

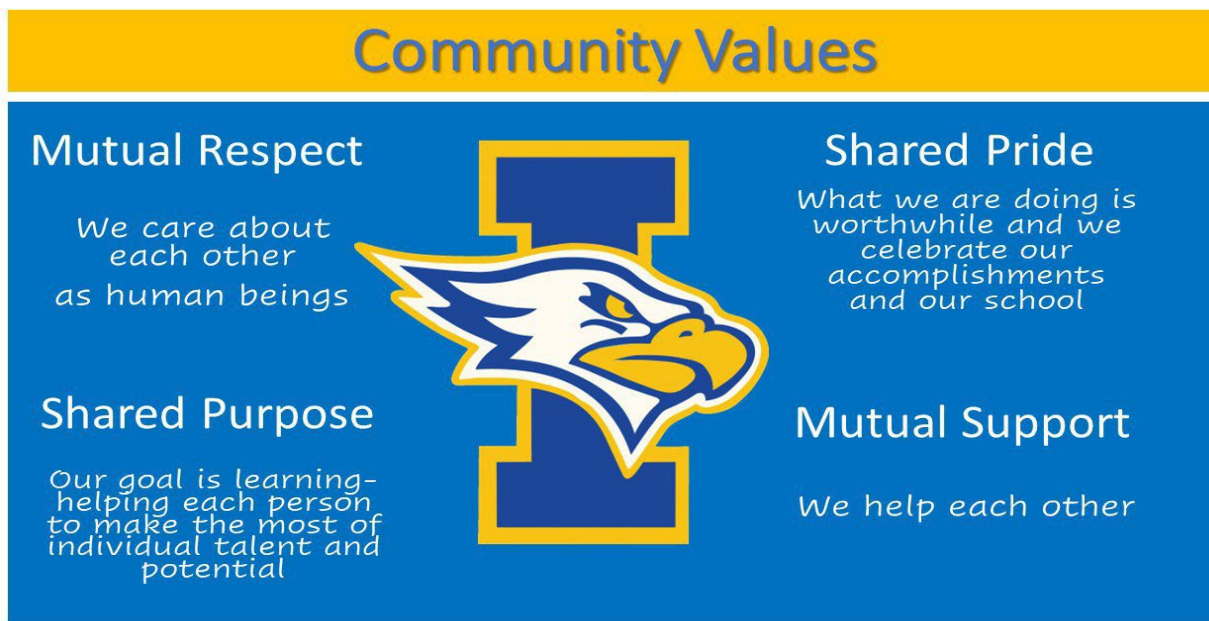
West Irondequoit Central School District's Athletic Participation Agreement



As a well-rounded member of our West Irondequoit student community, it is our hope that you will take advantage of membership in any of our diverse offerings. It is very important that the students and parents/guardians understand, agree to, abide by, and reinforce the essential expectations regarding participation in athletics. This agreement is entered into via signature page by all stakeholders at the beginning of each athletic season through the direction of individual coaches and supported by the appropriate administrators (i.e. academic eligibility, attendance, etc.). Guidelines have also been established for the benefit of those who participate as representatives of our community. The visual below outlines four shared school community values that participation can foster. The intent is to support students to ensure that academics and attendance are of the highest priority.

Coaches are responsible for distribution of the Code of Conduct and Athletic Participation Agreement as well as the record keeping of the signature page, as renewed each athletic season, as evidence of this agreement.

Student athletes are expected to read and abide by the West Irondequoit Code of Conduct and the Community Values as outlined in the IHS and Dake Handbook.



