

Granville Exempted Village School District



Athletic Handbook 2026-2027

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PREFACE

This handbook has been prepared in order to define the division of duties and responsibilities, to help prevent duplications of effort and misunderstanding of intentions, and to express in practical form the aims and objectives of the Granville Middle and High School athletics program.

As in any program involving the efforts of professional personnel, it is understood that they bring to their positions the skills acquired through training and experience which will be utilized in accord with the philosophy of the Granville Exempted Village Schools. This handbook is set forth as a guide to assist in solving the problems which may arise and to promote uniformity in the operation of the various phases of the program.

STATEMENT FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

It is the belief of the Granville Exempted Village School District Board of Education and Administration that athletics play a vital role in a student's educational experience. Our purpose is to provide each student athlete the educational opportunity to develop lifelong values, good citizenship and ethics through interscholastic athletic competition. Participation by students in athletic competition is a privilege subject to Board policies and regulations. While the Board takes great pride in winning, it emphasizes and requires good sportsmanship and a positive mental attitude as prerequisites to participation. No verbal, emotional, or physical abuse of a coach, participant, official or fan will be tolerated.

PHILOSOPHY & CORE VALUES OF THE GRANVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S ATHLETICS PROGRAM

The Granville Athletic Department is committed to fostering a positive and inclusive environment that promotes collaboration, responsibility and resiliency to meet the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of all student-athletes. We believe that athletics play a vital role in developing well-rounded individuals who possess the skills and values necessary for success both on and off the field.

The Granville Athletic Department Core Values:

- **Be A Great Teammate - "We Not Me"**

- Blue Aces are Collaborative and Empathetic

Granville Athletics believes that being a great teammate is essential to the success and unity of our athletic teams. This core value emphasizes the importance of collaboration, support and mutual respect among all team members.

- **Choose Integrity, Build Legacy - "Do Right"**

- Blue Aces are Responsible and Critical Thinkers

Granville Athletics believe in always "Doing the Right Thing" as a fundamental principle for our students and community. This value emphasizes the importance of ethical behavior, integrity and making positive choices.

- **Competitive Excellence - "Win The Day"**

- Blue Aces are Resilient and Adaptable

Granville Athletics believes in "Competitive Excellence" as a driving force behind our athletic and academic pursuits. This value emphasizes the importance of striving for the highest standards of performance and continuously improving to achieve outstanding results.

CHAIN OF COMMAND – ORGANIZATION CHART

The Administrative Head of the Granville Athletic Program is the High School Principal. They may appoint the Athletic Director or designee to act in his/her place. When a problem arises, the chain of command shall be:

- Step 1 - Head Coach
- Step 2 - Athletic Director
- Step 3 - Principal
- Step 4 - Superintendent
- Step 5 - Board of Education

Athletic Director

The athletic director shall be jointly responsible to and under the immediate supervision of the principals and the Superintendent for the administration of the extracurricular activity programs.

Building Administrators

The District building administrators are responsible for the overall operation of all aspects, both curricular and extracurricular, in their respective buildings. These individuals are to direct and supervise all personnel and programs involving the students under their respective charge.

Superintendent

The Superintendent of School is the chief executive officer of the District and has the authority to direct and supervise all District personnel and programs.

Board of Education

The Granville Exempted Village Board of Education is the highest authority within the school district and final decisions concerning the operation of any phase of the school program rest with this Board.

BOARD APPROVED ATHLETIC TEAMS

Fall Sports	Winter Sports	Spring Sports
Boys & Girls Cross Country	Boys & Girls Basketball	Baseball
Boys & Girls Golf	Boys & Girls Bowling	Boys & Girls Lacrosse
Boys & Girls Soccer	Coed Indoor Track & Field	Boys & Girls Track & Field
Coed Cheerleading	Coed Cheerleading	Boys Tennis
Field Hockey	Coed Competition Cheerleading	Softball
Football	Coed Swimming & Diving	
Girls Tennis	Boys & Girls Wrestling	
Volleyball		

SPORTSMANSHIP

In Granville High School Athletics, sportsmanship is expected! As a role model in the school and the community, coaches are expected to help promote good sportsmanship through their actions and words.

OHSAA Sportsmanship Responsibilities

For Student Athletes:

- Treat opponents with the respect they deserve just as you would want to be treated.
- Exercise self-control at all times, accepting decisions by officials, coaches and teammates and abiding by them. Display no behavior that could incite fans.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of the officials. Never argue or make gestures indicating the dislike of a decision.
- Always set a good example for your teammates and fans to follow
- Accept both victory and defeat with pride and compassion, being neither boastful nor bitter.
- Congratulate opponents in a sincere manner following either a win or a loss.

For Coaches:

- Always set a good example for members of the team and fans to follow.
- Instruct members of the team in regard to proper sportsmanship and develop consequences for those who do not abide by sportsmanship standards.
- Respect the judgment of contest officials and display no behavior that could incite fans.
- Treat opposing coaches, participants and fans with respect.
- Realize the purpose of interscholastic athletics participation is human growth and development of your athletes so that they can develop skills they can use throughout their lives. Winning is secondary.
- Shake hands with officials and opposing coaches in public.

For Parents & Fans:

- Realize that a ticket is a privilege to observe a contest and support Interscholastic athletics. It is not a license to verbally assault anyone or act in an inappropriate manner.
- Conduct yourself as a positive role model and encourage other fans to follow suit.
- Realize that interscholastic athletes are part of the educational experience and that its benefits go beyond the final score of the contest.
- Our purpose in interscholastic athletics is human growth and development of the participants so that they can develop skills they can use throughout their lives. Winning is secondary.
- Respect the decisions made by officials and learn the rules of the game to better understand their decisions.
- Respect and support the task of the coaches.
- Respect opponents as students, and acknowledge them for striving to do their best.
- Be a fan, not a fanatic. If you are a parent, be a parent that your child can be proud of.

