

VISTA COCURRICULAR CODE

ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT

In keeping with the high standards and discipline required of athletes, Vista Middle School has established the following regulations for participants in our sports programs. Coaches for each sport and/or the school administration are responsible for proper enforcement of these regulations.

I. ACADEMICS COME FIRST

- A. Students will display proper behavior and effort in their classes.
- B. Athletes who are having problems with citizenship and/or effort are subject to having an "Athletic Evaluation Form" completed by a teacher.

II. SATURDAY SCHOOL /IN OR OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION

- A. Participants shall follow all rules and regulations that govern students at Ferndale School District. Coaches will be informed of academic and/or social discipline taken against participants. Infractions which result in Saturday school or out-of-school suspension shall result in the imposition of the following additional discipline.

- 1. First Offense: An In/Out of School Suspension or Saturday School will result in a minimum penalty of the loss of practice and games included within one subsequent calendar week* of the infraction.** Depending on the type and severity of the infraction, the building administrators in collaboration with the coach may impose a further penalty up to and including suspension from the team for the remainder of the sports season.
- 2. Second Offense: An In/Out of School Suspension or Saturday School will result in suspension from the team for the remainder of the sports season.

*One subsequent calendar week means seven (7) consecutive days beginning with the day of the infraction.

**If there are no contests scheduled during the week of suspension, there will be a minimum penalty of the loss of one contest.

- B. Tobacco Products, Alcoholic Beverages or Drugs (24 hours a day)
 - 1. Athletes shall not use, consume, possess, transmit, sell or be under the influence of tobacco products (including smokeless tobacco), alcoholic beverages, or drugs (including anabolic steroids), or other illegal substances. Violation of this rule shall result in:
 - a. First Offense: Suspension for the remainder of the sports season
 - b. Second Offense: Suspension from all school sports for the remainder of the school year.
 - 2. If the student completes a substance abuse evaluation, a request to be reinstated to eligibility status may be made to the school administration.
- C. Combined Offenses
 - 1. Any combination of two offenses of unacceptable athletic evaluation ratings or In/Out of School Suspension or Saturday School will result in a suspension from the team for the remainder of the season.

III. PHYSICAL AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

- A. Results of a current physical examination must be on file. (One physical exam is sufficient for all sports for both years at vista. However, it is strongly recommended that students get physicals completed each year.)
- B. Insurance coverage must be obtained through the school or, if a family furnishes proof of sufficient coverage, a waiver indicating adequate coverage will suffice.

IV. ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION AFTER ILLNESS

- A. A student must be in school at least one-half day if he/she is to participate in an activity that day. A student with an approved appointment that prevented his/her attendance, who presents a signed statement from a doctor to the attendance clerk, may be excused from this requirement if the doctor authorizes such participation.

PHILOSOPHY: We strongly believe that it is very important for students to display acceptable behavior and effort in his/her classes. In fact, this is prerequisite for participation in the athletic program and for receiving the privilege of representing Vista Middle School in the athletic arena.

DIRECTIONS TO THE TEACHER: If you have a student in your class who has a problem with citizenship or effort, please fill out the attached form at the time of your concern, conference with the student and forward the form to the appropriate coach. Be sure to mark the Effort and Citizenship columns as acceptable or borderline.

DEFINITION OF TERMS AND CONSEQUENCES

Borderline: The student's citizenship and/or effort is somewhat below your classroom standards and expectations. This category will serve as a warning to the student and cause the coach to conference with the athlete about possible future consequences. (No loss of game privileges to student.)

Unacceptable: The student's citizenship and/or effort is just that—unacceptable. A mark in this category will mean that the student will lose the privilege of participating in the next athletic contest. Two unacceptable evaluations in a season will result in permanent removal from the team.

ATHLETIC EVALUATION

Student's Name _____ Date _____

Teacher's Signature _____

EFFORT

CITIZENSHIP

Class: _____ Borderline Unacceptable Borderline Unacceptable

Teacher's Comment _____

Directions to Coach: Please clip off this portion of this form and return it to the issuing teacher.

Student's Name: _____ Coach: _____ Date _____

Comments: This may include a brief summary of what action was taken (reprimand, loss of game privilege, etc.)

