

FRANKLIN PIERCE SCHOOLS GUIDE FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

FRANKLIN PIERCE SCHOOLS ATHLETIC PROGRAMS' MISSION STATEMENT

We are committed to providing our children the highest quality athletic programs by partnering with community organizations to enhance the total K-12 educational experience. Athletics contributes to the physical, social, and emotional development of each individual.

PHILOSOPHY

We encourage all our student athletes to take full advantage of the athletic opportunities provided. Through this participation we hope they will be able to proudly represent their school and achieve personal athletic success while inspiring a high level of respect and creating a positive impact on their lives now and in the future.

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY CARDS

Any student participating in an Associated Student Body Activity supported by ASB funds must purchase an ASB card.

ATHLETES AS REPRESENTATIVES OF FRANKLIN PIERCE SCHOOLS

All athletes represent the Franklin Pierce School District at all times as a member of an activity or athletic team. Any violation of school or athletic policies, or violation of local, state or federal laws, while a member of a Franklin Pierce School District activity or athletic team will result in disciplinary action. The head coach and the Athletic Director will determine the type of violation and apply the applicable school/activities code disciplinary action. Any disciplinary action taken as a result of a violation of the activities code may, at the discretion of the Athletic Director and School Administration, be in addition to disciplinary action as outlined in the school's student handbook, state law, school board policies, and/or team rules.

ATHLETIC AWARDS

It is incumbent on head coaches to create a fair and equitable lettering policy with the following factors to be considered:

1. Athletic awards are symbolic of athletic accomplishment, good conduct, and observance of high athletic ideals.
2. To be eligible for an athletic award, an athlete must successfully complete the sports season.
3. The athlete must be recommended by his/her coach or advisor.
4. The athlete must meet the criteria for lettering set forth by the coach or advisor.

ATHLETIC CODE

The Franklin Pierce School District's Interscholastic Activities Program is governed by District Policy and the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association rules. The eligibility standards for participation in interscholastic activities established by WIAA rules place athletes and participants of other interscholastic activities in a position of representing their student body as student leaders. Participants are expected to remain abstinent from alcohol, tobacco products, smoking and other drugs as part of

their commitment to the Franklin Pierce School District interscholastic activities program code for the duration of the school year.

A violation of FPS district policy 2151, RCW 69.41.020-69.50.101, RCW 28A.600.010 or 28A.600.40 shall constitute violations of the WIAA, FPSD eligibility code standards, and the RCW codes of Washington.

Definitions:

Self-disclosure of violations is defined as a participant self-admitting their own violation of the rules set below.

Investigative discovery of violations is defined as the investigative process by which district personnel conclude a participant has violated the rules set below.

Screening is defined as a successful student substance abuse screening, family conference and successful follow through with the recommendations.

School year is defined as the first day of tryouts in the fall through the last day of June (If an activity conducts official school practices, meetings and/or other activities during the summer months these rules shall be considered in force for those participants.) Once signed, these rules are in force for all participants during the defined school year for the entire time the participant is eligible in the Franklin Pierce School District.

Accumulation of violations: violations are accumulated during the entire time a participant is involved in middle school activities. Once the participant becomes involved in a high school activity a new high school accumulation begins.

Career is defined as the entire time a student is eligible for activities at a particular level. Middle school and high school careers are separate.

Days - for the purposes of the penalties, "days" shall be defined as school days. For all other purposes, "days" shall be defined as calendar days, 24 hours per day.

Co-curricular Code Committee shall consist of the head coach or advisor of the activity involved, a coach or advisor from another activity, the athletic coordinator, and the principal/designee.

Participant: any student who has a current physical on file, who is planning to participate in a co-curricular activity or is currently participating in a co-curricular activity.

Co-curricular activity: any athletic team, activity, student government group, drama or musical group, etc., which is school sponsored and outside the curricular program.