SUMMER, TOURNAMENT, AND OVERNIGHT TRIPS

Occasionally long trips, summer trips, and overnight trips afford our students special opportunities and experiences that they may not otherwise have. These experiences include, but are not limited to, OHSAA tournaments that are more than 60 miles from Granville. Any individual expense to the participants not covered by the designated funds for the activity should be included on Granville Schools Request for Approval for out of State/Overnight Field Trips. These trips must be approved first by the Athletic Director and then the Building Principal. The Superintendent and Board of Education must approve all out of state/overnight trips. All hotel

accommodations for overnight trips must have 4 people per room or the maximum allowed by the hotel. If special circumstances are needed they must be communicated and approved by the athletic director.

All summer trips must be approved by the Athletic Director / Principal and payment for transportation will be paid by the sport participants and/or designated funds. The Athletic Department will approve and pay for OHSA state tournament trips.

GENERAL INFORMATION

All required pre-participation forms must be completed by parents and students via FinalForms prior to participating in a practice or contest.

- Physical Exam Forms must be completed by all athletes and be on file in the athletic director's office before an athlete may practice or compete. These can be dropped off in the athletic office or uploaded to Final Forms. A copy of the OHSA Preparticipation Physical Evaluation form can be found here.
- Emergency Medical Forms must be completed and signed by the parent or legal guardian. A copy must be on file in the athletic director's office and a copy carried by the coach to the practice area and all athletic contests. No student shall participate until this is done.
- Proof of Insurance Coverage or Waiver of Insurance (included on the physical exam form) must be on file in the athletic director's office prior to participation.
- OHSA Eligibility/Health Information Privacy Act (HIPA) Forms must be completed by each athlete and kept on file in the athletic director's office.

Team and Individual Pictures at the middle school and high school level must be taken by the photographer(s) approved by the GEVSD Board of Education. All senior banners will be ordered through the athletic office prior to the season. Senior banners pictures will be taken during team pictures. Only banners purchased through the athletic department will be displayed on GEVSD facilities

State and Local Affiliation: The GEVSD will adhere to all rules and regulations of the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSA) and the Licking County League (LCL). All head coaches or their designated assistant must attend required rules interpretation meetings of the OHSA. The athletic director will be the designated representative of the Superintendent of schools and will represent Granville at all LCL and District Board of Control meetings.

Conditioning/Open Gyms/Contact Period: The OHSA governs conditioning, open gyms, and coaching contact days. Coaches shall stringently follow these rules and make the athletes aware of the rules. These rules vary by sport and each coach should consult with the athletic director for an interpretation. The availability of the fitness center and facilities will be established by the A.D. in coordination with the performance coach and coaching staff. The fitness center will be supervised by a Board approved coach. **Athletes involved in an in-season activity shall not participate in conditioning or open gym programs for another sport without the approval of the Athletic Director, In Season Coach and the Athletic Training Staff.**

Anti-hazing Policy: It is the belief of the GEVSD Board of Education that hazing activities of any type is inconsistent with the educational process and shall be prohibited at all times. No administrator, faculty member, or other employee or volunteer of the school district shall encourage, permit, condone, or tolerate any hazing activities. No student, including leaders of student organizations, shall plan, encourage, or engage in hazing. Hazing is defined as doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act, including an act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or

physical harm to any person. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing does not lessen the prohibition contained in this statement.

Equipment: Uniform items such as jackets, jerseys, or warm-ups will only be worn to contests and not used as outside general wear except as authorized by the Athletic Director. Equipment that is property of the Granville Board of Education is not to be borrowed.

Inclement Weather: When school is cancelled due to inclement weather, all school events/activities/practices will also be suspended and facilities will be closed. If the weather conditions improve, these events/activities/practices may be rescheduled with the permission of the Superintendent of Schools and the Athletic Director only. The attendance of co-curricular participants at any rescheduled event/activity/practice will be at the option of the co-curricular participant/parent.

Athletic teams are fully funded and administered or cooperatively funded and administered. Athletic teams are all recognized and approved by the Board of Education and are required to abide by all District, League, and State rules and regulations. These rules include, but are not limited to the following: Academic Eligibility, Training Rules and Regulations, Board of Education Approval, Coach Certification along with Board Approval and/or Budget Oversight
Athletic teams are supported by a combination of district funds, gate receipts, and Athletic Booster Club donations.

These funds provide:

Transportation	Awards	Enhanced Player Experiences
Coaches and Administrative Salaries & Benefits	Supplies (including equipment and uniforms)	Entry Fees
Facilities & Maintenance	Officials' Fees	

OHSAA & GRANVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETIC ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

The Granville Board of Education establishes excellence as a standard and strives to maintain an appropriate balance between academics, athletics and extracurricular activities. It is important that students meet the following academic requirements in order to be eligible for any extracurricular activity.

