

## DECATUR INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT EXTRACURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT

The Decatur Independent School District (“DISD” or “the District”) encourages student participation in extracurricular activities. DISD makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program with this important difference: while participation in the regular curriculum is a right afforded to each student, participation in the extracurricular program is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable 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 DISD students. For this reason, their behavior must be exemplary and reflect the finest attributes of the total DISD student body at all times and 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.

### **I. Extracurricular Activities/ School Sponsored Activities**

The term “extracurricular activities” as used in this Code means all activities sanctioned by the Texas University Interscholastic League (“UIL”) and for which the UIL conducts interscholastic competitions including sports, music and academic teams. In addition, the term “extracurricular activities” includes, but is not limited to, power lifting, cheerleading, drill team, Student Council, National Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, Yearbook, Newspaper, Debate, FFA, Mock Trial, PALS, SADD, athletics, band, and choir.

### **II. Jurisdiction**

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

**\* This code applies at all times and applies to conduct on or off campus, while participating in an activity or not, during the school calendar year, and during holidays, summer, and weekends.**

**\* Each organization may enforce additional consequences if addressed in their individual constitutions.**

### **III. Prohibited Conduct.**

- DISD students who participate in extracurricular activities are prohibited at all times from:
- Possessing, using, or issued a citation for tobacco products;
- Possessing, consumption, or issued a citation for alcoholic beverages
- Possessing, consumption, or issued a citation for illegal drugs or any drug paraphernalia;
- Misusing prescription drugs or non prescription drugs or other mood-altering substances;
- Commission of an unlawful act

NOTE: Attendance at social events (i.e. wedding reception, a professional sporting event) where alcohol is served to adults is not a violation of this Code because alcohol is not being served illegally.

#### **IV. Alcohol, tobacco products, drugs and paraphernalia**

##### **TOBACCO**

The first violation will result in:

1. Placed on one week (calendar) suspension from all activities and clubs, but must be present during regular practice time.
2. Parent conference scheduled as soon as possible to review action taken and discuss referral for counseling.
3. School provided or documented counseling.

A second violation involving tobacco occurring any time during a student's high school career will result in a three week (calendar) suspension from all activities and clubs, but must be present during regular practice time.

Each subsequent violation involving tobacco occurring any time during a student's high school career will result in a six week (calendar) suspension from all activities and clubs, but must be present during regular practice time.

##### **ALCOHOL, DRUGS, LOOK-A-LIKE DRUGS, AND PARAPHERNALIA**

The first violation will result in:

1. Placed on a three week (calendar) suspension from all activities and clubs, but must be present during regular practice time.
2. Parent conference scheduled as soon as possible to review action taken and discuss referral for counseling.
3. School provided or documented counseling before returning.

A second violation involving alcohol, drugs, look-a-like drugs, or paraphernalia occurring any time during a student's high school career will result in a six week (calendar) suspension from all activities and clubs, but must be present during regular practice time.

Each subsequent violation involving alcohol, drugs, look-a-like drugs, or paraphernalia occurring any time during a student's high school career will result in dismissal from all extra- curricular activities for one calendar year.

Suspension from organization/ activity will begin from the date of the administrative conference.

#### **V. Commissions of an Unlawful Act**

##### **COMMISSION OF AN UNLAWFUL ACT**

A serious, unlawful act (i.e. theft, destruction of property, etc.) could result in suspension from all extra-curricular activities. Administrative discretion will be used due to the broadness of this.

#### **VI. Establishing Violation**

Violations of this policy may be established by:

1. Student admission
2. Admission by the parent/ guardian of a student
3. Violation witnessed by DISD staff member
4. Issuance of a local agency report or citation