Conduct Committee: shall consist of a head coach, AD, and Asst. Principal

Training Rules:

Tobacco and Vape use: Participants will not use or possess any type of tobacco product, either in or out of school, 24 hours per day during the defined school year. A vape is considered use of tobacco as defined by school district policy and be subject to tobacco rules unless it can be shown it was used for a controlled substance. In that case it will fall under number 3, Controlled Substances.

Alcohol Use: Participants will not possess, use, or be under the influence of alcohol, 24 hours a day during the defined school year. This includes on school grounds, at school-sponsored activities, either on or off school grounds, on route to and from school, as well as while the participant is or should be in attendance during the school day, and any off campus, non-school activities, gatherings, behaviors, etc.

3. LEGEND DRUGS, CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

Penalties for violation of RCW 69.41.020-69.41.050 (Legend drugs including anabolic steroids use, possession, and/or sale) or Violation of RCW 69.50 (uniform Controlled Substances Act) This includes but not limited to illegal drugs, steroids, controlled substances of any kind (other than those obtained and properly used pursuant to a valid prescription) or those purported to be the same, including but not limited to imitation controlled substances and/or related drug paraphernalia (as defined in RCW 69.41 and RCW 69.50) 24 hours a day during the defined school year. A violation of RCW 69.41.020-69.41.050 shall be considered a violation of the eligibility code and standards, and shall subject the student to disciplinary actions consistent with those outlined below and fall under the WIAA handbook. Legend drugs are defined as those drugs that are legal only through prescription. Controlled substances and controlled substance analogs are defined in RCW 69.50.101.

4. Substance Trafficking: participants will not traffic (buy, trade, distribute) or attempt to traffic any alcohol, drugs, steroids, controlled substances of any kind or those purported to be the same, including but not limited to imitation controlled substances and/or related drug paraphernalia (as defined in RCW 69.41 and RCW 69.50) 24 hours a day during the defined school year. This includes on school grounds, at school-sponsored activities, either on or off school grounds, on route to and from school, as well as while the participant is or should be in attendance during the school day, and any off campus, non-school activities, gatherings, behaviors, etc.

5. Attendance at gatherings where activities (as defined in #1,#2,#3 above) are being conducted: Attendance at gatherings where activities of alcohol and/or drug use as defined about is strictly prohibited. Any attendance at these gatherings are subject to athletic/activity suspension.

6. Conduct: It is expected that athletes follow all federal, state or local laws. It is also expected that they maintain proper citizenship and/or satisfactory school conduct including, and not engage in conduct prohibited in Paragraph I of the Franklin Pierce School District Discipline Policy and Regulations Handbook or the school's student handbook. Participants suspended from school shall be suspended from co-curricular participation for at least the length of the school suspension (including full day "In-school Suspension.") Social media will fall under this category.

Penalties for Violations:

A violation of FPSD discipline policy Number 5200 2151 or RCW 69.41.020-69.41.050 through possession, sale and/or use of alcohol, tobacco, smoking, illegal and/or inappropriate use of other drugs, including anabolic steroids, shall constitute violations of the WIAA and FPSD eligibility code standards.

In addition to any penalties which might be imposed pursuant to other Franklin Pierce School District policies and procedures related to student conduct and discipline, penalties for violations of the above, for participants of co-curricular activities during the school year shall include the following:

Infraction

#1 above - Tobacco

15 days* + Tobacco School

30 days* + Tobacco School

30 Days + Tobacco School

45 days

#2 above-Alcohol Use

Season/45 days or 15-30 days* with screening

90 days or Season Ineligible whichever is longer

1 calendar year

Rest of Career

#3 above – Illegal Drugs

WIAA

Season Ineligible**

WIAA

Season Ineligible**

1 calendar year

Rest of Career

#4 above - Trafficking

School Year or 60 days with screening

Rest of Career

#5 above - Conduct

As determined by conduct committee and school rules

As determined by conduct committee and school rules

Same

Due Process

Participants who are disciplined under these training rules have a right to request a reconsideration appeal within three (3) school days of the imposition of the penalty. The request shall be written and submitted to the district athletic director. Until the hearing takes place, the participant shall not be permitted to continue to participate in turnouts and contests. Once the appeal is filed with the district AD, a decision will be made within 5 days of receiving the appeal. That decision is final.

ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT

1. All athletes are responsible for school equipment issued to them.
2. Lost or damaged equipment will be the athlete's financial obligation.
3. Fines will be issued for any lost or damaged equipment. The Fines will be for current replacement costs of the equipment.
4. Fines must be paid or equipment turned in before participation in the next sport season is allowed.
5. Students participating in school sports and activities must have their own equipment approved by the coach and must meet the WIAA and National Federation standards set for equipment.

ATHLETIC REGISTRATION FORMS

All athletic forms will be completed on-line

1. An athlete and his/her parent/guardian(s) must complete all required athletic registration forms on Final Forms prior to participation.
2. A participant/parent/guardian who provides false information or falsified signatures may be declared ineligible from athletic participation for a period of one year.

PHYSICAL EXAM REQUIREMENTS

1. All participants in athletics and cheerleading must have a current physical on file in the athletic office.
2. A physical exam is good for a 24 month period and must be signed by a physician.
3. If an athlete's physical expires during the course of the season they plan to participate in then they must renew their physical before the expiration date.
4. Physicals must be uploaded to Final Forms.

ATTENDANCE

1. Leaving school during the school day: Athletes must sign out in the attendance office when leaving during the school day. Before checking out and leaving school athletes must:

A. Give the attendance office a signed note from a parent/guardian indicating the reason you are checking out of school, or a parent/guardian must call in to the attendance office before you leave school giving the reason why you are checking out of school. B. If you leave school due to illness YOU MAY NOT PRACTICE THAT DAY OR PARTICIPATE IN A GAME OR PERFORMANCE THAT DAY.

2. When is it okay to leave school during the school day and still be allowed to participate in a practice, a game or a performance that same day? You may miss class and still participate only if your absence is excused by a doctor, dental or legal appointment, funeral or a personal emergency, or for a school field or activity trip.

3. You will not be allowed to participate in practice, game or performance if you: A. Miss 15 minutes of any class, B. Are truant from class. C. Go home because you are sick. D. Stay home because you are ill and come to school later because you are feeling better.

FACILITIES USE AND SUPERVISION

Athletes and students are not allowed to use secured OR unsecured district facilities without the direct supervision of coaches or adult advisors.

GRADING POLICY

1. Initial athletic eligibility will be the grades from the previous semester. A student must be enrolled and passed a minimum of 5 classes in a 6 period day in the current and previous semester. (Note: Can be 4 classes for seniors based on credit needs.)

- A. Students who fail the previous spring semester will be put on an automatic 5 week probation period to start the fall sports season.
- B. Students who fail winter semester will be placed on an automatic 5 week suspension period from Athletics.

C. If the student is not enrolled in the minimum number of classes required, which is 5, they will not be able to compete in athletics for the ENTIRE semester.

2. Once initial eligibility is determined grades will be monitored every 2-3 weeks. During the sport season students must be passing 5 classes in a 6 period day. Grades will usually be checked on Mondays. For fall sports the first grade check will be the third week of school. For winter and spring athletes the first grade check will be the second week of the season and will be tied to first quarter and 3rd quarter mid-progress reports respectively.

3. If a student is passing all classes or 5 of 6 classes at the 2 week grade check then the athlete will continue to be eligible for all practices and competitions.

4. If a student is not passing all or 5 of 6 classes then the following will be in place for that student.

A. If an athlete is failing more than 1 class at the grade check, he/she will be placed on automatic suspension from all competitions.

B During the 2 week academic warning or probation period, a student may raise the F to a passing grade and as long as they are passing 5 of 6 classes will be immediately eligible.

C. If a student athlete is on probation two times, a coach may drop the athlete from the program. Coaches must have written team policies for this to be in effect.