1. A student must earn a 2.0 grade point average for a nine-week period to be eligible for interscholastic competition. The GPA will be applied separately for grades 7-8 and grades 9-12 and calculated each grading period. Eligibility can be maintained, gained or lost each grading period. A student's eligibility will be determined by examining each nine-week GPA independent of the previous grading period. Semester and final exams are not to be calculated in the nine-week GPA assessment.
2. A student must also qualify under all rules established by the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA).
 - a. High School Eligibility Guide and Checklist for Student Athletes
 - b. 7th & 8th Grade Eligibility Guide and Checklist for Student-Athletes
3. If a student does not meet the 2.0 GPA Requirement they can be granted an academic waiver if the following procedure is followed:

- a. The parents and student request and help develop a written academic improvement plan stating specifically the ways the student will improve his/her grades.
 - b. The parents and students meet with the Athletic Director or designee and have the academic improvement plan approved.
 - c. An Academic Waiver may be granted twice during a student's four years in the high school, but only once during each school year. A middle school student can receive one academic waiver during his/her two years in middle school.
 - d. The academic waiver can be revoked if at any time during this period the student fails to follow the requirements set forth in the improvement plan. Weekly eligibility checks will be a part of all granted waivers. These will begin the third week of the grading period. Students who have been granted an academic waiver must maintain a 2.0 GPA or above and be passing a minimum of 5 credits as shown on these required eligibility checks in order to participate in contests.
 - e. Eligibility or ineligibility of a student continues until the start of the fifth school day of the next grading period.
4. A failing mark in any course(s) at the end of a grading period or at the end of the semester will not make a student ineligible for participation if that student maintained at least a 2.0 GPA in all subjects and has passed the OHSAA 5 credit requirement for HS and MS.
 5. Students and parents are encouraged to track the student's grades regularly using the PowerSchool.
 6. Student Athletes who are deemed ineligible for the quarter are permitted to still practice and travel with their team as long as they are completing weekly grade checks with the Athletic Director as well as maintaining passing grades if cuts have not been made on a particular team/squad.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation of Athletic Teams

- All team members are expected to ride the bus to and from the contest. Under special circumstances, if a player must return home with a parent rather than ride the bus, the parent must sign a Non-School Approved Transportation form for their son or daughter prior to leaving. The principal or athletic director may approve a change of transportation for a contest due to special circumstances.
- Whenever possible the district transportation will provide transportation to and from activities outside the district. All participants are to travel to away contests on transportation approved by the school district. Participants may return home in transportation provided by or approved by the parent (as long as the driver is at least 21 years old) at a time determined appropriate by the coach. A signature of the parent indicating approval and appointment of driver is required prior to the granting of approval.
- Any overnight trip accommodations will be the responsibility of the team and/or parents. During the state tournament, accommodations needed for trips more than 2hrs (one way travel) away from Granville will be paid by the Athletic Department with four occupants to a room. A coach(es) and driver accommodations will also be paid by the Athletic Department
- The coach is responsible for the conduct of his/her team while being transported. All rules for bus riding should be adhered to at all times.
- Students may not transport themselves to and from contests.

- **Bus Guidelines**
 - a. A coach must accompany the bus when a sport is on the road.
 - b. A first aid kit must accompany the bus and contain the "Emergency Medical Forms" for each athlete.
 - c. The coach will assume all responsibility for conduct and discipline of the athletes on the bus in conjunction with the driver.
 - d. Athletes must be ready to leave 15 minutes prior to departure. Athletes who miss the bus will not be allowed to participate.
 - e. No food or drink will be allowed on the bus.
 - f. All athletes are expected to dress appropriately for trips. No spikes or cleats are to be worn on the bus.
 - g. All participants are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner and not to use foul language.
 - h. Only assigned personnel may ride the bus. No spectators or coaches' family members are permitted.
 - i. The coach will check the bus when it returns to see if all equipment has been removed.

GRANVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT EXTRACURRICULAR SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND TOBACCO POLICY

Policy: No student extracurricular participant shall possess, use, apply, show signs of use or consumption, distribute, or buy any substance which is represented as or understood to be a mind/mood altering substance, tobacco, including E-Cigarettes, counterfeit drugs, or drug paraphernalia.

Violations: Violations must be reported to the building principal and/or athletic director. Violations must be observed or verified by employees of the Granville Exempted Village School District and/or law enforcement official/s.

Consequences for Violations:

At all violation levels the student/athlete must enroll in and be working toward completion of:

- 1) an assessment conducted or supervised by a licensed chemical dependency counselor approved by the Ohio Department of Alcohol & Drug Addiction Services and
- 2) any education, counseling or recovery program recommended by the counselor to its completion.

If an athlete refuses to be assessed by a licensed chemical dependency counselor, refuses to follow the recommendations of the counselor, and/or fails to provide documentation showing enrollment, active participation and completion in a prescribed program, then the athlete will be denied participation until the prescribed program is completed.

The student/athlete and parent(s)/guardian(s) must be willing to waive all rights to privacy and allow the athletic director to monitor the progress of the assessment program and report any failure of compliance to the building principal.

In the event that the student/athlete and parent(s)/guardian(s) revokes such rights, then participation, (including in season and out of season activities) may be denied by the Athletic director until the appropriate documentation is provided.

Any cost for the assessment and follow-up program shall be the responsibility of the student/athlete and parent(s)/guardian(s).

First Offense during the student's school career: (any or all consequences will apply)

- Loss of any leadership position activities for the remainder of the year and may not receive MVP or other post-activity school honors.
- Suspension from 30% of the scheduled regular season athletic contests. Any partial game suspensions shall round to the next whole game (Ex: 2.1 = 3). The suspension from contests will begin immediately. The percentage of suspension not completed would carry over to the next season/activity.
- During the violation period, the athlete shall be permitted to practice with the team, but shall be denied travel, dress for games and the privilege to sit with the team on the bench during games.

*For non-athletic groups which are competition or performance-based the Coach/Director of that activity shall recommend an appropriate consequence directly to the Principal.

