

DALLAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #327

ATHLETIC/EXTRA-CURRICULAR/CO-CURRICUAR POLICIES

2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

I. PHILOSOPHY

A. General

1. We believe that athletics and other extra-curricular activities are an integral and vital part of the total curriculum and educational process of the school. Athletics and extra-curricular activities are thought of as “co-curricular” because of the close link to the district’s educational process.
2. It is understood that participation in any extra-curricular activity is a privilege, not a right. Therefore, students who choose to participate in any extra-curricular activity are expected to maintain habits and behaviors that will reflect favorably on themselves, their families and the Dallas Elementary School District #327.
3. Extra-curricular activities are defined as athletic teams, clubs, organizations or events not included in the regular graded curriculum: provided, however that no event shall be included in the graded curriculum merely for the purpose of avoiding the application of this policy.

B. Goals

These policies are designed to promote the following goals:

1. To abide by the rules of the Illinois Elementary School Association (IESA) as well as the policies and regulations set forth by the Dallas Elementary School District #327.
2. To teach the benefits of teamwork and cooperation as well as to develop a competitive character and to maintain high standards of sportsmanship.
3. To teach and encourage appropriate health and safety practices in all activities including good nutrition and health habits as well as the use of training rules and regulations which promote personal and team fitness.
4. To promote Dallas Elementary School District #327 athletic programs that enhances and benefits the athletic and extra-curricular programs of the District.

C. Interscholastic Philosophy Statement/Guidelines

We believe interscholastic athletics and extra-curricular activities are an integral part of the total curriculum of the school. It is believed the following statements reflect our philosophy:

1. Activities must be for all boys and girls who wish to participate.
2. Athletics and extra-curricular must be educational and contain learning experiences that fit into the overall educational program; be controlled by school authorities, both local and state; and have been duly appointed by the School Board.
3. At the 5th/6th grade level the emphasis will be on fun, physical development, skills, social experience, and good sportsmanship.

4. At the 7th/8th grade level the emphasis will be placed on achieving team goals, therefore, students will participate in most, but not all, games.
5. Students will play at their grade level unless circumstances warrant a move to a higher level.

D. Sports and Activities

Boys' Baseball	Boys' Basketball (5/6)	Girls' Basketball (5/6)
Track and Field (5-8)		Student Council (5-8)
Girls' Volleyball (5/6)		Scholastic Bowl (5-8)
Band & Chorus (6-8)		Speech (6-8)
Drama (6-8)		Cross Country (5-8)

E. Cooperative Athletic Teams

In the event that the Dallas Elementary School District #327 is fielding an athletic team in cooperation with another school district, an agreement must be reached as to the regulations to be used for that sport. Dallas Elementary School District #327 participants who wish to participate in a co-op sport will be expected to comply with the rules reached in that agreement.

Co-op agreements have been made with LaHarpe for the following sports:

- Boys' Baseball (7th and 8th)
- Boys' Basketball (5/6 and 7/8)
- Girls' Basketball (5/6 and 7/8)
- Girls' Volleyball (5/6 and 7/8)
- Track and Field (5th, 6th, 7th and 8th)
- Scholastic Bowl (5th, 6th, 7th and 8th)
- Cross Country (5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th)

F. Admission fees to sports events (subject to change)

Adults \$ 3.00 Students \$ 2.00 Senior Citizen \$ 2.00

II. RULES IN EFFECT

The rules set forth in this Athletic Code are in effect throughout the school year from the first practice session for any particular sport during a particular school term until the last day of that sport or until the last day of the school term whichever comes last and for twenty-four hours a day, whether or not school is in session and including vacation periods, and holidays. These rules apply on and off campus and for any misconduct at school or school sponsored activity or in some other locale.

III. INCLEMENT WEATHER

1. If school is cancelled due to weather conditions, all athletic and extra-curricular activities will be cancelled. If weather conditions worsen on a Saturday or later in the evening, the decision to cancel will be made by the athletic director or administrator. Coaches and media will be notified of the cancellation. Parents will receive a school all-call message.