D. INC (incompletes) count as an F for purposes of grade reports. INC+ will count as a passing grade.

5. Students new to Franklin Pierce School District must meet the same academic requirements as current students verified by official transcript from the transferring school. Phone and Fax verification will be acceptable academic verification.

IN-DISTRICT TRANSFERS BETWEEN SCHOOLS

Regarding the athletic eligibility status of students who transfer between two high schools within the Franklin Pierce School District, the Board of Directors has directed the administration to apply the same policies as those of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) in regard to the transfer of students between school districts, which are:

- A. Students whose transfers are based on a bona fide, immediate change of residence due to an actual physical relocation of and with their entire family to a different residence, and preceded by termination of all occupancy of their previous residence, shall be deemed to meet the requirement for athletic eligibility at the varsity level.
- B. Students attending a high school outside their attendance boundary for the period of one (1) calendar year or more shall be deemed to meet the requirement for athletic eligibility at the varsity level.
- C. Students whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) reside in different residences as the result of a divorce or court appointed separation is allowed one (1) transfer between parents or guardians after entering the ninth grade without being restricted to sub-varsity competition for one year. Any subsequent transfer shall be governed by the transferring student rules and procedures.

FRANKLIN PIERCE TRANSFER PROCEDURES

A. At the end of the 8th grade year, every student will be enrolled in their designated resident high school, as determined by the established Franklin Pierce School District high school boundaries, and the student's primary residence.

B. Any requests to change high schools, without physically changing the student's family's

residence after their initial enrollment, will require an In-District Student Transfer Form (see Policy 5141).

ATHLETIC TRANSFER RULE

- A. Students are eligible for varsity competition at the high school whose boundaries they reside in.
- B. Students are only eligible to compete at any level at the high school where their academic file is located, and will not be allowed to participate in any activities outside their registered school.
- C. Transfer students will not be eligible for varsity competition for a period of one calendar year from the date of enrollment at the transfer school. Transfer students would be eligible for sub-varsity competition only during the one calendar year period.
- D. Transfer students must complete new student packets that they can get from their building Athletic Coordinators. After initial eligibility is determined by the building, all hardship appeals go through the West Central District.
- E. Hardship is defined as a condition beyond the student's or parent's control that requires the transfer. Athletic reasons will not be considered to be hardships.
- F. Students who attend part of their academic program at two high schools will be eligible at their resident school, or the school where their academic file resides. Changes will be subject to the transfer rule.
- G. Students who participate in Running Start will be eligible at their resident school, or the school where their academic file resides. Changes will be subject to the transfer rule.
 - 1. Students participating in Running Start or other vocational programs while in High School need to file all required documents and stay in good standing with program standards; monitored by the building Running Start coordinator in accordance with WIAA policy.
- H. If a family moves from their existing residence to a new residence within the boundaries of another high school, the student may remain enrolled and eligible in their old resident school, with the annual approval of the academic waiver request, or, if they enroll at their new resident school within 30 days of the family taking possession of the new residence, they will not be subject to the transfer rule. Enrollment in the new resident school after 30 days of the family taking possession of the new residence will be subject to the transfer rule.

PURPOSE OF TRANSFER RULE

- 1. Promotes individual athletes participating in a variety of activities at their home school.
- 2. Promotes equity, balance, and parity between competing schools.
- 3. Preventative in nature, designed to eliminate the incentive to transfer.
- 4. Protects students who have previously participated from being replaced by a student living in another high school boundary area.
- 5. Protects students from recruiting.
- 6. Reduces parent or student "shopping" for schools with the "best" athletic program.
- 7. Discourages the excesses and abuses of over promotion.
- 8. Allows schools to equitably develop traditions of success and positive school and community pride.

INSURANCE

1. It is required that athletes be covered by medical and dental insurance while participating in school sponsored activities.
2. Parents/guardians accept the responsibility for medical accident insurance.
3. Parents/guardians must; A. provide proof of medical insurance, or B. purchase insurance for athletics available through the school.