*Middle School violations will be handled per the Middle School handbook.

Second Offense during the student's school career: (any or all consequences will apply)

- Loss of any leadership position activities for the remainder of the year and may not receive MVP or other post-activity school honors.
- Suspension from 50% of the scheduled regular season athletic contests. The suspension from contests will begin immediately. Any partial game suspensions shall round to the next whole game (Ex: 2.1 = 3). The percentage of suspension not completed would carry over to the next season/activity.
- During the violation period, the athlete shall be permitted to practice with the team, but shall be denied travel, dress for games and the privilege to sit with the team on the bench during contests.

*For non-athletic groups which are competition or performance-based the Coach/Director of that activity shall recommend an appropriate consequence directly to the Principal.

*Middle School violations will be handled per the Middle School handbook.

Third Offense during the student's school career: (any or all consequences will apply)

- The student is removed from all extracurricular activities for one year from the date of the infraction meeting.
- After one year of the suspension has been served, the student may apply to the Athletic director for reinstatement. The final determination of reinstatement is at the sole discretion of the athletic director and Principal. The student may apply each year for reinstatement.

Appeals: Suspension from extracurricular activities may be appealed to the principal according to the District's "due process" guidelines.

Self/Parent Referrals: If a student/athlete, as well as parent(s)/guardian(s) with their children, seek assistance to deal with a tobacco, drug, or alcohol problem by self-referral to their Coach, Principal and /or Athletic director prior to being accused of school rule violations or criminal misconduct, and agrees to follow recommendations for treatment, the athlete will be denied participation in one (1) season contest. The referral will be considered a "first offense" for purposes of the substance abuse policy. Any subsequent refusal or failure to follow requirements of an approved treatment program will be considered a "second offense". The cost of assessment, treatment, rehabilitation or counseling shall be the responsibility of the student/parent/guardian. If a student is observed or it has been verified the student has violated the policy prior to the self-referral, the policy violations will be enforced. A student may not use a self-referral more than one time in middle school and one time in high school.

GRANVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT BYLAWS & POLICIES

SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION POLICY: EXTRACURRICULAR

This document outlines the procedure for random prohibited substance use testing of participants in extracurricular activities* in grades 9-12 in the Granville School District and works in conjunction with the expectations outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.

Overview: The Granville School District Board of Education recognizes that the extra-curricular program provides students with educational, character building, and leadership experiences. The Board also recognizes that it is a privilege to participate in the program and, therefore, expects program participants to refrain from using prohibited substances. To help participants meet this expectation, the Board has adopted this Random Substance Use Testing Policy for all participants.

Prior to participating in any extra-curricular activity, all participants and a parent or guardian must accept the substance use testing procedure described within this policy. The consent form for testing must be received by the School District before the participant may engage in any extra-curricular activity thus creating the pool* for random selection. Random testing of the participant pool will take place regularly throughout the school year.

If a parent objects, as a matter of conscience, to having their child or children submit to random substance use testing and, therefore, opts to have their child or children be exempted from the random testing protocol, yet maintain eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities by otherwise complying with the Granville School's extracurricular code of conduct, the parent will be required to sign an opt-out letter each year for that student's participation.

The results of the random tests taken pursuant to this policy will not be documented in any student's academic records. Information regarding the results of the substance use test will not be disclosed to criminal or juvenile authorities absent legal compulsion by valid subpoena or other legal process.

This policy will be reviewed by the board annually.

Random Tests

- The results of the first random test for which a participant is selected will be delivered, by the agency performing the test, only to the participant's parents/guardians. This test result will not be reported to school officials unless the parent or guardian wishes to do so.
- The first time a participant receives a positive substance use screen, the participant and the participant's parents/guardians may enlist the assistance of the School District without penalty to the participant.
- The School District will inform families and the participants about counseling options.
- Participants who receive a verified positive test will be placed in the random selection process for no less than two additional tests .
- A percentage of the participant pool will be tested on a regular basis throughout the school year.
- The participants will be selected randomly by the testing agency retained by the School District to perform the tests.
- Students will be tested at school for any prohibited substances.
- The results of follow-up tests, discussed below, will be reported to both parents/guardians and the School District.
- Any counseling expenses will be the responsibility of the parents.

Positive Results During Follow-up Testing:

- After a participant's first positive test, the testing agency will report subsequent positive substance use tests to the designated school administrator. The results also will be reported to the parent(s)/guardians(s).
- The designated school administrator will inform the coach/advisor. The only information revealed to the coach/advisor will be the fact that "the student is ineligible to participate."

Consequences of Positive Results subsequent to initial random tests: (any or all consequences will apply)

- The first positive result from a follow-up test will result in the participant being denied participation for fifty percent (50%) of the contests and competitions in which s/he is currently participating or intends to participate. If the participant elects to complete an approved drug/alcohol treatment program, the participant may return to the extra-curricular activity after not participating in twenty-five percent (25%) of the season.
- The second positive result from a follow-up test will result in the participant being denied participation for one full extracurricular activity season in which s/he is currently participating or intends to participate. If the participant elects to complete an approved drug/alcohol treatment program the participant may return to the extra-curricular activity after not participating in fifty percent (50%) of the contests and competitions.
- If there is not sufficient time remaining in the season to complete the period of denial of participation, then any remaining balance would carry forward to, and be served during, the student's next season/activity. Any balance carried forward cannot be served in an activity in which the student is participating for the first time without approval from the administration.
- The third positive result from a follow-up test will result in the participant being denied participation in extracurricular activities for twelve (12) months from the date of the violation. In order to regain participation privileges after the one-year participation denial, the participant must complete and document a successful rehabilitation and/or counseling program approved by the building administrator.
- For activities without a defined season, the Principal and Advisor will determine the appropriate consequence.
- During the period of denial of participation, the participant will be permitted to practice with the team, but shall not be permitted to travel with the team, dress for contest and competitions, or have the privilege to sit with the team on the bench during the contest and competitions.
- In addition to the consequences set forth above, participants whose follow-up substance use screens are positive will lose any leadership position for the remainder of the year and will be ineligible for any other non-academic postactivity school honors for that school year.

