ATHLETIC PHILOSOPHY

The Fleetwood Area School District philosophy is based upon a belief in the positive worth of each student. The school's curricular and co-curricular programs have been designed to work together for the purpose of providing students with a variety of opportunities to develop those qualities that will help them find success and happiness in their daily living.

The athletic program is an integral part of Fleetwood's overall program. Athletics constitute a constructive, educational process that leads to desirable changes in attitudes, habits, and skills, not only for those participating, but also for the student body and community. The Fleetwood philosophy fosters the concept of participation and, therefore, encourages students to take part in a variety of athletic experiences. We believe that each athletic program is important because each exists for the involvement and benefit of our students.

Our athletic program is a force that generates a pride in self and school, as well as a respect for the efforts of others. Those participating in competition are provided with the opportunity to be judged on the basis of their achievement, without regard to social, ethnic, or economic background.

Our intention is to develop an athletic program which recognizes the value of competition and striving for victory. The program also emphasizes attributes of participation, sportsmanship, scholastic achievement, team effort, and wholesome attitudes.

The Fleetwood athletic program strives to achieve the following objectives:

- To provide opportunities for students to participate in competition and to improve playing skills to the best of their abilities.

- To develop physical vigor and desirable habits of health and safety.

- To develop in each student athlete a winning attitude. Striving to win is necessary for success in athletics, as well as every facet of life.

- To provide opportunities to develop friendships with team members and to widen the circle of friends through interaction with students of opposing schools.

- To provide opportunities to observe and exemplify good sportsmanship.

- To develop the understanding that athletic competition is a privilege that carries with it definite responsibilities.

- To provide an opportunity to learn that the violation of a rule of the game brings a penalty and that this same sequence follows in the functions of daily living.

- To provide encouragement for athletes to participate in multiple interscholastic athletic activities.

- To provide positive motivation to some students to retain an interest in school who might otherwise not apply themselves or drop out.

- To provide opportunities for athletes to grow as responsible individuals through
- interaction with coaches and team members.

PREFACE

The athletic program is an important and integral part of the total school program and is open to participation by all students. Through voluntary participation, the student athlete gives time, energy, and loyalty to the program. He/she also accepts the training rules, regulations and responsibilities which are unique to an athletic program, in or out of uniform, whether on or off campus . In order to contribute to the welfare of the group, the student participant must willingly assume these obligations as the role demands that the individual make sacrifices not required of others. In addition to the Student Behavioral Code of the Fleetwood Area School District, athletic participants are also governed by the Student Athletic Code of Responsibilities.

The close contact of the coaches to students in the Fleetwood Area School District provides coaches with a unique opportunity to observe, confront, and also assist young people. The Fleetwood Area School District therefore supports education and awareness/intervention in adolescent chemical use problems.

It is also recognized that the parents of the athletic activity participants must support the student in not only the positive aspects of participation at Fleetwood, but also accept the responsibility of any adverse actions by their child when participating in school athletic activities.

The school administration will endeavor to be the facilitator in strengthening community partnership to the benefit of students at Fleetwood, recognizing that community values and well being are reflected in the standards set by the school.

Academic Requirements for Athletic Participants

The academic performance of athletic participants will be monitored on a weekly basis. Students failing more than one subject (major or minor) will be suspended from the activity until the weekly evaluation indicates that the situation has been corrected.

In the case of any failure, the coach will be informed.

FLEETWOOD STUDENT ATHLETE CODE OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A Fleetwood Area School District athletic participant will be subjected to disciplinary action if he/she commits any of the following violations ON SCHOOL PROPERTY OR AT ANY SCHOOL FUNCTIONS. The following violations and the penalties set forth, are in addition to those delineated in the Fleetwood Behavior Code and Student-Handbook.

Each coach has the prerogative to establish additional rules pertaining to the activity supervised. These rules may include attendance at practices, detentions, curfew, grooming, dress, and general conduct of participants during practices, contests, and trips, and will be handled by the coach.

1. An athletic participant found to be in violation of the following will be dismissed from the activity for a period of one calendar year from the date of incident:

    a. Falsification of a signature on the PIAA Comprehensive Initial Pre-Participation Physical Evaluation (CIPPE) form or the Student Athletic Handbook Form.

    b. Selling, or aiding in the procurement of, steroids, alcoholic and/or malt beverages, narcotics or restricted drugs. (including marijuana or other controlled substances, including, but not limited to, the Drug Narcotic Identification Chart).