PARENT/COACH EXPECTATIONS

We are very pleased that your son/daughter has chosen to participate in the Franklin Pierce School District athletic program. We will do all we can to provide a positive experience for your athlete. Possibly the most important ingredient to achieve this outcome is to ensure that lines of communication are developed to allow for free and easy resolution of questions before they become issues. As a parent, you have a right to know what expectations are placed on your athlete.

Communication You Should Expect From You Athlete's Coach

1. Philosophy of the coach.
2. Guidelines for selecting the team.
3. Expectations for your athlete.
4. Locations and times of all practices and contests.
5. Team requirements: equipment, off-season training, team rules, etc.
6. Procedure to follow should your athlete become injured during participation.
7. Requirements to earn a letter.
8. How to best contact the coach.
9. Communication concerning your athlete's role on the team and how he/she fits into the future of the program.

Communication Coaches expect from parents

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach through an appropriately scheduled conference.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
3. Specific concerns with regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.
4. Parents are to notify the coach of any injury or illness.

As your athlete becomes involved in the various programs in the Franklin Pierce School District, 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 athlete wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach may be the quickest and most effective way to clear up the issue and avoid any misunderstanding.

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches

1. The treatment of your athlete, psychologically and physically.
2. Ways to help your athlete improve.

3. Concerns about your athlete's behavior.

At times it may be difficult to accept the fact that your athlete is not playing as much as you or the athlete would like. Coaches are professionals who make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be the best for the team and all involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can be and should be discussed with your athlete's coach. We ask that other things, such as those listed below, be left to the discretion of the coach.

Coach's Decisions

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling
4. Matters concerning other student/athletes

Procedure to Voice Concerns: There are situations that may require a conference between the coach, the athlete, and the parent. These are to be encouraged. It is important that both parties involved have a clear understanding of the other person's role and position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution.

1. Your athlete should first talk with the coach about their concerns.
2. If, after the athlete meets with the coach, the matter is still unresolved, parents may call to set up an appointment with the coach.
3. If the coach cannot be reached after a reasonable time, call the Athletic Coordinator at your athlete's school. The Athletic Coordinator will arrange an appointment for you to meet with the coach.
4. Please do not approach a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings at these times usually do not work well for the coach, the parent or the player.

The Next Step: 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 school Athletic Coordinator to discuss the situation.
2. At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined.

Whether or not this step is ever reached, please keep in mind the following protocol when you elect to pursue a concern you may have regarding your son or daughter's experience on one of the Franklin Pierce School District's sports teams. Please make contact as follows:

1. Assistant Coach (if applicable)
2. Head Coach
3. Athletic Coordinator
4. District Athletic Director
5. Assistant Superintendent
6. Superintendent

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR INJURED ATHLETES

As an aid in our athletic health care system, we would like to explain some of our policies and procedures for injured athletes. We will always transport via ambulance for the following conditions: Pulmonary arrest (not breathing), cardiac arrest (no heartbeat), Dyspnea (severe difficulty breathing), heat stroke, suspected neck or back injury, major

uncontrollable bleeding, significant head injury, prolonged unconsciousness (2 minutes or longer), open fractures (bones appearing through broken skin), major joint dislocations.

We will also transport via ambulance if the parents of the injured athlete are not present or cannot be reached and it is felt that he/she needs immediate medical attention. If for any reason an injury occurs which requires medical attention, every effort will be made to notify the parents if they are not present. Parent/Guardian of the student will be responsible for ambulance costs.

If for any reason your son/daughter has to be seen for medical reasons (injury, illness, or other) by a physician, chiropractor, physical therapist, or any other medical staff, he/she must have a written release from that individual in order to return to practice/game. Our athletic trainer has a form that can be used if the need arises.