All random substance use test results from extra-curricular activities and parking permits are combined and cumulative throughout a student's entire school career.

Prior to denial of participation, the participant, the parent/guardian, the coach/activity advisor, and a building administrator will meet and discuss the consequences set forth in this policy.

Parameters of Substance Use Screen:

The substance use screen performed under the terms of this policy will be designed to discover the following substances:

- Any controlled substance listed in R.C. 3719.41 unless legally prescribed by a physician or other medical professional.
- Any tobacco product.
- Alcohol, including, but not limited to intoxicating liquor, wine, beer, mixed beverages, malt liquid and malt beverages as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.01. The term "alcoholic beverages" also means any liquid or substance, such as "near beer" intended for use as a beverage, which contains alcohol in any proportion or percentage. The term "alcoholic beverage" does not include a substance used for medical purposes in accordance with the directions for use provided in a prescription or by the manufacturer and in accordance with School District policy and rules related to the use of prescription and nonprescription drugs so long as the substance is (1) authorized by a medical prescription from a licensed physician and (2) kept in the original container which container shall state directions for use.

Testing of Non-Participants:

The Board will offer, at the parent's expense, a substance use screen to any student in grades 9-12 who does not participate in extracurricular activities who volunteers for the testing. The designated school administrator must be notified in writing of the parent/guardian's participant to be included in the random pool. The results of the test will only be shared with the parents/guardians.

Appeals:

The appeal procedure for penalties imposed under this policy is the same as the appeal procedure for any denial of participation and is set forth in writing in the athletic handbook.

Numerical Data:

Aggregate numerical data will be retained by the testing company and provided in an end of the year report to the Board.

*For purposes of this policy a "participant in extra-curricular activities" is defined as any student who must maintain academic eligibility in order to participate or a competitive activity that does not associate a grade with participation.

*The "participant pool" will include all participants.

DEFINITION OF TERMS:

Extracurricular: Extracurricular activities are those out-of-class pursuits which may or may not be associated with a specific class, in which students enjoy freedom in selection and participation and which carries no grade or academic credit.

Possess: Possession includes, without limitation, retention on the student's person without any attempt to distribute. This not only includes articles being found on one's person, but also in purses, wallets, backpacks, lockers, desks or vehicles on school property.

Show Signs of Use or Consumption: Signs of use or consumption may include behavioral observations such as uncoordinated physical movement, slurred speech, etc. Signs may also include physical manifestations such as alcohol on breath, dilated pupils, etc., regardless of whether there are any observable behavioral changes

Distribute: Distribution includes, without limitation, delivering, selling, offering to sell, giving as gift, passing, or sharing.

Mind/Mood Altering Substances: Mind/mood altering substances shall include all alcoholic beverages, all pills, and all other drugs or other substances which may have the effect of exciting, relaxing, or otherwise changing moods. Examples include but are not limited to beer, wine, wine coolers liquor; household aerosols, solvents, adhesives, and fuels used as inhalants; steroids, marijuana, hashish, cocaine, in all forms, hallucinogens, opiates, heroin, barbiturates, stimulants, and designer drugs. (Designer drugs are those drugs with an altered molecular structure, but otherwise identical to another recognized drug.)

Counterfeit Drugs: Counterfeit drugs are those non-prescription substances which may have mind/mood altering properties. (Also referred to as “drug look-alikes.”)

Drug Paraphernalia: Drug paraphernalia includes any utensil or item as defined by ORC 2925.12 and 2925.14 and/or that which in the school's judgment can be associated with the use of mind/mood altering substances. Examples include, but are not limited to, roach clips, pipes, rolling papers, measuring scales, spoons, razor blades, and syringes. Drug paraphernalia may also include pagers, beepers, and other devices as defined by ORC 3313.7537.

Enrolled: From the first day the participant is registered to attend Granville Schools until that student leaves or graduates from the Granville Schools. Under special circumstances, the Athletic director can determine the end of the season.

Season: From the first day the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) allows a team to practice – until the awards banquet for each particular sport. Under special circumstances, the Athletic director can determine the end of the season.

Verified: Shown to be the truth, to the satisfaction of the Building Principal and/or Athletic director, or a law enforcement officer, by the presentation of evidence or testimony.

ATHLETICS CODE OF CONDUCT

The opportunity to participate and represent Granville in Athletics is a distinct privilege. In order to earn this privilege and keep it, there are certain rules and regulations that a student must follow.

All students, who participate in school-sponsored programs, must conduct themselves in a way so as to reflect favorably on themselves, their school and community. It is expected that they will follow the instructions of their coaches. All students involved in extracurricular activities must abide by both the student and extracurricular code of conduct. The Granville extracurricular code of conduct is in effect from August 1 through July 31 of each school year, 24 hours a day, for those who made the team. The student will not demonstrate unsportsmanlike conduct. Any conduct that results in dishonor to the athlete, the team, or the school will not be tolerated. Acts of unacceptable conduct, such as, but not limited to, theft, vandalism, hazing, disrespect, immorality or violations of the law tarnish the reputation of everyone associated with the athletic programs and will not be tolerated. The penalty for violation of the Code of Conduct section shall range from a minimum of 10% denial of participation for the season or succeeding season to a maximum of permanent denial of participation in extracurricular activities.

