

CODE OF CONDUCT COVER LETTER

To: Parent(s) or Guardian and Student

It is becoming more evident that alcohol, tobacco and illegal substances may easily become addictive and harmful to an individual's physical and mental health.

The District has a Substance Abuse Policy, which recommends counseling assistance for the student having a problem with alcohol or illegal substances. Additionally, the District has developed and implemented a program to assist students in need of help due to violation of the Code of Conduct.

Extra-curricular activities are extensions of the District's curriculum and the students' academic experience and are **privileges** afforded to the students during their educational experience. The District feels a student participating in extra-curricular activities should be a good representative for themselves, their families, their fellow students who are participating with them, their school and their community. The District also believes that alcohol; tobacco and illegal substances have no place in a student's life at any time.

Contained in the Code of Conduct Policy, as **printed on the back of this cover letter**, are the guidelines of expected behavior for your child if they choose to participate in an extra-curricular activity. We are asking you, the parent(s) or guardian, to read and discuss with your child the positive aspects of refraining from using alcohol, tobacco and/or illegal substances. You must also note there are penalties for your child if they do use alcohol, tobacco and/or illegal substances or for confiscation (stealing) or destruction of public or private property or violation of Municipal, State, or Federal codes (excluding minor traffic violations) if they choose to participate in athletics or co-curricular clubs or activities.

After you have read and discussed the Code of Conduct, please sign this sheet, have your child sign the sheet and return the white copy to the activity sponsor. You should keep the yellow copy for your reference.

We have read and discussed with our child the Natrona County School District's Code of Conduct and understand the penalties for a violation should they choose to participate in any athletics or co-curricular clubs or activities.

Student's signature

Grade level

Parent(s) or Guardian signature

Student's **PRINTED** Name

Activity

School year 20 ____ - 20 ____

**THIS DOCUMENT SHOULD INCLUDE THE CODE ON THE REVERSE SIDE.
IF IT DOES NOT, PLEASE DO NOT SIGN UNTIL YOU HAVE A COPY OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT.**

CODE OF CONDUCT

INTRODUCTION

The Natrona County School District recognizes that participation in athletics and co-curricular clubs and activities is a “privilege,” not a “right.”

Students who volunteer to participate in the Natrona County School District athletic or co-curricular club and activity programs do so with the understanding that they must observe some regulations that are more restrictive than those relating to the general student community.

This administrative regulation applies to students who participate in athletics or co-curricular clubs and activities, and is in effect during the entire academic school year and during the dates as set by the WHSAA and/or schools of NCSD #1. This administrative regulation is in addition to the current District Student Discipline and Conduct Policy. Suspensions from activities shall not prevent a student from taking part in practice sessions. Students who are suspended may not suit up with the team, nor will they be allowed to travel.

The Code shall apply to those athletic teams, co-curricular clubs and activities that require participation on an interscholastic level and/or exceed normal classroom requirements.

DISTRICT CONDUCT REGULATIONS

Students who volunteer to participate on any athletic team, co-curricular club or activity will not use, possess, transfer, or disperse any tobacco products (including e-cigarettes), alcoholic beverages, or illicit controlled substances (drugs). Students will not confiscate (steal), destroy or vandalize private or public property. This will include but not be limited to theft, shoplifting, breaking and entering, and vandalism.

Students covered by the Code of Conduct who violate Municipal, State, or Federal codes (excluding minor traffic violations) will incur punishment as outlined in this administrative regulation.

It is understood that local law enforcement will be notified whenever school personnel confiscate alcohol products, controlled substances, tobacco products, or suspected stolen merchandise. The penalty administered by the Justice System may be different, and in addition to penalties outlined in School Board Policies and Administrative Regulations.

HAZING

Hazing or initiations are not acceptable behaviors. Hazing, by definition, is “Any humiliating or dangerous activity expected of a student to belong to a group, regardless of their willingness to participate.” It is of utmost importance on all teams, but especially on those teams with underclassmen, that there are absolutely no hazing or so called initiation rites. This is demeaning to all involved and is a most blatant form of discrimination. Hazing obstructs the development of good citizens, escalates the risks of participation, negates positive contributions, and destroys respect for self, others and the environment.

PARTY RULE

Participants are expected to avoid situations/gatherings where illegal substances (alcohol/drugs/tobacco – including e-cigarettes) are available to underage youth. Participants need to take positive action to avoid situations where illegal substances are present. A plan should include information about the situation/gathering prior to attending and take action immediately to leave the situation/gathering if illegal substances are present. Failure to take appropriate steps to avoid these types of situations will result in a Code violation.

SUSPENSIONS

All activities with fewer than 10 events including but not limited to the following:

Football
Cross Country
Tennis
Swimming/Diving
Golf
Alpine/Nordic Ski

All activities with 10 or more events including but not limited to the following:

Volleyball
Basketball
Wrestling
Soccer
Track
Cheerleading

STEP

- 1 One Contest
- 2 Three Contests
- 3 Suspended For One Year

STEP

- 1 Two Contests
- 2 Six Contests
- 3 Suspended For One Year

Violations during co-curricular clubs or activities with no defined season will result in suspension for one quarter.

The suspension penalty for co-curricular clubs and activities shall be based on the total number of interscholastic competitions and in line with the suspension penalties. Co-curricular clubs and activities without interscholastic competitions will have consequences at the discretion of the Building Principal or his/her Designee.

FIRST OFFENSE (STEP 1)

Suspended from active participation according to the suspension penalties. The student must participate in and complete an intervention program deemed appropriate by the District. Students who attended a party but were not using alcohol, drugs or tobacco (including e-cigarettes) will still be in violation of the Code and will have to serve the suspension but do not need to complete an intervention. In the event that the student does not complete the prescribed intervention program, the student will be moved to step 3.

SECOND OFFENSE (STEP 2)

Suspended from participation in all activities covered by the Code for triple the first offense. Students guilty of violating the party rule will serve triple the first offense suspension plus complete an intervention.

THIRD OFFENSE (STEP 3)

Suspended from participation in all activities covered by the Code for one year from the date of infraction.

REGULATION ADMINISTRATION

Additional rules may be established by coaches/sponsors to this administrative regulation, but must have the written approval of the building Athletic Director and Principal. Participants and parents must be fully informed of all rules in writing prior to the start of each activity.

It is mandatory for all coaches and sponsors of co-curricular clubs and activities to schedule a meeting with the students and their parent(s) or guardian at which time the Code of Conduct will be explained to the students and their parent(s) or guardian.

It is mandatory for the Principal or Designee to have on file for each student involved in an activity the information and consent form, signed by the student and parent(s), or guardian.