

# Co-Curricular Handbook and Code of Conduct



## **I. Philosophy Statement for Co-Curricular Activities**

The Elmbrook School District believes co-curricular activities are an integral part of the total educational process. Through participation in these opportunities, students can have experiences and training in events not ordinarily obtainable in the general curriculum. Policies have been developed and are implemented to cultivate the high ideals of good citizenship, community involvement and personal growth. Although the co-curricular program is a valuable part of the total educational experience, **participation in co-curricular programs is a privilege, not a right**. Student participation carries with it certain responsibilities and expectations that promote growth toward becoming a responsible member of society. Participants must abide by the rules and responsibilities that apply to each co-curricular program in which they are involved in order to continue participation in these activities. We expect students to be a credit to themselves, their family, school and community.

## **II. Goals of Co-Curricular Activity Participation**

- A. To teach attitudes of responsibility, cooperation and sportsmanship; to help students realize participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege with accompanying responsibilities.
- B. To provide activities for learning self-discipline, loyalty, team play, cooperation, personal pride, pride in organization, respect for the rights of others and the will to be successful.
- C. To provide the opportunity and to encourage all students to participate in co-curricular activities identified as a basic educational tradition.
- D. To encourage all students who participate in co-curricular activities to reach their potential.
- E. To provide school experiences of interest for all students to develop school spirit, community and commitment, thereby developing a sense of connectedness.
- F. To place the team, class and school above personal desires.

## **III. Code of Conduct Purpose Statement**

The Elmbrook School District Co-Curricular Code of Conduct is to establish clear and consistent academic and behavioral expectations for students to follow when participating in school district co-curricular opportunities. The code is to inform the students and parent(s)/guardian(s) of the consequences that will occur for rules violations. Participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege, not a right.

## **IV. Definition of Co-Curricular Activities and Participation Requirements**

Co-curricular activities include any school related organized activity that is offered outside of the academic class requirements. Criteria for membership are established in the best interests of the students. Students choose to participate voluntarily. Students who comply with these rules demonstrate a dedication to self-improvement, commit to high personal standards, and enhance the best interests of teammates and co-participants.

The Elmbrook School District complies with all federal and state laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination and with all related requirements and regulations of the U.S. Department of Education. The District shall have separate but comparable facilities available for males and females where appropriate.

It is the policy of the Board of Education that, "No person may be denied admission to any public school or to be denied participation in, be denied benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, co-curricular, disciplinary policies, pupil services, recreational or other program or activity because of the person's sex,

religion, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability.” (See, Wis. Stat. § 118.13.)

Co-curricular activities for grades 9-12 are divided into these categories:

- A) Athletics (WIAA governed)
- B) Performance-Based, Competitive, and Leadership Activities
- C) Service Clubs and Special Interest Groups

The activities that are classroom related, in which a grade is attached, are not included in this code. District, School, Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association, Conference, and League policies and rules govern all student activities. In addition, each category has unique rules and expectations which regulate participation.

The co-curricular code is available in each high school office and online. In order for students to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities the following are required:

For WIAA Governed Athletics:

- A physical and Physical Form completed by a licensed physician every other year **OR**
- An Alternate Year Form in the years the physical is not required
- Co-Curricular Code read and signed by both parent and student
- WIAA Eligibility Form read and signed by both parent and student
- Concussion Form read and signed by both parent and student

NOTE: Non-WIAA governed athletics AND performance-based, competitive, and leadership activities AND service clubs and special interest groups have specific forms and requirements for their activities

The Athletic & Activities Director or designee will conduct a co-curricular code and informational meeting prior to the beginning of the school year and/or prior to the start of each athletics season.

**V. Categories of Activities**

- A) Athletics (WIAA governed)

The Elmbrook School District co-curricular code and the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) govern interscholastic athletics. The WIAA is a voluntary, incorporated and nonprofit organization located in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. All WIAA and other pertinent national and state governing regulations as published will apply to this code and are available upon request. The following activities are within this category:

Fall Sports	Winter Sports	Spring Sports
Cross Country (Boys and Girls) Football Golf (Girls) Soccer (Boys) Swimming & Diving (Girls) Tennis (Girls) Volleyball (Boys and Girls)	Basketball (Boys and Girls) Gymnastics Hockey (Boys and Girls) Swimming & Diving (Boys) Wrestling	Baseball Golf (Boys) Soccer (Girls) Softball Tennis (Boys) Track and Field (Boys and Girls)

## B) Performance Based, Competitive and Leadership Activities

These are activities that may or may not be competitive in nature. Examples include, but are not limited to: Dance, Cheerleading, Student Council, Key Club, National Honor Society, Drama (Musicals and Plays), DECA, Debate, Forensics, HOSA, Lacrosse (Boys and Girls), Chess, Robotics, Ski Team, and Bowling Team.