1. The coach has the right to develop and enforce rules and regulations that are necessary to maintain a well-balanced climate for each activity. These rules and regulations must be consistent with board policies, be approved by the athletic director and be on file prior to the start of the season. Each participant will be given a copy of these rules.
2. Each participant is responsible for his/her equipment and uniforms. All equipment and uniforms must be returned to the coach or paid for in full for new replacement.

3. Students must behave in an appropriate manner while participating in the extracurricular activity. Such actions as, but not limited to, insubordination, fighting, negative attitudes, inappropriate language or gestures are in violation of the code of conduct.
4. Students must follow all rules and regulations listed in the Granville Schools Student Code of Conduct.
5. Any student serving an out of school suspension may not participate in extracurricular activities that day. Any student serving an in school suspension or Saturday School may participate in extracurricular activities that day. Students are not exempt from Saturday school because of activity participation or practice.

SQUAD SELECTION

The following are guidelines and procedures that will be used when selecting a squad or participants in an activity.

- It is appropriate for a coach, with input from the head coach, to determine the size of an athletic team based on the criteria of: talent and work ethic of those trying out, number of individuals trying out, and optimum number determined by the coach to conduct productive practices and ensure adequate substitutes.
- “Cut” lists will not be posted. Rather, a private conference should be held between the immediate coach and each candidate, during which the coach explains the reasons why the student did not make the team/group and suggests possible alternatives for improving skills or possible other activities.
- Prior to conducting the selection of the participants, the coach must communicate the following items to the participants;
 - The length of the selection period.
 - The procedure that will be used to select the participants.
 - The criteria that will be used in the selection process.
 - The minimum and maximum number of participants who will be selected.
 - The commitments that the participants will be obligated to perform if selected for the activity.
- It is appropriate to “bring players up” (9th grader to junior varsity squad or 9th/10th grader to varsity squad) under the following conditions.
 - The player’s maturity level, the likelihood of having opportunities to participate at the higher level. Before bringing a player up to the varsity level the ability of that player to “letter” should be considered

SCHEDULES, HOLIDAYS AND CONFLICTS

Coaches have a right to establish a reasonable set of scheduled activities out of season, including the summer (prior to the first official day of practice) for participants and to encourage their participation. Furthermore, they have the right to expect some reasonable amount of participation by prospective team members throughout the off-season, including summer. Students must understand that off-season practice offers an excellent opportunity for individual improvement in skill level. However, coaches must recognize that students may be faced with competing time demands. Therefore, such participation shall be considered voluntary. No penalties should occur as a consequence of non-participation.

Coaches have the right to expect students to begin participation on the first officially scheduled day of in-season practice.

- Students are expected to attend scheduled competitions during holiday breaks. Penalties shall be at the discretion of the coach and should be clearly stated in published team guidelines and rules.

- No practices or competitions are to be scheduled on Sundays or on the following holidays: Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Easter or Good Friday without the permission of the Athletic Director and Superintendent. Students may observe their own religious days and holidays without penalty.
- A period of at least five consecutive days is set aside over the Winter Break for families to celebrate the holidays. Optional practices may be scheduled. For HS teams this may be reduced to three consecutive days which must include Christmas Day and Christmas Eve providing that the team's calendar designates a minimum of two additional practices on school nights off during the season. A school night is defined as an evening prior to a school day.
- Students should be freed of any obligations during half of spring break. For HS teams this may be reduced to four consecutive days off which may include the first practice at the end of the school day after which spring break commences. For example, when school ends on a Friday the team could take off Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday.
- Once competition begins, the number of practices/contests days per week should not exceed six at the high school and five at the middle school.
 - High school practices should be limited to 120 minutes and middle school practices should be limited to 90 minutes exclusive of set-up and take-down time. Scheduling of practices during end-of-season tournament time may be adjusted with the approval of the athletic director and/or principal. Two additional 20-minute periods per week may be used for such activities as team meetings, weight training, film sessions. No more than two practices per day for high school and one for middle school shall be permitted.
 - If facilities are available, as determined by the athletic director, athletic team practices should conclude by 9:00 p.m. on school nights. Home athletic contests on a school night involving both a junior varsity and varsity contest should start no later than 6:00 p.m. Contests on school nights involving a varsity game only should start no later than 7:30 p.m.
 - Once the school year begins any morning practices for high school teams on school days must be approved by the athletic director and/or principal and shall be used as the only practice for that day.
 - The maximum number of middle school athletic contests on school nights permitted per week is two (any exception to this must be approved by the athletic director and/or MS Principal).

ATTENDANCE POLICY

- A student athlete must be present a full day to participate in a game. The only absences that can be excused to participate in a game are as follows:
 - A medically excused absence (**pre approved 24 hours in advance - ONLY on game days**)
 - A School Approved Field Trip
 - Pre approval from Principal
- If a student is late on a game day, the student will have the opportunity to participate as long as they are present before the end of their first scheduled class and then make up that time at the conclusion of their last scheduled class of that same day with the Athletic Department with approval of the High School Principal. Any other occurrences will be at the principal's discretion. This will be documented as an Attendance occurrence.
- A student athlete must be present during the school day to participate in practice. If a student is absent on a practice day for any other reason than those stated above it will be documented as an attendance occurrence. After the third attendance occurrence during the school year the student athlete will be required to meet with the Athletic Department and develop an Athlete Attendance Improvement Plan.