2. An athletic participant found to be in violation of the following will be suspended from the activity for a minimum of 25% of the scheduled contests in the sport in which the student is a participant for the first offense, dismissed from any activity for one calendar from the date of the incident for the second offense, and suspended from athletic participation for the remainder of his/her secondary school career for a third offense.

    a. Using, being under the influence of, or in possession of steroids, alcoholic and/or malt beverages, narcotics or restricted drugs, (including marijuana or other controlled substances including, but not limited to, the Drug Narcotic Identification Chart). Reinstatement will only occur upon review by the school administration.

    b. If drugs or alcohol are involved, an assessment by the Tiger Assistance Program (TAP) team consultant is mandatory. If the athletic participant complies with the recommendations resulting from the assessment, the student suspension may be reduced to 15% for the first offense. The athletic director and principal must be informed of the situation.

    c. Voluntary admission of an infraction of rules regarding habitual substance abuse will not result in disciplinary action. In such cases, a mandatory conference with the TAP team consultant is still required. (The purpose of this provision is to allow an athletic participant to seek help.) This voluntary admission may not be used by a student if the school is already aware of the rules infraction.

    d. Selling, using, or possessing tobacco or tobacco related products.

3. Any conduct by an athletic participant that is determined by the school administration to be detrimental to the athletic program, school, or school district will result in a hearing with a school administrator and dismissal from the activities for a minimum of 25% of the scheduled contests in the sport in which the student is a participant, including any post-season activity.

    Offenses will be cumulative from the Fleetwood Middle School to the Fleetwood Senior High School.

    In the event that a suspension for a first offense cannot be completed by the end of that sport season or by the end of the school year, the building principal must be informed of the situation. Reinstatement will only occur upon review by the building principal.

4. If a student is in out of school or in school suspension he/she cannot participate in any team function, such as practice, home or away. Academic suspensions (ineligible due to grades) are on a weekly basis and involve no contests or team functions, but a student may practice with proper parent consent.

5. On the day of a contest, varsity athletes will participate in physical education class activities. Any excuses from physical education class must be at the discretion of the physical education instructor.

Qualifications

It must be understood that concern for the well being of the individual involved in any of the actions described must be weighed against concerns for the well being of the student body at large. Therefore, it must be recognized that appropriate discretionary action by those charged with carrying out the disciplinary process must not be prohibited by these guidelines. Any deviations from standard policy are determined on a case by case basis and do not establish precedent for subsequent cases. It is suggested, however, that such diversions from the established procedures should be the exception rather that the rule.

FLEETWOOD COACHES' CODE OF RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Fleetwood coaches have the responsibility to support the philosophy and objectives of the athletic program.

2. Coaches should support and encourage athletes to participate in other sports.

3. If an athlete asks to participate in an organized or club sport during an in-season sport, the coaches of each activity should communicate their concerns. If no accord can be reached, the in-season coach has the discretion to mandate that the student make a choice between the in-season sport or participation in the club program.

4. Coaches should support the concept that an athlete may not quit one sport and go out for another after the season has begun without the mutual consent of both coaches and clearance from the athletic director.

   An athlete may not quit one sport and immediately begin organized pre-season preparation for the next season's sport without the mutual consent of both coaches and clearance from the athletic director.

5. Athletes may voluntarily elect to participate in pre-season conditioning programs prior to the P.I.A.A.'s starting date for the in-season sport.

6. Coaches should encourage athletes to maintain their physical conditioning during the off-season.

7. Fleetwood coaches should encourage their athletes to support ALL athletic teams, treating Fleetwood athletes as ONE team, not a group of individual teams.

8. Coaches have the responsibility of being in control of themselves and their players at all times in order to prevent any unsportsmanlike act toward opponents, officials, or spectators.

9. Coaches are expected to comply wholeheartedly with the intent of the rules. The deliberate teaching of players to violate the rules is indefensible.

10. Coaches should confine their discussion with the game officials to the interpretation of the rules, and not constantly challenge the officials' decisions involving judgment.

11. Coaches should require proper use and respect of school facilities and/or equipment.

12. Coaches should emphasize the importance of athletics in the school program as an extra-curricular activity and encourage academic excellence as the prime goal of the school experience.

