

"Good Conduct" Rule

GOOD CONDUCT RULE Code No. 503.5 R-1

Students who wish to have the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities must conduct themselves in accordance with board policy and must refrain from activities which are illegal or inappropriate. Students who fail to abide by this policy and the administrative regulations supporting it may be subject to disciplinary measures. Students wanting to participate in school activities must meet the requirements set out by the school district for participation in the activity.

The following activities are covered by the board's policy and these rules: Athletics, instrumental and vocal music performances, drama productions, speech contests, FFA, FCCLA, FBLA, National Honor Society, all co-curricular clubs (e.g., Art Club, Spanish Club), all honorary and elected offices (e.g., Homecoming and Prom King/Queen/court, class officer, student government officer or representative), graduation speakers, cheerleading and drill team, mock trial, Academic Quiz Bowl, or any other activity where the student represents the school outside the classroom. Graded activities do not fall under the jurisdiction of the Good Conduct Policy.

Good Conduct Rule

Administrators will make reasonable and timely attempts to reach parents before the Good Conduct Rule hearing. Any student who, after a hearing at which the student shall be confronted with the allegation, the basis of the allegation, and given an opportunity to tell the student's side, is found to have violated the school's Good Conduct Rule will be deemed ineligible for a period of time, as described below. A student may lose eligibility under the Good Conduct Rule for any of the following behaviors:

- possession, use, or purchase of tobacco products, regardless of the student's age;
- possession, use, or purchase of alcoholic beverages, including beer and wine (having the odor of alcohol on one's breath is evidence of "use");
- being in attendance at a function or party where the student knows or has reason to know that alcohol or other drugs are being consumed illegally by minors and failing to leave despite having a reasonable opportunity to do so;
- possession, use, purchase, or attempted sale/purchase of illegal drugs, or the unauthorized possession, use, purchase, or attempted sale/purchase of otherwise lawful drugs;
- engaging in any act that would be grounds for arrest or citation in the criminal or juvenile court system (excluding minor offenses such as traffic or hunting/fishing, violations), regardless of whether the student was cited, arrested, convicted, or adjudicated for the act(s);
- exceedingly inappropriate or offensive conduct such as assaulting staff or students, gross insubordination (talking back or refusing to cooperate with authorities), hazing or harassment of others. Such harassment does not have to rise to the level of violating the school's anti-bullying/harassment policy, but rather may include inappropriate and/or disparaging comments to or about others, whether made verbally, in writing, or by electronic means (e.g., text messages, electronic mail, or posting on social networking sites). Examples of such harassment includes, but is not limited to: threats; inappropriate comments about the traits of an individual or group; creating parodies to make fun of others; posting or otherwise sharing potentially embarrassing photographs, drawings, video, or depictions of others without permission. NOTE: This could include group conduct! This rule is not intended to prevent a student from expressing his/her religious or political beliefs.

Any student declared ineligible under a prior school district's Good Conduct Rule without having completed the full period of ineligibility at that school and transfers to Centerville High School, will not be eligible at Centerville High School until the full period of ineligibility has been completed. Once the time period of ineligibility has been completed, the student is then eligible in accordance with the Centerville High School Good Conduct Policy.

Consequences

Any student who, after a hearing before the administration, is found to have violated the Good Conduct Rule, during the school year or summer, is subject to a loss of eligibility as follows:

First Offense - 25% of the next season or combination of seasons.

Second Offense - 50% of the next season or combination of seasons.

Third Offense - Twelve (12) calendar months of ineligibility.

Additional Offenses - Referred to school board for reinstatement.

1. The period of ineligibility attaches immediately upon the finding of a violation if the student is eligible for and currently engaged in an extracurricular activity and, if not, or if not completed during the current activity, is begun or carried over to the time the student seeks to go out for the next activity or contest.
2. However, if the period of time between a violation and an activity is twelve calendar months or more, the student shall not serve an ineligibility period for the violation and the student will be reverted back to first offense status. The next ensuing violation will be at second offense.
3. An ineligible student shall attend all practices or rehearsals but will not "suit up" nor perform/participate.
4. If a student drops out of an activity prior to completion of the ineligibility period, the full penalty or the remainder of the penalty, at the administration's discretion, will attach when the student next seeks to go out for an activity, subject to the 12-month limitation above.
5. If a student violates the Good Conduct Rule while ineligible due to an earlier violation, the penalty for the subsequent offense will attach at the completion of the earlier penalty.