- Any student athlete that has 72 or more hours of absence in a school year will be required to meet with the Athletic Department and develop an Athlete Attendance Improvement Plan.
- The following regulations for snow day/early dismissal days due to weather conditions or other similar school closing.
 - No practices or contests for those students in middle school without the approval of the MS Principal and/or the Athletic Director.
 - Practice times for snow days for high school students will be established at the beginning of each week throughout the season. Contests scheduled on calamity days will be held upon the mutual agreement of the schools involved.
 - On days that school has been dismissed early due to weather conditions, no practices or home contests will be held.
 - It is up to the discretion of the high school coach to decide if a practice should be held on a snow day. Students missing a practice on a snow day will not be penalized. A communication list should be established by the coach for purposes of calling off or changing practice schedules.
- Coaches will provide each participant with weekly or monthly calendars.
- All athletes must take five consecutive days off before beginning practices for the next sport. Exceptions to this rule may be approved by the athletic director, upon affirmative consensus of the coach, parent, athlete, and trainer using the 5 day waiver form.

SCHEDULING CONFLICT RESOLUTION

- When a student's dual participation in extracurricular activities results in a conflict, the following policy will apply. Games and Performances will have priority over rehearsals and practices. If a conflict occurs with a game and performance or a practice and rehearsal the student will be able to choose what they want to participate in without penalty. Once the student has made the decision they will need to inform the coach and advisor their choice at least 10 days in advance of the conflict.
- If a student, or his/her parents, chooses to attend a practice or performance contrary to these guidelines, the offended activity advisor/coach may apply an appropriate consequence to the student. Exceptions to the norm may be made by the school's administration.

SPORTS PER SEASON / TEAM TRANSFER

Student athletes are permitted to participate in multiple sports during the same season. A preseason meeting will be held with the student athlete, parents, Athletic Director, and head coaches of the sports involved. The athlete will declare a "primary" sport. A mutually accepted agreement regarding practice schedules and game/meet participation for the entire season will be developed in collaboration with all parties and signed by all participants in the meeting.

Any athlete not completing a season for any reason will not be permitted to practice/conditioning with another team in that same season, until the previous team has completed its season (including tournaments).

GRANVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETIC AWARDS

Certificates are given at the following levels:

- All participants who do not letter at the high school level
- All participants at the middle school level

Graduation Numerals are given to all first year high school participants.

Varsity Letter G & sport pins are given to First year Varsity Award participants.

Certificate & Bar are given to second and third year Varsity Award participants.

Athletic Department Standard Awards will be given to athletes from each team at the end of the season. These include:

- Be A Great Teammate Award
- Choose Integrity, Build Legacy Award
- Competitive Excellence Award

*Only one set of numerals and one letter will be awarded per student.

Criteria for awards:

- A student-athlete must complete the season in good standing to receive his/her award.
- A student-athlete who becomes injured before meeting the criteria for awards may receive the award, with the approval of the Head Coach and the Athletic director.
- A senior who has been a four-year participant may receive an award even though the requirements may not have been met.
- Criteria for individual sports vary by sport and are available in the athletic director's office. Typically, to earn a varsity letter requires playing time in half the contests or quarters.
- Any student-athlete who advances beyond the District in an individual sport may receive an award even if the seasonal criteria were not met.
- Any team who reaches the State Semi or Final competition may receive their awards en masse even if the seasonal criteria were not met.
- No other awards will be paid for by the athletic department with the exception of those prescribed by department regulations – e.g. MIP, Athletic Department Standard Awards
- Additional individual awards at the non-varsity levels must be approved in advance by the athletic directors and will not be paid for by the athletic department or the General Athletic Boosters fund. These awards can be paid out of a team's designated booster fund.
- Managers letter in their first year at the varsity level. Statisticians and Video Tapers letter in their second year at the varsity level.
- Special awards (i.e. League Champions, state qualifier, state finalist patches, etc.) may be ordered through the athletic director and will be paid through the team's designated booster fund.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is discouraged other than the traditional Booster Club-sanctioned activities. Additional fundraising activities undertaken by a member of and for the Activities Department should be approved in advance by the Athletic Director. Any coach who receives approval for a fundraiser is totally responsible for the organization and execution of the event. Approval will include the designation of the funds raised.

Any camp created and/or conducted by a coach or other school personnel should be approved in advance by the Athletic Director. The coach request shall include a detailed description of costs for participants, schedule of activities, location of activities, and anticipated expenses/profits. All camp profits will be accounted for by the Head Coach of the activity, and a balance sheet provided to the athletic director, and all monies will be deposited into the Booster Designated Fund account through the Athletic Office.

Donated funds which are specifically designated for a particular activity shall be deposited with the appropriate Booster organization' designated fund for use only by that activity. All "designated fund guidelines, spending guidelines and policies" will be followed by coaches.

INJURY PROCEDURES

All coaches will be provided their sport specific Emergency Action Plans from the Athletic Trainer. A copy will be on file with the Athletic Director prior to the first practice each season. In the event of an injury the director/coach shall:

- Apply necessary emergency first aid (consultation with the Athletic Trainer is advised when practical).
- If the injury is serious, call 911.
- The individual's Emergency Medical information should be reviewed immediately and provided to EMT.
- In the event of serious injury, the director/coach should notify the student's parent or legal guardian as quickly as possible.
- Report incident to Athletic Director with 24 hours

PARENT CONCERNS

Parents have the right to discuss issues involving their child with the coach. This discussion should take place under the following conditions.