2. All athletic practices and games/events are canceled on days when school is dismissed early or not in session due to weather conditions.
3. Under certain circumstances, a game may be played the night school is canceled due to weather at the discretion of the administration.

IV. SPORTSMANSHIP

A. General

1. Good sportsmanship is fundamental to all interscholastic sports and activities. The teaching and practice of good sportsmanship is one of the major goals of all sports and extra-curricular activities.
2. The Board of Education expects that good sportsmanship will be exhibited consistently by all representatives of District #327 (fans, participants, parents/guardians, coaches/sponsors and other staff).
3. Both the IESA hold the School District and District administrators responsible for good sportsmanship in all athletic and extra-curricular activities.

A. Good sportsmanship is shown both by attitudes and by actions.

Examples of specific actions that demonstrate good sportsmanship include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Cheering for good effort and performance.
2. Congratulating opponents for good performance.
3. Maintaining a highly competitive attitude without degrading or insulting opponents.
4. Willingly accepting the instructions and judgment of proper officials.
5. Learning the rules and strategies of the game or activity.
6. Playing by the rules of the game or contest.
7. Treating opposing players and coaches with respect.
8. Treating judges, referees and other officials with respect. This does not preclude appropriate questions or challenges to referees or other officials in the manner prescribed in the rules for the activity or event.

B. Poor sportsmanship is shown both by attitudes and by actions.

Examples of specific actions that demonstrate poor sportsmanship include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Inappropriate language directed towards coaches, players, or officials.
 - a. Taunts or insults.
 - b. Obscene or profane language.
 - c. Excessive yelling with the obvious intent to be obnoxious or disruptive to the contest or activity in progress.
2. Loss of control - For example, throwing or slamming articles around.
3. Deliberately committed or "Dirty Play" rule violations.
 - a. Obvious or deliberate violations of rules.
 - b. Major or flagrant violations that result in serious penalties:

- i. Personal fouls deliberately committed.
 - ii. Technical fouls due to deliberate acts.
 - iii. Disqualifications because of deliberate actions.
 - iv. Deliberately rude or insulting behavior.
4. Refusal to accept the decisions of coaches or officials.

C. Spectator Conduct and Sportsmanship for Athletic Extracurricular Events

Because unsportsmanlike conduct affects not only opponents, but also fellow participants and team members, remedial actions appropriate for all affected parties shall be taken following flagrant or deliberate poor sportsmanship or any action which causes significant embarrassment or damage to the reputation and image of Dallas Elementary School District #327.

1. Any person, including adults, who behave in an unsportsmanlike manner during an athletic or extracurricular event, may be ejected from the event the person is attending and/or denied admission to school events for up to a one calendar year after a Board of Education hearing. Examples of unsportsmanlike conduct include:
- a. Using vulgar or obscene language;
 - b. Possessing or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or illegal substance;
 - c. Possessing a weapon;
 - d. Fighting or otherwise striking or threatening another person;
 - e. Engaging in any activity which is illegal or disruptive; and
 - f. Harassing participants, coaches, or officials in such a manner as to cause personal embarrassment or serious interference with the normal progress of the activity.

The Superintendent may seek to deny future admission to any person by delivering or mailing a notice, sent by certified mail with return receipt requested, at least 10 days before the Board of Education hearing date, containing:

- a. The date, time, and place of the Board hearing;
- b. A description of the unsportsmanlike conduct;
- c. The proposed time period that admission to school events will be denied;
- d. Instructions on how to waive a hearing.

