

Garfield-Palouse Middle School 2025-2026

Athletic Handbook

Garfield-Palouse School District

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Garfield, WA 99130

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Tom Korst, Superintendent/Principal



VISION STATEMENT

Achieving Excellence Together

Everyone Succeeds, No Exceptions, No Excuses!

Raider Athletic Handbook

2025-2026

STUDENT ACTIVITY RULES

The sixth, seventh, and eighth graders are eligible to participate on most athletic teams. Athletic teams available are as follows: Football, Basketball, Volleyball, Baseball, Cross Country, Track, and Cheer

Students, who are absent from school for illness or any reason that has not been prearranged, may not participate in practice/game for that day without consent from the Athletic Director and/or Principal.

If a student has an unexcused tardy on the morning of a practice or game, they will not be able to participate.

Academic Guidelines

Passing grades in all classes must be maintained during the sport season to continue eligibility. Grades are pulled every Friday for athletic/activity participation. If a student has a failing grade when grades are pulled, in any class, they will not be eligible to participate in any scheduled games or activities the following week (Monday-Friday). They will be eligible to practice.

Equipment

1. Issued equipment:
 - a) School equipment checked out by the student athlete is his/her responsibility. He/she is expected to keep it clean and in good condition.
 - b) Loss of issued equipment or damage to issued equipment will be the student's financial obligation.
 - c) No student will be cleared for subsequent sports until all equipment is returned or paid for from a previous sport
 - d) Mouthguards must be purchased by the parent/guardian. Your child cannot participate without a mouthguard.

Bus Conduct and Trips

1. In accordance with state law, we are under the direction of the bus driver and will abide by the state school bus guidelines when on the bus.
2. Homeward trips should allow some degree of silence so that those who wish to rest will have the opportunity to do so.
3. Please prearrange transportation home after trips. You should tell your parents of the approximate time of your arrival.
4. While at away games you are to remain in the school building you are visiting unless you receive permission from the coach to do otherwise.

Participation

1. Prior to a student athlete participating on any athletic team or being issued any athletic equipment, he/she is responsible for having on file with school officials a record of the following:
 - a. Physical examination with a physician's signature.
 - b. Emergency information card.
 - c. School insurance, or waiver form signed by parent/guardian.
 - d. Signature of a parent/guardian and the athlete signifying they have read and accepted the regulations of this handbook.
 - e. Acknowledgment of risk as required by the district.

Practice

You must have 12 practices before your first football game and 8 before competing in basketball, volleyball, track, baseball, and cross-country.

Code of Conduct for All Activities at Garfield-Palouse Middle

1. The use, consumption, possession, transmitting or sale of alcoholic beverages and/or tobacco is prohibited. Also prohibited is inappropriate direct association with minors in possession of alcoholic beverages. Inappropriate association means no attempt to remove self from situations where such use is occurring.
 - ❖ Attendance at functions such as community events, weddings, anniversaries, etc. where legal adult alcohol consumption is taking place is not a violation of this code.
 - ❖ If students find themselves in a situation that is in violation of the code, they must make an immediate, clear effort to disassociate themselves from the situation. Such efforts might include but not be limited to:
 - a.) Driving away.
 - b.) Call for a ride home.
 - c.) Walking away.
2. The use, consumption, possession, transmitting or sale of illegal or legend drugs, including anabolic steroids, is prohibited. The definition of legend drugs is those drugs that can only be taken legally via prescription to the user.
3. Students involved in alleged breaking of local, state or federal law both in and outside of the school and who after a school investigation of that action have proved detrimental and embarrassing to the school, athletic program, and or community may be subject to disciplinary action. (This includes harassment and hazing.)
4. Absence Policy regarding participation in activities.

The student will not be allowed to practice or play if he/she:

 - ❖ Leave school because they are sick and go home or to the doctor.
 - ❖ Needs to use the infirmary for an illness or needs to rest due to illness.
 - ❖ Is tardy or late to school due to the need of more rest due to an illness or earlier sickness.

Students will be allowed to play if they:

 - ❖ Have a prearranged absence.
 - ❖ Are absent for a school activity.
 - ❖ Have a prearranged doctor or dentist appointment. (The office has been notified in advance.)
 - ❖ The Athletic Director will determine if the student's health issue was not an illness.