13. Coaches are expected to exhibit habits of dress and personal grooming which will serve as a positive example for their players. The use of tobacco products, controlled substances, and alcohol while coaching or supervising a team is prohibited.

14. Other co-curricular interests encouraged such as band, chorus, yearbook, etc. without forcing student to choose.

Parent /Coach Relations

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the others and provide greater benefit to the student. As parents, when your children become involved in our programs, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's program.

Communication you should expect from your child's coach.

1. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the squad.
2. Locations and times of all practices and contests.
3. Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning.
4. Procedure should your child be injured during participation.
5. Team rules and guidelines, and lettering requirements.

Communication coaches expect from athletes.

1. Notification of any schedule conflicts in advance.
2. Special concerns in regards to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
   As your children become involved in the athletic programs they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times discussion with the coach is encouraged.
3. A player should be able to address with the coach any issues & initiate such proceedings.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches.

15. The treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
16. Ways to help your child improve.
17. Concerns about your child's behavior.

    It is very difficult to accept your child's not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be the best for the team and for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can be and should be discussed with your child's coach. There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are to be encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.
    Other things, such as the following must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches.

1. Playing time; 2.Team strategy; 3.Play calling; 4.Other student-athletes.

If you have a concern to discuss with a coach, the procedure you should follow:

1. Call to set up an appointment.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the athletic director. He will set up the meeting for you.
3. Please do NOT attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.

What can a parent do if the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution.

1. Call and set up an appointment with the athletic director to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined. Since research indicates a student involved in co-curricular activities has a greater chance for success during adulthood, these programs have been established. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant are exactly those that will promote a successful life after high school. We hope the information provided here makes both your child's and your experience with athletic programs less stressful and more enjoyable.

PARENTAL CODE OF CONDUCT
SPORTSMANSHIP

WHEREAS P.S.A.D.A. believes that participation in sports is a privilege that should never be taken for granted: and

WHEREAS P.S.A.D.A. believes that parents should provide a supportive positive athletic environment where children will be able to enjoy sports' participation and maintain a proper perspective concerning winning; and

WHEREAS P.S.A.D.A. believes that parents should allow and encourage their children to experience fun in their participation on athletic teams and minimize the pressure on them. The focus should be to learn the lessons' in life and to be a positive team member; and

WHEREAS P.S.A.D.A. believes that parents should teach their children to model respectful behavior, to handle frustrations and to understand what is best for the team rather than what Is the athlete's personal best interest; and

WHEREAS P.S.A.D.A. believes that athletes should be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of sports so that they can be introduced to multiple skills that are necessary for athletic development; and

WHEREAS P.S.A.D.A. believes that parents should be positive role models especially with regards to good sportsmanship. They need to demonstrate respect to parents, team members, coaches and officials. Public confrontation should be avoided. Parents should refrain from crossing the line from being a supportive to being a negative and adversarial parent. Athletes need to compete without parental coaching from the sidelines; and

WHEREAS P.S.A.D.A. believes that adults need to separate their ego from the accomplishments of their children. Adults also need to view money and time dedicated on a child's sports experience as an investment in which children demonstrate a positive and admirable effort and not an investment on which they expect a monetary return; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT P.S.A.D.A. believes that parents should always provide Unconditional love and support regardless of the athletic performance of their child. Mistakes made in competition should not result in negative responses from a parent; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT P.S.A.D.A. believes that parents need to teach their children to Embrace their role as a team member and to reinforce the importance of always focusing on the Elements that they can control – attitude, effort and contributions to the team. Children need To honor the game in which they are participating and competing with integrity.

Championship Awards Criteria - Senior High School Teams:

It is deemed desirable to commend our athletic teams, individual team members, and coaches upon the close of a championship athletic season. Individual team members and coaches will receive the school's standard championship awards as stated in the criteria listed below.

The two standard championship awards are the picture plaque and a letter of commendation from the Board. The picture plaque will be given to the members of a championship squad that meet the varsity letter criteria.

The above awards will be chargeable to the athletic account and will be presented at the annual All Sports Banquet.

To protect an individual's amateur status and to insure the school's compliance with P.I.A.A. rules and regulations, the school's sanction will be necessary before any award may be received by a team member.