2. Poor sportsmanship by coaches/sponsors/staff members and participants:

- a. Coaches, sponsors, and staff members shall not engage in, promote, or condone unsportsmanlike behavior, since they serve as role models for participants and are generally held responsible for the attitudes and behavior of participants. Poor sportsmanship is never acceptable.
- b. Whenever there has been a flagrant or major act of unsportsmanlike behavior by a student (such as a personal foul, a technical foul for unsportsmanlike behavior in basketball, or any ejection or disqualification in an activity), the coach or director of

the activity will determine the immediate actions or consequences that may be appropriate, which may include, but are not limited to:

- i. A warning or reprimand;
 - ii. A short or long period of non-participation or suspension; and
 - iii. Appropriate apologies.
- c. For students and participants, deliberate or repeated flagrant acts of poor sportsmanship may be considered sufficient cause for suspension or removal from the activity in addition to other discipline that may be imposed by the principal.
- d. As soon as practical following any flagrant or serious act of unsportsmanlike behavior (such as those that result in a major penalty, a disqualification or an ejection), the coach/director will meet with the respective principal to report the immediate actions taken or the consequences determined for the unsportsmanlike behavior, as well as the circumstances surrounding the behavior.
- e. Following the meeting between the principal and the coach/sponsor, reduced or additional consequences may be imposed as deemed appropriate.
- f. For school personnel, all deliberate or repeated flagrant acts of poor sportsmanship may be considered as violations of contract and sufficient cause for suspension from duty or for termination, as well as sufficient reason for nonrenewal of any extra-curricular contract.

VI. EXPECTATIONS OF PARTICIPANTS

Participants are to fully comply with district policies and regulations for participation in athletics and co-curricular activities. Specific rules may be added by coaches or sponsors or activity director as deemed necessary. Coaches/sponsors may impose certain rules that are stricter than the rules within this handbook with the approval of the administration

1. Only athletes who are members of a team are to be present at practice. There shall be no parents, siblings or friends of athletes present. Coaches may ask high school athletes to help with practices.
2. Participants are expected to observe all training/practice rules.
3. Participants are expected to give their best effort at all times. This is for practices and contests.
4. Participants are expected to represent their school in a positive manner and display outstanding sportsmanship, and high standards of acceptable social behavior.
5. IESA rules 3.042 says that students may participate in non-school athletic competition, either as individuals or team members, at any time they are not members of a school team in that same sport. Participation in those teams is encouraged as long as the activity does not conflict with a school sponsored sport or activity. If there is a conflict the student must be in compliance with the school sponsored activity.
6. Participants are to be present for and participate fully in all practices and games/events/contests, unless excused by the coach or sponsor. Participants who know in advance that they will be absent from practice or an event for appointments or other good reasons (excluding participation on another athletic team) must discuss his/her

- absence with the coach/sponsor in advance. Unexcused absences from practices or games will carry penalties as determined by the coach/sponsor. (See bullet above)
7. It is required that every participant and parent/guardian sign off that they have read, understand, and will implement the activities handbook regulations.
 8. If a participant neglects or does not take proper care of his/her uniform, including lost items, they must pay the cost of replacing the individual uniform at a price determined by the activity director.
 9. Participants are expected to comply with all rules and directions governed by State sponsored events as well as all team and school rules when attending State events. This would also include any directions and rules given by coaches or other school affiliated adults during the event.
 10. It is the responsibility of the participant and their parents to pay for any expenses they committed to before the completion of the season. If the debt is not paid the student will not be allowed to participate in any other sport or activity until debt is paid.
 11. It is the responsibility of the participant to return within one week from the end of the season clean uniforms and/or any other clothing or gear issued to the participant during the course of the activity.
 12. The student must be in attendance by 10:30 to participate in an event that evening unless a legitimate, prearranged excuse other than personal illness is used (examples: doctor or dentist appointment, funeral, or family emergency). Weekend activities are governed by Friday's attendance. An athlete who has one or more trancies or who has been suspended from school may be suspended from participation in athletic activities by administration.

V. CODE OF CONDUCT

The Athletic Code applies to all students who want to participate in athletics. Athletics includes competitive sports and extracurricular activities. This code applies in addition to other rules and regulations concerning student conduct and imposes additional requirements on student athletes.