## C) Special Interest Clubs

Clubs and special interest groups are defined as those activities generated by student and/or staff interest. Students participate on a voluntary basis. Examples include, but are not limited to: Art Club, Earth Club, Fashion Club, Chinese Club, Computer Science Club, SAFE Club, SMART Team

## VI. Academic and Attendance Expectations

A student must meet school and DPI requirements defining a full-time student and can have received no failing grade (including incompletes) in the most recent grade-reporting period. Incomplete grades are counted as failing grades when determining eligibility. Ineligibility during the first (3-week) and second (6-week) reporting periods of each term can be resolved immediately upon receipt of evidence that the student is passing all courses. Ineligibility following the final (9-week) term grade will result in a 15 school day suspension as mandated by the WIAA. Following that period students must show evidence that they are passing all current courses before they are allowed to compete or perform.

Students are expected to be in school if they plan to participate in after school events. Any student not in attendance for any part of the school day will not be eligible to participate in after-school activities on the day of contests, games, and performances. An administrator must approve exceptions in advance. If a student participates despite the attendance requirement, that act will be considered a violation of this code and will result in a category I consequence. Participation in a practice in after school activities when a student is not in attendance for any part of the school day is up to the parent, student athlete and coach to decide based on an individual bases.

## VII. Fees, Equipment and Apparel

Co-curricular activities are made possible at a significant cost to taxpayers. As such, students are responsible for the care of school-issued equipment and apparel. Students who have not returned or paid for missing equipment will not be allowed to participate in future activities until that account has been cleared.

All district-required fees must be paid before students can participate in any activity.

- Athletics \$80 per sport (\$160 maximum/student)
- Summer Weight Room \$45
- Clubs \$45
- Solo and Ensemble \$45
- Music/Drama \$65 per event (\$130 maximum/student)
- Forensics \$70
- Debate \$70
- Entire Year Payment \$200 covers all activities for the school year

Refunds must be requested before the end of the school year. Fees are waived for those students eligible to receive free and reduced lunch.

## VIII. Behavior Expectations and Code of Conduct Standards

Students choosing to participate in co-curricular activities agree to act in a manner that positively represents themselves, their team/group, the school and the district. Participation in co-curricular activities is a privilege, not a right. The co-curricular code is in effect for 12 months a year throughout the high school career of each student. Students shall refrain from any conduct or act that is in violation of school rules or is generally considered to be immoral, socially unacceptable, and unbecoming of a student-athlete in the Elmbrook School District. Consequences will be administered by the Athletic and Activities Director based on the guidelines outlined.

<b>Code of Conduct Violations</b>	
<b>Category I</b>	<b>Category II</b>
Includes behavior that generally results in a suspension (in or out of school) or behavior that is contrary to generally recognized moral and ethical standards	Includes those that could result in legal consequences for students
Examples include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● ISS or OSS (in or out-of-school suspensions)</li> <li>● Hazing</li> <li>● Violations of District Academic Honesty Policy</li> <li>● Presence at parties where minors consume alcohol, tobacco, nicotine, or other drugs</li> <li>● Unsportsmanlike conduct as a participant or spectator</li> </ul>	Examples include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Theft, Vandalism, Harassment, or Fighting</li> <li>● Disorderly Conduct</li> <li>● Consumption, possession, distribution, or sale of alcohol, tobacco, nicotine, or other controlled or uncontrolled substances, including "look-alike drugs"</li> </ul>
<b>Consequences</b>	<b>Consequences</b>
1st Offense: Suspension of up to 25% of scheduled performances or competitions	1st Offense: Suspension from 50% of all scheduled performances or competitions unless self-reported within 48 hours of the infraction and the student cooperates fully with the investigation. In this case the penalty may be reduced to 25% unless an administrative investigation has already started
2nd Offense: Suspension of up to 50% of scheduled performances or competitions	2nd Offense: Suspension from 100% of all scheduled performances or competitions for one season unless self-reported within 48 hours of the infraction and the student cooperates fully with the investigation. In this case the penalty may be reduced to 50% unless an administrative investigation was underway when the self-reporting occurred
3rd Offense: Suspension of up to one calendar year of scheduled performances or competitions	3rd Offense: Forfeiture of all co-curricular privileges for one-calendar year
<b>Category III:</b> Any student charged and/or convicted of a felony shall, upon the filing of felony charges, become ineligible for all further participation until the student has paid his/her debt to society and the courts	

consider the sentence served (including probation, community service, etc.).

If a student is assigned a suspension during the season of an activity in which he/she is currently participating, the suspension shall begin immediately in that season. If the term of the suspension extends beyond the end of the current season the suspension will be extended into the next applicable season. No suspension will exceed one calendar year. The reduction for self reporting is not available for violations that occur during school or school related events.

Consequences for members of Select Groups:

- Any Category II or Category III Activities Code violation will result in the forfeiture of leadership and membership in select groups for one year. A category I violation may result in the forfeiture of leadership and membership in select groups for one year. A violation also disqualifies a student from eligibility to run for an elected position in any select group during the length of the suspension