CHAMPIONSHIP CRITERIA

I. TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP CRITERIA

a. Any team that wins its league
b. Any team that ties for first place in its league and there is no play-off
c. Any team that wins a district or state title

II. INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION CRITERIA

Sport		Criteria
Golf, Tennis, Wrestling, X-Country	-	Recognition at the County level, first 4 places in Districts, place in States
Track	-	Recognition at the County level, first 3 Places Districts, place in States.
Other Sports	-	Recognition at the County level and beyond.

III. VARSITY PERFORMER, VARSITY SQUAD MEMBER CRITERIA

Sport	Varsity Letter	Varsity Participant
Baseball	1/3 the games	Varsity squad member
Basketball	1/3 the quarters	Varsity squad member
Cheering	1/2 the games	Compete in 2 varsity games
Cross Country	Complete 1 league meet in scoring position	Compete in 1/2 of meets
Football	1/2 the games	Compete in 2 varsity games
Golf	1/3 the matches	Varsity squad member
Hockey	1/2 the games	Compete in 1 varsity game
Soccer	1/2 the quarters	Compete in 2 varsity games
Softball	1/3 the games	Varsity squad member
Swimming	1 point/meet	Participate in 1/2 of the meets
Tennis	1/2 the matches	Compete in 2 varsity matches
Track	Average 1 point/meet	1/2 the meets
Wrestling	24 Team Points	12 Team Points
Volleyball	1/2 the games	Compete in 2 varsity games

In addition to the above, any coach, with the approval of the athletic director, may list any athlete under varsity letter that meets the following:

a. A senior with 2 or more years on the squad of that sport

b. Any injured athlete who the coach feels would have met the above criteria

c. A special case of outstanding attitude by a squad member

d. Recommendations concerning managers is left to the coaching staff of that sport (they may be placed under either of the above two categories)

Board of Education Policies on Interscholastic Athletics

1. The Board recognizes the value of a program of interscholastic athletics as an integral part of the total school experience to all students of the district and to the community. The game activities and practice sessions provide many opportunities to teach the values of competition and sportsmanship.

For the purpose of this policy, the program of interscholastic athletics shall include all activities relating to competitive sports contests, games, events, or sport exhibitions involving individual students or teams of students of this district when such events occur between separate schools within this district or schools outside this district.

It shall be the policy of the Board to offer opportunities for participation in school athletic programs to male and female students on an equal basis.

The Board shall approve annually a program of interscholastic athletics and shall require that all facilities utilized in that program, whether or not the property of the Board, properly safeguard both players and spectators and are kept free from hazardous conditions.

The Board shall determine the standards of eligibility to be met by all students participating in the interscholastic program. Such standards shall require that each student be covered by the maximum student accident insurance available, or its equivalent; be in good physical condition; be free of injury and fully recovered from illness, as determined by the district physician, before participating in any interscholastic athletic event.

The Board further adopts those eligibility standards set by the Constitution of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (P.I.A.A.) and shall review such standards annually to ascertain that they continue to be in conformity with the objectives of this district.

The Board further directs that no student may participate in the program of interscholastic athletics who has not attended school regularly based on the P.I.A.A. Constitution.

The Superintendent shall annually prepare and present to the Board a listing of the interscholastic athletics' program.

The superintendent, in conjunction with the Board, shall prepare rules of conduct for students participating in interscholastic athletics. Such rules shall be in conformity with the rules of the State Board of Education and the P.I.A.A.

Cutting Policy

It is the philosophy of the Fleetwood Area School District Athletic Department to provide opportunities for as many athletes as possible to participate in our programs. However, at times, it may be necessary to reduce the number of participants in order to provide the most worthwhile experience for everyone involved. Therefore, coaches at the varsity, junior varsity, and middle school level are permitted to cut, when necessary.

Coaches will personally inform athletes that they have been cut. At the Middle school level, coaches will also forward a list of anyone cut from a team to the principal who will then share this information with guidance counselors.

Guidelines for Behavior...

FOR THE COACH…

- Exemplify the highest moral character, behavior, and leadership; adhering to strong ethical and integrity standards. Practicing good sportsmanship is practicing good citizenship!
- Respect the integrity and personality of the individual athlete.
- Abide by and teach the rules of the Contest in letter and in spirit.
- Set a good example for players and spectators to follow: please refrain from arguments in front of players and spectators; no gestures which indicate Contest officials or opposing coaches do not know what they are doing or talking about; no throwing of any object in disgust. Shake hands with Contest officials and opposing coaches before and after the Contest in full view of the public.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of Contest officials. The officials are doing their best to help promote athletics and the student/athlete. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of you and your Team in the eyes of all people at the event.
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat in public and in meeting/talking with the media.
- Please confine your remarks to Contest statistics and to the performance of your Team.
- Instruct participants and spectators in proper sportsmanship responsibilities and demand that they make sportsmanship the No. 1 priority.
- Develop a program that rewards participants and spectators for displaying proper sportsmanship and enforces penalties on those who do not abide by sportsmanship standards.
- Be no party to the use of profanity or obscene language, or improper actions. Do not permit student-athletes to use profanity during practice sessions.