1. Participation in athletics is a privilege.
2. Those who participate in athletics have a responsibility to favorably represent the school and community. Student athletes are expected to conduct themselves both in and out of school in a manner appropriate to their responsibilities as representatives of the school and district. If a student fails to comply with the terms of this code, the privilege to participate in athletics may be lost in accordance with the terms of this Athletic Code.
3. Misconduct by student-athletes will not be tolerated. Misconduct shall include but shall not be limited to:
 - a) Insubordination
 - b) Any behavior or action which is negligently or intentionally injurious to a person or property or places a person or property at risk of injury or damage.
 - c) Any behavior that disrupts the appropriate conduct of a school program or activity
 - d) Hazing, bullying, or harassment of any kind

- e) Use of profanity
- f) Exhibition of bad sportsmanship
- g) Violations of any school rules or regulations or laws

VI. DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO

Except with respect to prescription drugs used by the person for whom such drugs were prescribed in the manner intended by the prescribing medical doctor, the possession, use, distribution, purchase or sale on any alcoholic beverage, drug, drug paraphernalia, controlled substance, look alike, tobacco product or any other substance which, when taken into the human body is intended to alter mood or mental state, including any item or substance which is represented by a student to be, or is believed by a student to be any of the foregoing, regardless of the true nature or appearance of the substance, is prohibited in school buildings, on school buses and on all other school property or school related events at any time. This prohibition shall include all school sponsored or school related activities, whether held before or after, evenings or weekends and shall additionally include a prohibition of the use by a student athlete in any instance where the school can demonstrate a reasonable connection to the school program or school athletic program. For purposes of this procedure, students who are under the influence of prohibited substances shall be treated in the same manner as though they have prohibited substances in their possession.

VII. STUDENT ATHLETE CONCUSSION AND HEAD INJURY

A student athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion in a practice or a game will be removed from participation or competition at that time. A student athlete who has been removed from an interscholastic contest for a possible concussion or head injury may not return to that contest unless cleared to do so by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois or a certified athletic trainer. If not cleared to return to that contest, a student athlete may not return to play, practice, P.E. or recess until the student athlete has provided his or her school with written clearance from a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois or a certified athletic trainer working in conjunction with a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois.

VIII. ELIGIBILITY

In order to be eligible for interscholastic competition, students must meet the eligibility requirements of the IESA and Dallas Elementary School District #327.

A. IESA Policies

1. Students can participate through age fourteen (14) at the seventh (7th) grade level and through age fifteen (15) at the eighth (8th) grade level. If a student in either age division turns older from the beginning of the first practice date through the final

event of the IESA tournament, he or she will not be qualified to participate at all during that activity season.

2. No student may participate at the same age level for two different school years in the same sport or activity.
3. All students shall be in grades five through eight and shall not have passed eighth grade standing.
4. A student shall be doing passing work in all school subjects according to the local school District grading policies.
5. Grades shall be cumulative for the school's grading period. Students who transfer will become eligible to participate on the eleventh (11th) attendance day, if they meet all other eligibility requirements.

B. Dallas Elementary School District #327 Policies

All eligibility rules established by the IESA will be in effect at Dallas Elementary School District #327 unless superseded by the existing guidelines at Dallas Elementary School District #327.

1. The building principal has ultimate authority and responsibility for all decisions regarding student eligibility. Actions or rulings regarding eligibility do not require a formal hearing for students only a determination of the actual facts involved in a particular matter.
2. Participants in athletics and/or co-curricular activities must be academically passing all of their classes. For fall sports, the first eligibility check shall be made following the first full week of attendance at the beginning of the school year. During the succeeding weeks of the school year, eligibility checks shall begin the week prior to the first contest in the activity.
3. The participant, coach/sponsor, and parents will be notified if a participant becomes ineligible. All eligibility is figured to the end of the day on Wednesday, or the day before the last day of attendance of that week. Ineligibility will be for the following week, Sunday through Saturday. Administration and or the Activities Director will notify coaches, all participants and their parents of the ineligibility.
4. Participants who are ineligible may not participate in games but are expected to be at practices and attend all athletic events. The athlete is to sit on the bench with the team, not in uniform, and remain with the team throughout the game.
5. If a co-curricular activity occurs only once per year then eligibility will be checked on those participants beginning four weeks prior to their event. For band, chorus, and speech, eligibility rules apply for competition events only.
6. Participants who are listed as ineligible for a fourth time during the course of a season are no longer allowed to be a member of the team. The principal and/or superintendent shall have the authority to make the final decision on all eligibility matters. Eligibility checks will begin the week prior to the first contest in an activity except for those contests that occur once a year.