Academic Requirements: (7-12)

Eligibility to participate is to be based upon the student working at a successful level defined as a minimum grade of 65% and meeting attendance requirement of 85% or higher, as it aligns with the calendar season of each season. For eligibility purposes, grades and attendance will be pulled on designated dates during marking periods to be defined by the supervising principal, director, or designee within each season. These dates will be communicated (and referenced) to students and families during registration/sign-up for that sport and will occur minimally every 4 weeks. This information will be communicated prior to the season start date through the following venues:

- Athletic Director and Building Principals will determine pull dates for each season prior to the start of the school year and Fall season.
- Principals will include dates for grade pulls aligned to marking periods in the family newsletter before the start of the school year and will remain in the newsletter through the end of the school year.
- Athletic Director will communicate the pull dates for each season before the season starts to coaches via email and will provide a timeline for when pull dates must be shared with parents/guardians.
- Coaches will communicate the pull dates through pre-season parent/guardian meetings and electronically based on the guidance given by the Athletic Director.

If a student is failing 2 or more courses and/or is below the 85% attendance requirement at the time of the data pull, the student will be placed on the ineligibility list and be issued an academic participation card. Progress will be closely monitored by building administration, the student's counselor, and coaches. Teachers and support personnel will work with the student and parents/guardians to develop a comprehensive plan of support.

Academic Participation Requirements

Panorama is leveraged by coaches to determine those students failing two or more courses. Coaches will work with the Athletics Office to identify students at risk of eligibility. The following are the guidelines to determine eligibility:

- Failing 2 or more- indicates the student may continue to practice but is not eligible for games until their grades have improved to become fully eligible (failing 1 course or less). Between games, the student can review current grades with their designated staff member and regain full participation at any time.
 - Through coach access to Panorama, progress reports will be reviewed with the student on Thursday of each week.
- Failing 1 or less - indicates the student is able to fully participate in games and continue practicing. Supervising staff will be notified for monitoring purposes.

The following process will be followed to support the student athlete:

- On the designated dates, Athletic Director and building administration review the Panorama dashboard to identify students who are not meeting participation requirements outlined above.
 1. Athletic Director notifies coaches of any students not meeting participation requirements.

2. Building administration notifies students and students are called to the office to complete an Academic Intervention plan.
3. Building clerical sends email notifications to parents/guardians.
4. Coaches and building administration should check in regularly (minimally once per week) on student progress until students are no longer failing 2 or more courses. Students will not play in games until they are failing fewer than two classes. Once a student is no longer failing two or more classes, they are again eligibility is restored.

Special Circumstances

The district recognizes that unique circumstances occasionally arise that require special consideration. These cases will be reviewed on an individual basis, and a final determination will then be made regarding the student's eligibility status. In these cases, the Principal or the Principal's designee shall make the determination, and such decision shall be final.

Stand Alone Events/Activities (i.e., dances, special events, banquets etc.)

Students are expected to abide by this Participation Agreement, the Code of Conduct and the school's handbook. Students who are failing 2 or more classes will be unable to purchase a ticket or attend the event. Students can work with their grade-level administrator, school counselor and teachers and create a plan of intervention to raise their grades. Once the student is failing no more than 1 class, they can attend the event.

Student Behavior and Expectations

1. Alcohol & Other Drugs

Smoking, electronic cigarettes, vaporizers, smokeless tobacco, or possession of any such paraphernalia is prohibited in school buildings, on school grounds or at any school-sponsored activity. This includes the BOCES campuses and any school transportation vehicles. The use or possession of any products containing nicotine in any form is also prohibited. FDA-approved smoking cessation products, such as nicotine gum, are excluded from this prohibition when possessed by an adult over the legal age of sale.

No person shall have in their possession, upon any premises inclusive of school facilities, property or at school sponsored events, mood-altering substances including but not limited to nicotine, alcohol, cannabis, and/or illegal or non-prescribed “controlled substances” in any form. (“Cannabis” refers to any product derived from Cannabis; “Controlled substance” as defined by Penal Law Section 220.00). Paraphernalia related to possession, purchase/sale, or use of any mood-altering substance is prohibited upon any premises to which these rules apply.