CONTEST SUSPENSION GUIDELINES:

- Students will be suspended from the level of competition in which they are involved. For instance, a varsity athlete cannot count a junior varsity contest toward his/her suspension.
- Students must continue to attend practice during the time of suspension. Withdrawing from the activity does not satisfy the terms of the suspension. The following are the number of contest/events/date that will serve as a guide when approximately 25% of scheduled contest/events/dates:

Band (non graded)	3 contests/events	Soccer	3 contests/events
Speech	1 contest/event	Track	3 contests/events
Vocal Music (non graded)	2 contests/events	Swimming	3 contests/events
Swing Choir	3 contests/events	Golf	2 contests/events
FFA	3 contests/events	Softball	5 dates
Academic Camp	1 camp/event	Cross Country	2 contests/events
Student Council	1 event	Volleyball	4 dates
Tennis	3 dates	Wrestling	4 dates
Managers	Sport specific	Baseball	5 dates
Cheerleaders	Sport specific	Basketball	5 contests/events
Football	2 games	Drill/Dance Team	4 contests/events

Reduction in Penalty:

1. Admission Prior to Determination: If a student comes forward to a coach, administrator, or activity sponsor to admit (self-report) a violation of the Good Conduct Rule prior to a finding of guilt by the administration (no longer than 48 hours after committing the violation), the student's penalty may be reduced by one quarter of contests/events for a first violation, and one-fourth of contests/events for a second violation.
2. A student who violates the "mere presence" provision of this policy shall serve no more than one-half of the established penalty for the first, second, or third/subsequent violation. The punishment may be reduced by an administrator or designee based on the preponderance of evidence to indicate a student was not knowingly participating in activities that violate the Good Conduct Code Rules. (To find a student violation of the Good Conduct Code by the use of "Mere Presence" there must be some evidence that the student knew the drugs/alcohol were present and being used illegally, and the student must have failed to leave [after discovery of the drugs/alcohol/illegal activity] within a reasonable time, assuming the student had an opportunity to leave.) If a student finds himself/herself in a situation where alcohol or other drugs are being consumed illegally by minors, the student options are:
 1. Leave immediately, an intention to leave is not a defense.
 2. Apply "reverse peer pressure" to convince the persons responsible for bringing the offending substances to leave the party and take the offending items with them.
 3. Otherwise get rid of the offending items. (Flush or pour, but Do Not consume)

Violations Occurring During Ineligibility: If a student is ineligible at the time of a violation of the Good Conduct Rule, the penalty for the violation will not begin until the student regains eligibility. Example: A student academically ineligible for a quarter [or "semester"] is found to have been in possession of tobacco, a Good Conduct Rule violation. When the student is again academically eligible, the penalty attaches. Example: A student violates the Good Conduct Rule and is ruled ineligible for 5 dates. While ineligible, the student again violates the Good Conduct Rule. The second penalty starts only when the first penalty is completed.

Academic Consequences: There will be no academic consequences for the violation (e.g., detention, suspension, expulsion from school, or grade reduction/withholding) unless the violation of the Good Conduct Rule occurred (a) on school grounds, (b) at a school event regardless of location, or (c) the violation has a direct and immediate negative impact on the efficient operation of the school despite occurring off school grounds/time.

Letters and Awards: Students who are ineligible at the conclusion of an activity are at risk of not receiving a letter and will forfeit all individual post-season honors/awards.

APPEALS

Any student who is found by administration to have violated the Good Conduct Rule may appeal this determination to the superintendent. The appeal must be made by contacting the superintendent in writing within three (3) days of receiving written notification of the finding of violation and imposition of sanctions. The sanction will remain in effect pending the superintendent's decision.

If the student or family chooses, he or she may appeal to the school board by filing a written appeal with the board secretary at least 24 hours prior to the next regular board meeting. The review by the board will be in closed session unless the student's parents(s) or the student, if the student is 18 years old, requests an open session. The grounds for appeal to the school board are limited to the following:

1. The student did not violate the Good Conduct Rule;
2. And/or the student was not given due process during the investigation process;
3. And/or the sanction is in violation of the Handbook or Board Policy.

The sanction will remain in effect pending the outcome of the meeting with the Board. If the school board reverses the decision of administration, the student shall be immediately eligible and shall have the record of the ineligibility period and violation deleted from the student's record. If the school board modifies the decision of administration, the student's eligibility and record will be modified to accurately reflect the decision of the board.

Attendance and Academic Requirements

1. A student should turn in assignments to a teacher in advance if he or she is going to miss a class for a performance, scheduled contest, program or trip.
2. A student should be in school the entire day of a performance, scheduled contest, program or trip if the student expects to participate. Any exception should be cleared through the administration.
3. A student shall be passing all academic subjects. Those who fail to pass subjects the previous quarter will be ineligible to participate in any event.
4. At no time will this policy supersede any policy set down by any state organization governing these activities.

Student Signature _____ Parent Signature _____