7. Any participant suspended from school may not participate or attend any event or practice on the date(s) of the suspension. A participant who is suspended on Friday may not participate during the weekend.
8. Before participating in any co-curricular activity, the student must have school insurance or his/her own insurance and an emergency form on file with the coach before participating in any practice or athletic contest. A current physical must be on file for any student before he/she can participate in any athletic practice or sport. A physical examination is good for one full year.
9. The student must be in attendance by 10:30 to participate in an event that evening unless a legitimate, prearranged excuse other than personal illness occurs (doctor or dentist appointment, funeral or family emergency.)
10. If an athlete has a medical excuse, which allows him/her to be excused from participating in physical education, then the athlete cannot participate in any athletic practice or contest for the duration of the medical excuse.

IX. PHYSICAL EXAMINATION / INSURANCE

1. A current physical must be on file for any student wishing to participate in athletics at Dallas City Elementary. A sport physical examination is good for thirteen months.
2. Documentation of insurance must be on file for each student participating in athletics.
3. No student/athlete may practice or participate without a current physical and documentation of insurance.
4. The Athletic Director and head coach in each sport will ensure complete compliance with these requirements before students may practice or participate.

X. TRANSPORTATION

1. Sponsors/Coaches will be in charge of students from the time they leave school until they return.
2. All participants must ride school provided transportation to all events. In case of serious emergency or unusual hardship exceptions may be made with prior approval of the coach. Failure to be on time for the bus is not considered a hardship or an emergency.
3. Coaches and/or sponsors will have a sign out sheet at each away event. Parents must sign their child out, indicating that their child is now in their custody.
4. Parents who want their child to ride with another parent home from an event must make arrangements with the building principal, school office or coach and submit the request in writing.
5. It is a privilege to ride the bus. If the student is removed from any bus (regular route, field trips, or extra-curricular) for a disciplinary reason, he/she is not eligible to ride any buses until reinstated. If he/she cannot ride a bus, then he/she may not participate in away games or activities.
6. Sponsors/Coaches are responsible for remaining with the students until all students have been picked up from an event or practices. Students who are riding the bus home from an event will make contact with their parents on the way home giving an

approximate time of arrival at a drop off location. Parents must be at the location when students arrive, and must pick up students at ending time from any practices.

XI. GRIEVANCE / CHAIN OF COMMAND

When a problem or grievance develops in an athletic or co-curricular activity, the following chain of command is to be followed by the person who has a problem or grievance. It is the responsibility of the party in grievance to appropriately contact the coach/sponsor first and then to follow the chain of command, Activities Director or Principal/Superintendent and finally the Board of Education if the problem remains.

1. Coach/Sponsor - As soon as practical, the participant must first attempt to solve the problem with the coach/sponsor involved. This process shall be completed in a prompt and timely manner. The participant should try to appropriately communicate his/her concerns with the coach/sponsor first before the parents step in on their child's behalf.
2. Principal - If the situation is not resolved, the participant/parents may appeal to the activity director, principal or superintendent as appropriate.
3. Board of Education - If a problem or grievance cannot be resolved at the lower levels of the chain of command, the final decision regarding any part of this regulation shall be with the Dallas Elementary School District #327 Board of Education.
4. Any grievance should be mutually satisfied within 30 days of the incident.