In instances when the presence of a mood-altering substance is suspected, school officials have the discretion to employ the use of approved testing devices. These devices detect the presence of mood-altering substances and will assist staff in promoting the health, safety, and welfare of students. School officials reserve the right to submit substances or paraphernalia found on school grounds or at school-sponsored events to law enforcement for further testing or confiscation.

Except for students and district personnel, persons who violate this provision will be directed to leave school grounds. Law enforcement officials will be notified of any violations of the law. District personnel who violate this provision will be subject to consequences under the terms of Board of Education Policy #6150, Drug Free Schools and Communities, Drug Free Workplace. Students who violate this provision will be subject to consequences under the terms of Board of Education Policy #7320, Alcohol and Other Drugs, and of Administrative Regulation #7320R, Alcohol and Other Drugs.

If a student violates the drug and alcohol policy, consequences are applied, per Board of Education Policy #7320 including restorative actions. For any students who are found to have consumed, sold, or been in possession of any form of drugs and/or alcohol off school grounds, consequences will be applied as outlined in the Offenses section below.

Offenses occurring prior to 9th grade will be reset at the end of 8th grade.

- **First Offense:** Student works with coach and substance abuse prevention counselor to complete an education and restorative program. If a student engages and completes the requirements of this program, eligibility is maintained.
- **Second Offense:** Student will engage in a supportive program of counseling, education, and restorative action as outlined by the activity leader, administration, and substance abuse prevention counselor. Additionally, the participants will be suspended for 20% of the total number of competitions in that season. If the student participates in the supportive

program, they will still be eligible to practice with the team. If the suspension occurs at the end of a season, then the remaining percentage of competition suspension applies to their next season.

- **Third Offense:** The student is immediately suspended from participation for the remainder of the season for the remainder of the year. To become eligible for any participation during the next calendar year, from the date of the incident, the student must engage in an intensive supportive program as outlined by the activity leader, administration and substance abuse prevention counselor.

2. Bullying, Harassment, and Discrimination

No person, alone or with others, shall:

Engage in behavior which consists of repeated attempts or acts to intimidate or coerce others by the real or threatened:

- infliction of physical, verbal, written, gestured or electronically transmitted (electronic aggression) emotional and/or psychological abuse or intimidation;
- attacks on the property of another;
- verbal taunts, name-calling, unwanted touching, and put-downs including, but not limited to, a person's perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexuality, gender identity, gender expression or sex;
- efforts to extort money or possessions;
- efforts to exclude others from peer groups.

These prohibitions shall exist regardless of whether the person against whom the conduct is committed participated in, consented to, or acquiesced in the conduct deemed as "bullying."

In accordance with the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA), the Board of Education has appointed a DASA coordinator in each school who is trained in human relations situations with respect to the areas of race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexuality, gender identity, gender expression and sex. The coordinators will play an active role in prevention, intervention and follow-up to incidents of harassment or discrimination.

The reasoned and civil exchange of opinions or debate, protected by state or federal law, is not prohibited by this section.

3. Hazing

No person, alone or with others, shall solicit, encourage, aid, or engage in 'hazing'. Hazing shall mean intentional, knowing or reckless acts against or the coercion of a person or persons for the purpose of initiation into, affiliating with, holding office in or maintaining membership or employment in any organization, department, club or athletic team such as:

- efforts intended to induce physical pain, embarrassment or humiliation;
- efforts intended to deprive another of rights;
- efforts intended to limit freedom to move;

- efforts are intended to create physical or mental discomfort.

These prohibitions shall exist regardless of whether the person against whom the conduct is committed participated in, consented to, or acquiesced in the conduct deemed as hazing. The reasoned and civil exchange of opinions or debate, protected by state or federal law, is not prohibited by this section.

4. Social Media and Cyberspace

At all times and in all contexts, West Irondequoit community members, including Board members, students, staff, and parents/guardians, are expected to maintain appropriate relationships with one another based on mutual respect and professionalism. While individuals are entitled to their private thoughts, expression of such thoughts through social media or other electronic means are considered public. When that occurs, messages that convey disrespect, insult, rumor, slander, bullying, harassment, discrimination, threat, or other injurious elements can disrupt the educational process, damage its culture and harm individuals. In addition, they may violate the law and Board of Education policy.

