

SUNNYVALE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

**EXTRACURRICULAR
CODE OF CONDUCT
2019 - 2020**



Acknowledgment of Electronic Distribution of Sunnyvale ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct and the Sunnyvale Drug Testing and Rehabilitation Handbook

My child and I have been offered the option to receive a paper copy of or to electronically access at www.sunnyvaleisd.com the Sunnyvale ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct and the Sunnyvale Drug Testing and Rehabilitation Handbook for the 2019–20 school year.

I accept responsibility for accessing the Sunnyvale ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct and the Sunnyvale Drug Testing and Rehabilitation Handbook by visiting the web address listed above.

I understand that if I wish to receive a paper copy of the Sunnyvale ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct and the Sunnyvale Drug Testing and Rehabilitation Handbook I must request a copy from Chris Wangler, Athletic Trainer at chris.wangler@sunnyvaleisd.com

I understand that the Student Code of Conduct contains information that my child and I may need during the school year. I also understand that all students will be held accountable for their behavior and will be subject to the disciplinary consequences outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. If I have any questions regarding the Sunnyvale ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct and the Sunnyvale Drug Testing and Rehabilitation Handbook I will direct those questions to the principal at brian.nickel@sunnyvaleisd.com or 972.226.5974

Student's name (*print*): _____

Student's signature: _____

Parent's name (*print*): _____

Parent's signature: _____

Date: _____

SUNNYVALE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT EXTRACURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT

The Sunnyvale Independent School District (“SISD” or “the District”) encourages student participation in extracurricular activities. SISD makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program, with this important difference: participation in extracurricular activities 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 SISD students. For this reason, their behavior must be exemplary and reflect the finest attributes of the total SISD student body at all times. 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.

SISD also recognizes that (1) underage alcohol use and dangerous drug use is illegal, (2) alcohol kills five times as many Texas teens as all other drugs combined, (3) alcohol use impedes normal emotional growth during critical teen development years and significantly lowers the learning capacity of developing adolescents, ages 12-20, (4) alcohol use is associated with most other drug uses, and is highly correlated with violence, fighting, negative attitudes, academic failure, poor health practices and other high-risk behavior, (5) Dallas leads the nation in alcohol-related traffic deaths, (6) Texas leads the nation in the rate of alcohol-related deaths among 15 to 20 year olds, (7) children who begin drinking before the age of 15 are four times more likely to develop problems with alcohol abuse and dependence than those who began drinking at the age of 21 or older. These problems have implications for the entire school community and as an educational institution, SISD strives to educate its students about and prevent the use and abuse of alcohol and drugs. As leaders and representatives of the SISD, students involved in extracurricular activities have a duty and responsibility to assist in this objective.

I. Extracurricular Activities

The term “extracurricular activities” means, without limitations, all interscholastic athletic, cheerleading, drill team, clubs, special interest clubs, extracurricular fine arts performances, student government and any other activity or group that participates in contests, competitions, community service projects on behalf of or as representative of SISD. The term includes any non-curricular event or membership or participation in groups, clubs, and organizations recognized or approved by the SISD Board of Trustees and the District and sponsored by the District or campus.

II. Jurisdiction

Because participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right, SISD is authorized and responsible for setting higher standards for participants of extracurricular activities than it would for those students who choose not to participate in these activities. Therefore, this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* extends beyond the SISD *Student Code of Conduct* not only in types of behavior prohibited but also in corresponding consequences and jurisdiction for imposing discipline. In case of a conflict between this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and the activity or sport-specific campus handbook, this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* will prevail.

The *Extracurricular 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;
- whether the extracurricular activity is in-season or
- where or when the conduct occurs.

It is possible that a student who violates the SISD *Student Code of Conduct* will incur consequences from both the appropriate school administrator and from his or her coach or sponsor for the same particular violation. It is also possible that a student participating in extracurricular activities could violate the SISD *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and be subject to discipline by a coach or sponsor without having violated the SISD *Student Code of Conduct*.

III. Prohibited Conduct

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

- possessing or drinking alcoholic beverages illegally. In Texas, the **only** time a minor can legally consume or possess alcohol is where the parent or legal guardian is “visibly present when the minor possesses or consumes the alcoholic beverage” and the consumption or possession is with the consent of the parent or legal guardian. Tex. Alco. Bev. Code §§ 106.4 and 106.6. The requirement for visible presence will be strictly construed in enforcing this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*.
- possessing or use of cigarettes, e – cigarettes, vapes or related prohibited inhalants

Violations of these prohibited activities will be classified as a Type A violation

Other prohibited conduct includes:

- possessing or consuming illegal drugs
- possessing or using any drug paraphernalia, or
- misusing prescription drugs or non-prescription drugs or other mood-altering substances.

Violations of these prohibited activities will be classified as a Type B violation

In addition, SISD extracurricular students will be subject to random drug testing as outlined by Board Policy FNF (Local) and the Sunnyvale Drug Testing and Rehabilitation Program. A positive test will constitute a Type B violation.

IV. Consequences

Level 1 – 1st Type A Violation

- At the discretion of the Principal and with the consultation of the Athletic Director or Sponsor, the penalty for 7 calendar days beginning with the nearest contest or activity.

All or some of the following additional penalties may also be imposed at the discretion of the Principal with the consultation of the Athletic Director or Sponsor.