5. Students are expected to attend all scheduled meetings, practice session, performances and games whether school is in session or not. If a student must miss a practice or meeting, arrangements must be made in advance with the coach or advisor. A practice will be considered unexcused if not cleared by the head coach prior to practice.
6. Students representing Garfield and Palouse are expected to exemplify the highest standards of good sportsmanship and appropriate behavior. Sportsmanship consists of the qualities of courteousness, fairness, and respect for officials, teammates, opponents, advisors, coaches, and others associated with the activity. The use of profane or obscene language and/or acts of vulgarity will not be tolerated.
7. All student participants must travel to and from contests with the team and in transportation provided for this purpose. After contests, students may be signed off the bus only by their parent or guardian. **Any arrangements other than stated above must be made in advance with the principal and/or activities director.**
8. In addition to the rules stated herein, other rules regarding requirements for participation and academic eligibility, responsibility for equipment, overall conduct, and bus conduct are published in the student activity handbook. If you need a copy of this publication, contact the school.
9. Advisors/coaches may require adherence to additional written rules needed to direct their activities.
10. Code of conduct violations would be in effect for the school year. This would include all practices, games, contests, and activities AND include time between one activity and another/or between sport seasons. Code of conduct violations would continue through the school until the last day of the school year.
11. Code of conduct violations would be in effect for the calendar year (August 29th, 2012 to September 1st or the first day of school the following year.) This would include all practices, games, contests, and activities AND include time between one activity and another/or between sport seasons.

Penalties

The following consequences will result in breaking the above rules. Participants will receive written notification of rule violation and consequences which they must sign and return to their head coach/advisor. These will be kept on file with the athletic director.

Violation Rule #1

I. First Violation:

- a) Suspension from participating in 15% of the total activities scheduled for the season.

Honesty Clause: A student who voluntarily admits to or gives an honest response to an inquiry about a first time violation of Rule 1 will be: suspended from participating in 10% of the total activities scheduled for the activity season.

II. Second violation:

- a) If a second violation occurs during the **same season** the student will be suspended for the remainder of that season and must be cleared by the activities director/Principal before participation in the next season. 2. If a second violation occurs during the participant's career at the Middle School and High School, suspension will be for 15% of the activities schedule during the season for that activity AND

- b) The student will be required to participate in an assessment by the Whitman County Mental Health, Palouse Recovery Center or other approved agencies. All cost shall be the responsibility of the participant and his or her parents. **The assessment must be scheduled before the student is allowed to continue to participate in that season.** This section must be completed before the participant may turn out for their next season.

III. Third Violations:

- a) If a third violation occurs during a students' combined career in middle and high school, the student will become immediately ineligible to participate; suspension from participating will be from the time of infraction until the **beginning** of the activity during which the violation occurred.
- b) A third violation of these rules during a student's combined careers in middle and high school will require the student to complete another assessment. The assessment and recommendations of the assessment (from (a) above) must be signed and carried out before the participant may complete in their next eligible activity season.
- c) The student must also complete 10 hours of community service. Community service hours also must be completed before the participant can become eligible and will be administered under the direction of the Principal or the Athletic Director.

IV. Fourth Violation:

- a) A fourth violation of these rules during a participant's combined careers in middle and high school will result in suspension of all school activities for the remainder of the student's enrollment at Garfield-Palouse.
- b) The student may appeal to the Superintendent for reinstatement to activities following one calendar year of suspension.

Violation of Rule #2 (RCW 69.41.020-69.41.050)

I. First Violation:

- a) The student shall be immediately ineligible for interscholastic competition in the current interscholastic sports program and/or school approved activities for the remainder of the season.
- b) In order to be eligible to participate in the next season and/or school approved activity, the student shall meet with the school eligibility board, consisting of advisors/or coaches and administrators selected by the principal to request approval to participate. The board will recommend to the principal appropriate action to be taken in the student's case. The school principal shall have the final authority as to the student's participation in the interscholastic sports program and/or school approved activity.

II. Second Violation:

- a) A student who again violates Rule #2 during their career in middle and high school shall be ineligible and prohibited from participating in any program for a period of one calendar year from the date of the second violation.

III. Third Violation:

- a) A student who violates Rule #2 for a third time during their career in middle or high school shall be permanently prohibited from participation in any activity.

Violation of Rules #3-#10:

Possible consequences:

- a. Verbal reprimand
- b. Suspension from participating in games but still allowed to practice.
- c. Suspension from the team for the remainder of the season.
- d. Any violation that occurs after “b” has been applied will result in “c”.

APPEAL PROCEDURE

Appeal Procedure:

- a. Action will be taken by the coach or advisor after consultation with the principal.
- b. Upon the imposition of penalty for infractions(s) of said rules or regulations, any aggrieved student and parents of said student shall have the right to conference with the Council made up with the Garfield Principal, Palouse Principal, and Activities Director. If the student and parents do not make a written request for this conference with five (5) school days of the action grieved, they will have waived their right to the conference and the appeal procedure. The conference is to be held within three (3) school days of the request.
- c. The aggrieved party may appeal to the superintendent of schools within three (3) school days of the appeals decision. The superintendent of schools, after hearing the case in detail, shall render a decision within ten (10) school days of the hearing.
- d. The aggrieved party may appeal the superintendent’s decision to the joint board of directors. The joint board of directors, after hearing the case in detail, shall render a decision on the case within ten (10) school days of the hearing. **This decision shall be final.**