The Board expects all members of the West Irondequoit community to be aware of these dangers and to avoid them. In the event that abuses occur, the Board and administration will take appropriate action intended to repair damage, impose appropriate consequences, and/or prevent future occurrences. For additional information, see Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities.

Suspension from Athletic/Extracurricular Participation

In partnership with the appropriate administrator, the coach or advisor reserves the right to determine appropriate consequences on an individual basis. Coaches also have the right to set rules, expectations, and consequences for their organization that go beyond this participation agreement. For example, behaviors that don't result in school consequences may result in suspension from participation. Egregious offenses that lead to law enforcement involvement and a criminal charge will result in a suspension from participation as determined by the Director of Health, Physical Education, and Athletics and Building Principal working with the coach. A student always has the option of appealing an eligibility issue to the Superintendent.

Students who do not adhere to the participation expectations established for their team, as outlined in this document, and as articulated through the Code of Conduct, may be suspended from that team as specified in the Regulations. A student will be given the opportunity to appear informally before the suspending authority (i.e., Director of Health, PE, and Athletics or Building Principal and/or Assistant Principal) and to present their side of the story as part of a general discussion of the conduct under review. In addition, students and their families will have the right to appeal against the suspension as specified in Policy #7313, Suspension of Students.

Parents/Guardians wishing to appeal the decision of a building principal or Director of Health, PE, and Athletics' suspension must appeal to the Superintendent of Schools. Any appeal to the

Superintendent must be in writing and delivered to the Superintendent's office within five (5) days of the decision of the Director of Health, PE, and Athletics or Building Principal.

School Uniforms and Equipment

School uniforms and equipment are loaned to students and must be returned to the school at the end of the season. Students may be ineligible to participate in other extracurricular activities, and Senior students may be denied their cap and gown for graduation until uniforms/equipment are returned, or payment is made.

Sportsmanship & Citizenship

Student-Athletes, spectators, and parents/guardians are expected to behave in an orderly manner while attending athletic events or any school-related events throughout the year. All negative and potentially harmful behaviors as outlined by the NYSPHSAA, Section V, and MCPSAC are prohibited. It will be at the discretion of the Director of Health, PE, and Athletics, or the to review all matters or sportsmanship and citizenship violations regarding student behavior, in conjunction with NYSPHSAA, Section V, MCPSAC regulations, and the West Irondequoit Code of Conduct, as applicable.

School-Provided Transportation

The district will provide buses or authorized school vehicles for all away athletic contests. All student athletes must travel to and from competitions with their team on the school-provided bus or van, under the supervision of coaches or staff. Any exceptions to these travel guidelines must be put in writing at least 24 hours before the event by the parent/guardian for approval by the designated administrator or designee.

**I have read and I understand the West Irondequoit Central School District's
Athletic Participation Agreement for Grades 7-12.**

Parents/Guardian Signature: _____ Date Signed: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date Signed: _____

Electronic Signature Agreement

By typing my full name in the box below, I am signing this agreement electronically. I agree my electronic signature is the legal equivalent of a wet signature on this agreement. I consent to be bound by the agreement.

Student electronic Signature-

Parent/Guardian electronic Signature -

The District's Code of Conduct is available here:

<https://www.westirondequoit.org/parentsstudents/code-of-conduct>

For more information, access the following policies:

- Policy #3171 Discrimination, Harassment and the Dignity for All Students Act
- Policy #3421 Title IX and Sex Discrimination
- Policy #3170 Non-Discrimination
- Policy #3122 Social Media
- Policy #7221 Participation in Graduation Ceremonies and Activities
- Policy 7320 Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs and Other Substances
- Policy #7313 Suspension of Students