- Completion of sport/activity specific skill improvement drills to be determined by the coach, director or sponsor.
- Other penalties or requirements appropriate under the circumstances.

A student may self-report the student's violation to his or her Principal, Athletic Director, coach, or sponsor and will not be subject to Level 1 Sanctions. The self-report must be before any citation is issued or the school officials otherwise learn of the violation.

Self-report by student does not apply after the first offense.

Level 2 – 2nd Type A Violation or 1st Type B Violation

- Mandatory suspension for 21 calendar days beginning with the nearest contest or activity
- Suspension from all extracurricular activities until ten (10) hours of community service approved by the Principal and/or Athletic Director or Sponsor are completed. The community service will not count toward honor graduation distinction.
- Mandatory removal from all appointed or elected offices for one calendar year.

Students that receive a positive drug test will be subject to the reinstatement provisions in the Sunnyvale Drug Test and Rehabilitation Program

Level 3 – 3rd Type A Violation or 2nd Type B Violation

- Mandatory suspension for 120 calendar days beginning with the nearest contest or activity
- At the end of the suspension, the coach/sponsor and administration will determine reinstatement. Reinstatement will be based on such things as academic record, attendance, behavior record, and any other information deemed appropriate.
- Mandatory removal from all elected or appointed offices for one calendar year. The student shall also be prohibited from running for or holding any new office during such calendar year.

Students that receive a positive drug test will be subject to the reinstatement provisions in the Sunnyvale Drug Test and Rehabilitation Program

Level 4 – 4th or Any Subsequent Type A Violation or 3rd or Any Subsequent Type B Violation

- Mandatory suspension for 365 calendar days effective upon notification.
 - At the end of the suspension, the coach/sponsor and administration will determine reinstatement. Reinstatement will be based on such things as academic record, attendance, behavior record, and any other information deemed appropriate.
- Mandatory removal from all elected or appointed offices for one calendar year. The student shall also be prohibited from running for or holding any new office during such calendar year.

Students that receive a positive drug test will be subject to the reinstatement provisions in the Sunnyvale Drug Test and Rehabilitation Program

Cumulative offenses shall be determined during two periods, grades 7-8, and beginning again in grades 9-12. Conduct will only be considered a subsequent offense if the first offense occurs and results in a consequence being imposed during the same period the previous offense occurred.

V. Procedures

- Coaches and sponsors shall report violations of the ECOC, including self-reports, to the student's Principal and Athletic Director or Sponsor

- The Principal and Athletic Director will review all the facts and circumstances surrounding an alleged violation to determine whether a violation occurred.
- Violations of this policy may be established by:
 - Student Admission
 - Admission by the parent/guardian of a student
 - Violation witnessed by SISD staff member
 - Issuance of a local agency report or citation
 - Eyewitness testimony
 - Any other credible evidence

All sources of information, including hearsay, rumor, anonymous tips, photographs and information posted on the Internet, including social networking sites such as Facebook, My Space, SnapChat, Instagram, etc. will be investigated and may be considered by the Principal to determine if a violation has occurred.

- If the Principal determines that a student violated the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*, the following individuals will be notified:
 - The student and the student’s parent or guardian;
 - The coaches and/or the sponsors of all extracurricular activities in which the student is involved or is expected to be involved during the period of the suspension or removal from extracurricular activities.

The student will be given the opportunity to discuss with the student’s coach or sponsor and a school administrator the facts involved in the alleged violation before a decision is made regarding the disciplinary action to be imposed.

- In determining the appropriate disciplinary consequences to be imposed for a violation of this *“ECOC”*, the Principal shall take into consideration:
 - the seriousness of the offense;
 - whether the safety and well-being of the student and/or others were put at risk by the conduct;
 - the cooperation of the student and the parents in the investigation and,
 - the student’s prior academic and disciplinary record.

- As a condition to participating in any extracurricular activity or holding any office (elected or appointed), a student and his or her parent(s) or guardian(s) shall sign and return the SISD *Student Code of Conduct* acknowledgement and any UIL-required acknowledgment of rules. The student and the parent agree to be bound by the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* by the student's participation in extracurricular activity.
- A student who violates this *ECOC* may not join a second extracurricular activity for the purpose of fulfilling the penalty.
- Nothing in this *ECOC* prohibits a coach or sponsor from enforcing additional rules and regulations relating to their specific activities or additional consequences for violation of this *ECOC*. It should be understood that any participant whose behavior is reasonably considered unacceptable by a coach or sponsor may have his or her privilege to participate in the extracurricular activity revoked.

VI. Appeals

Questions or complaints regarding disciplinary matters, including violations of the SISD *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*, should be addressed to the campus administration, in accordance with Board Policy FNG(Local) beginning at Level 2.

Disciplinary consequences will be deferred pending the outcome of an appeal for Level 1 and Level 2 Consequences. For Level 3, Level 4 and any subsequent offense, consequences will not be deferred pending an appeal.

VII. Definitions

- Definitions used in the SISD *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* shall have the same meaning as those in the *Student Code of Conduct*. To the extent there is a conflict between the two codes, the definition in the SISD *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* prevails.
- A “**calendar year**”, as used in the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*, shall begin with the first day of suspension from extracurricular activities and shall conclude one calendar year from that date.
- **Elected or appointed offices** shall include, but not limited to, captains and player committee members of athletic teams, student council officers, cheerleader officers, drill team officers and lieutenants, club officers, and officers of athletic teams.
- **Willfully** means deliberately.