FOR THE STUDENT-ATHLETE...

- Accept and understand the seriousness of responsibility, and the privilege of representing your school and your community.
- Live up to the standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration and the coaching staff.
- Learn the rules of the Contest thoroughly and discuss them with parents, fans, fellow students, and elementary students. This will assist both them and you in the achievement of a better understanding and appreciation of the sport.
- Treat opponents the way you would like to be treated, as a guest or friend. Who better than yourselves can understand all the hard work and team effort that is required of your sport!
- Wish opponents good luck before the Contest and congratulate them in a sincere manner that you would like to be greeted following either victory or defeat.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of Contest officials. The officials are doing their best to help promote you and your sport. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of you and your Team in the eyes of the officials and all people at the event.

FOR THE CHEERLEADER...

- Understand the seriousness and responsibility of your role, and the privilege of representing your school and your community.
- Learn the rules of the Contest thoroughly and discuss them with parents, fans, fellow students, and elementary students. This will assist both them and you in the achievement of a better understanding and appreciation of the sport.
- Treat opposing cheerleaders the way you would like to be treated, as a guest or friend. Who better than you can understand all the hard work, training, and team effort that goes into a cheering squad?
- Wish opposing cheerleaders good luck before the Contest and congratulate them in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.

Guidelines for Behavior...

FOR THE CHEERLEADER (cont'd)…

- Establish standards of desirable behavior for the squad and attempt, in a cheerful manner, to transfer that to your spectators.
- Select positive cheers that praise your Team without antagonizing the opponents.
- Encourage a positive crowd alternative when booing or an inappropriate chant begins by starting a popular cheer.
- Use discretion in selecting the times to cheer. Give the opposing school the same amount of time your squad would want in performing cheers, and treat opposing players like you would treat your own Team.
- Give encouragement to injured players and recognition to outstanding performances for both Teams.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of Contest officials. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of your Team and your community in the eyes of the officials and all people at the event.

OF OTHER SUPPORT GROUPS (BAND, BOOSTER CLUB, ETC.)...

- Establish themselves as leaders in their conduct before, during and after Contests. Always provide positive support for your Team, rather than intimidating or ridiculing the other Team.
- Assist cheerleaders with cheers, chants, etc., and be a working part of pep assemblies, with preparation, organization, and involvement.
- Treat opposing players, coaches, spectators, and support groups with respect and enthusiasm.
- Conduct themselves in an exemplary manner. Remember, you represent your school both home and away.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of Contest officials. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of your group, your Team, and your community, in the eyes of all people at the event.
- Be an exemplary role model by positively supporting Teams in every manner possible, including content of cheers and signs.

OF SPECTATORS...

- Remember that you are at a Contest to support and cheer for your Team and to enjoy the skill and competition; not to intimidate or ridicule the other Team and its fans.
- Remember that interscholastic athletics are a learning experience for students and that mistakes are sometimes made. Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes, and as people as you would praise a student working in the classroom.
- A ticket is a privilege to observe the Contest, not a license to verbally assault others and be generally obnoxious.
- Learn the rules of the Contest so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators, and support groups. Treat them as you would treat a guest in your own home.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of Contest officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student-athlete, and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either Team.
- Refrain from the use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, tobacco, etc.) before, and during Contests, and afterwards on or near the site of the Contest (i.e. tailgating).
- Use only those cheers that support and uplift the Teams involved.
- Recognize and compliment school and athletic administrators for their efforts in emphasizing the educational benefits of interscholastic athletics and the role of good sportsmanship to that end.
- Be a positive role model through your own actions and by censuring those around you whose behavior is unbecoming.

Acceptable vs Unacceptable Behavior...

ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR...