All injuries received during an athletic activity should be reported to the trainer and coach on the day it occurred. If your son/daughter comes home with an injury: (1) ask if the trainer and coaches were notified and when appropriate, (2) if your student did not notify the trainer and coaches please notify the your student's coaches immediately.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF COACHES, ATHLETES, PARENTS

A successful experience is the goal of all participants within an athletic program. It is the responsibility of many groups of people that will make this goal possible. The individual responsibilities are listed in the chart below. The Franklin Pierce School District is committed to providing a successful experience for all participants; the following responsibilities will make these successful experiences a reality.

Athletics is a privilege. Participation is voluntary but requires that all student athletes meet certain expectations. Those expectations include meeting all academic, conduct and citizenship requirements explained in this pamphlet, with a focus on displaying an attitude of good sportsmanship.

SPORTSMANSHIP: All Franklin Pierce School District athletes will recognize that both as a team and as individuals, you have the responsibility to display the highest degree of good sportsmanship. In representing FPSD and your school, you are expected to be aware of your influence on the behavior of others and model good sportsmanship. Cheering for your team and not against the other team or the officials is behavior expected from FPSD fans and students. Racial slurs, signs, implications, fighting, and/or any other disparaging behavior of any type shall result in the following actions:

1. Conduct resulting in ejection or disqualification from an interscholastic contest administered by game officials, coaches or school administrators shall minimally result in the following:

First Violation: The first violation of the season shall result in the ejected person (student, coach, other school representative) being ineligible until after the next school contest in that sport at the same level of competition from which the person was ejected. Any appeal of the penalty shall be as outlined by the PCL SPSL and/or WIAA and in accordance with any rules and procedures of this athletic code.

Second Violation: The second violation in the same sport and season shall minimally result in ineligibility for the remainder of the season of that sport. A violation at the end of a sports season carries over to the next season in which the athlete participates.

Third Violation: A third violation, regardless of the sport season, shall minimally result in the athlete's suspension from all sports for the remainder of the school year. In no instance shall participation in a school and/or community approved assistance program excuse an athlete from subsequent compliance with this regulation. However, successful utilization of such an opportunity and/or compliance with the athletic code by the athlete may allow him/her to have eligibility reinstated in the athletic program, pending determination by the District Athletic Director or designee should a District Athletic Director

not be in place at that time.

2. Fans and parents: FPSD athletics expects the highest degree of good sportsmanship from all participants, including fans and parents. Any fan or parent who abuses the ideals of good sportsmanship as outlined in WIAA/FPSD policies and procedures may be asked to leave the athletic event, with future attendance subject to review and/or guidelines set forth by the school administration.

SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

1. A school athlete's participations in a commercial summer camp, school sponsored summer camp, summer clinic, or other similar program in any sport shall not begin until the conclusion of the final WIAA State tournament of the school year. 2. Participants in a school sponsored sport may not have any contact with a school coach or participate in any practice, clinic or camp after August 1st.

TITLE IX, BULLYING AND HARRASSMENT

All concerns or issues related to bullying, harassment or Title IX shall be reported to the Title IX Coordinator, Julien Pollard Franklin Pierce Schools, 253-298-3037 or in writing to 315 129th St S, Tacoma, WA 98444

TRAVEL REGULATIONS FOR ATHLETICS

The following rules will be enforced whenever travel is involved to other schools for athletic or activity events.

1. All athletes must travel to and from activities or athletic events in transportation provided or arranged by the school district.
2. Athletes and students will remain with their team and under the supervision of their coach or advisor when attending away events.
3. Athletes and students will follow all school and district rules when attending away events and riding district transportation. Athletes and students will represent their school and Franklin Pierce School District in a prideful and appropriate way showing good sportsmanship at away events.
4. Students can ride or drive to off campus practices and games sites for golf, cross country, swimming and tennis provided the "Use of Private Car for Transporting Athletes" form is signed by parent or guardian.

In some cases within the district the district will not provide transportation to the practice or game site. It is the student and/or parent responsibility to provide their own transportation to practice or game.

WIAA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Franklin Pierce School District is a member of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association.