opportunity to appear at an informal conference with the athletic director or principal to challenge the reasons for the permanent denial or to otherwise explain the student's behavior.
4. If a denial of participation is imposed, the athletic director or principal shall give the student a written notice of the permanent denial, including the reasons for the permanent denial and the beginning and ending dates of the denial. The decision in this written notice shall be final, and shall not be subject to further notice, hearing or appeal rights.

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We as student participants and parents understand and assume the responsibility of following the above Extracurricular Code of Conduct.

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_