- Applause during introduction of players, coaches, and Contest officials.
- Players shaking hands with opponents who foul out while both sets of fans recognize player's performance with applause.
- Accept all decisions of Contest officials.
- Cheerleaders lead fans in cheers in a positive manner.
- Handshakes between participants and coaches at end of Contest, regardless of outcome.
- Treat competition as a Contest, not a war.
- Coaches/players search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching.
- Applause at the end of a Contest for performances by all participants.
- Everyone showing concern for an injured player, regardless of Team.
- Encouraging surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.



Photo courtesy of 20/20 Photographic, Mt. Pleasant, MI

UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR...

- Yelling, waving arms, or objects during an opponent's free throw attempt.
- Disrespectful or derogatory cheers, chants, songs, or gestures.
- Criticizing Contest officials in any way.
- Cheers that antagonize an opponent.
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition of good performances.
- Blaming a loss on Contest officials, coaches, or participants.
- Laughing or name-calling to distract an opponent.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger.
- Doing own cheers instead of following the lead of cheerleaders.
- Wearing extreme of unusual clothing or excessive body paint that detracts from the Contest.

FLEETWOOD AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: HAZING

ADOPTED: January 19, 2010

REVISED:

	247. HAZING
1. Purpose	The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the district and are prohibited at all times.
2. Definitions	For purposes of this policy **hazing** is defined as any activity that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health, physical health or safety of a student or causes willful destruction or removal of public or private property for the purpose of initiation or membership in or affiliation with any organization recognized by the Board. **Endanger the physical health** shall include but not be limited to any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping; beating; branding; forced calisthenics; exposure to the elements; forced consumption of any food, alcoholic beverage, drug, or controlled substance; or other forced physical activity that could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the individual. **Endanger the mental health** shall include any activity that would subject an individual to extreme mental stress, such as prolonged sleep deprivation, forced prolonged exclusion from social contact, forced conduct which could result in extreme embarrassment, or any other forced activity which could adversely affect the mental health or dignity of the individual. Any hazing activity, whether by an individual or a group, shall be presumed to be a forced activity, even if a student willingly participates.
3. Authority SC 510, 511 Pol. 122, 123	The Board does not condone any form of initiation or harassment, known as hazing, as part of any school-sponsored student activity. No student, coach, sponsor, volunteer or district employee shall plan, direct, encourage, assist or engage in any hazing activity. The Board directs that no administrator, coach, sponsor, volunteer or district employee shall permit, condone or tolerate any form of hazing.

	The district will investigate all complaints of hazing and will administer appropriate discipline to any individual who violates this policy. The Board encourages students who have been subjected to hazing to promptly report such incidents to the building principal.
4. Delegation of Responsibility	District administrators shall investigate promptly all complaints of hazing and administer appropriate discipline to any individual who violates this policy. Students, administrators, coaches, sponsors, volunteers, and district employees shall be alert to incidents of hazing and shall report such conduct to the building principal. The district shall annually inform students, parents/guardians, coaches, sponsors, volunteers and district staff that hazing of district students is prohibited, by means of publication in handbooks and verbal instructions by the coach or sponsor at the start of the season or program.
5. Guidelines	<u>Complaint Procedure</u> 1. When a student believes that s/he has been subject to hazing, the student shall promptly report the incident, orally or in writing, to the building principal. 2. The principal shall conduct a timely, impartial, thorough, and comprehensive investigation of the alleged hazing. 3. The principal shall prepare a written report summarizing the investigation and recommending disposition of the complaint. Findings of the investigation shall be provided to the complainant, the accused, and others directly involved, as appropriate. 4. If the investigation results in a substantiated finding of hazing, the principal shall recommend appropriate disciplinary action, as circumstances warrant, in accordance with the Code of Conduct. Additionally, the student may be subject to disciplinary action by the coach or sponsor, up to and including removal from the activity. If the incident involves inappropriate actions on the part of a district employee, the principal, and Athletic Director as appropriate, shall make a recommendation to the Superintendent regarding disciplinary action. References: School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 511 Board Policy – 122, 123

STUDENT ATHLETE HANDBOOK & CODE OF RESPONSIBLITIES

I agree to fulfill the provisions of the Student Athletic Handbook and the Code of Responsibilities.

Name (please print) _____ Grade _____

Student's Signature _____

I agree with the principles established and will cooperate with the coach and the School administration in seeing that my son/daughter follows these regulations.

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

Sport (s) Participating In: _____

(Please return this signed paper along with your physical papers.)