- Concerns should not be raised immediately before, during or immediately following a contest. An appointment should be made, no earlier than the next day, with the coach directly. Parents should not attempt to address issues without an appointment. Either party may have a third person present as an observer.
- Appropriate concerns to discuss with the coach include, but are not limited to:
 - The treatment of the child
 - Skill improvement and development
 - Concerns about the child's behavior.

Topics about playing time, team strategy and play calling are not appropriate. Discussion of other athletes is not appropriate.

If the coach's response is not deemed satisfactory, parents may contact the athletic director first, then the building principal, and finally the superintendent in order to express concerns. The decision of the superintendent is final.

Parents have the right to expect written communication from the coach regarding the following:

- Schedule of practices and contests
- Coach's philosophy
- Expectations for all players
- Special requirements for team membership such as special equipment, fees and so forth
- When a child is injured during participation (Communication will come from Athletic trainer)
- Any disciplinary action that results in removal of the child from participation.

DENIAL OF PARTICIPATION/DUE PROCESS

A student who does not comply with the rules and regulations set forth in the athletic handbook or rules and regulations established by a coach for a specific activity may be denied participation from an athletic activity.

Should it become necessary to deny participation in an activity for any length of time, the following procedures will be used:

- The coach should inform the athletic director of the possibility of a denial of participation.
- The coach or the athletic director will inform the student in writing of the intention to deny participation from the activity. The student will be told the reasons why this action is taking place and the length of time the coach intends to deny the student participation.
- The student will be given the right of an informal hearing with the coach and/or the athletic director.
- If the student does not receive satisfaction at the informal hearing, a formal hearing may be requested within 72 hours of the informal hearing with the athletic director/principal. The student has the right to be represented by counsel at this hearing.
- If the student does not receive satisfaction from the principal, the student then has the right to ask for a hearing from the superintendent. This request must be made in writing within 72 hours of receipt of the findings from the principal. The superintendent's decision is final.

LETTER OF INTENT TO DENY PARTICIPATION

Once a student is denied participation for violating rules and regulations set forth in the athletic handbook and/or rules and regulations established by a coach for a specific sport the parents will receive a follow-up communication which will list the actual reasons for possible denial and the length of time participation will be denied.

ADDITION OF NEW ACTIVITY OR SPORTS TEAM

The Board recognizes that additional teams may be organized in the school community. These teams may request District sponsorship and/or full or partial funding. The Administration will consider the following when making a recommendation to the Board for such sponsorship and/or funding.

Criteria for entry:

1. Fields and facilities are available for the new team.
2. Funds are available to support the new team.
3. Ability to fill a schedule with Central Ohio opponents of comparable size.
4. OHSA or LCL-Ohio sponsors the activity, or a similar statewide governing body and post-season tournament exists.
5. Impact of addition of this team on current teams in terms of:
 - a. Numbers
 - b. Gender equity
 - c. Facilities
6. Competent, local coach available to direct the activity.
7. Club teams that show growth, consistency and sustainability may request full-fledged funding as a "pilot sport" from the athletic department and the district. Acceptance will be determined by the GEVSD Board of Education. Growth, consistency and sustainability can be shown by:
 - a. Growth in numbers to include a Varsity, JV, and/or Freshmen teams.
 - b. Growth in numbers outside of the original group of participants, especially at the 9th/10th grade levels over time, to exhibit sustainability of the program for the future.
 - c. Growth in popularity of the sport locally, statewide, and nationally.
 - d. Ability to be competitive with other Central Ohio teams.
 - e. Consistency in the following areas as it relates to our current teams:
 - i. Coaching turnover, philosophy, and coaching certification

- ii. Practice and game scheduling
 - iii. Positive representation of the community by the participants and coaches
 - iv. Coaches and participants uphold current athletic department and school guidelines, policies, and procedures
8. The GEVSD Board of Education will determine if funding occurs, number of coaches and their supplemental levels, and number and level of teams based on the evidence from the criteria above. Acceptance will put the sport into a “pilot sport” phase.
 9. Once a team has been accepted as a fully-funded sport, they will be placed in a two-year pilot program where they will be a fully-funded sport. This probationary period is to show continued growth and expansion of the sport’s popularity and participation amongst the student body. At the end of the two year pilot, the sport can request the athletic department to submit them as a permanent sport. The pilot may be extended for more than two years at the discretion of the athletic department, Superintendent, or the Board of Education, who has the final say in the matter.
 10. Failure to show growth or maintenance of the sport during the pilot years may result in the removal of the sport from funding by the GEVSD. If this occurs, the sport would have to restart their entry as a club team.

STUDENT FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

The Board of Education may institute “Pay-to-Participate” fees. These fees will be determined annually after consultation with the Athletic director and the Administration. Participants may be expected to assume some “reasonable” incidental expenses associated with participation in an extracurricular activity (incidental is defined as under \$125/participant unless written approval for a higher amount is granted by the athletic director after a majority vote of the participants and parents). Personally owned equipment and shoes are not considered in this \$125 maximum unless a specific brand or piece of equipment is required for participation. Banquet expenses other than the cost of the meal (meals should not exceed \$12/person) should be included in this \$125 maximum.

SIGNING CEREMONIES

Procedure

- Head Coach Verifies Scholarship Offer
- Receives Copy of Paperwork for signing
- Notifies Athletic Department of signees

Athletic Department responsible for:

- Secures Room for Ceremony
- Notify All Local Media of Date, Time and Location
- Notify Parents of Date, Time and Location of Ceremony
- Prepare Room – Sign, PA, etc.

Criteria for Student Athletes

- Any athlete receiving an athletic scholarship from a university’s athletic department
- Must be a member of Granville Exempted Village School District’s recognized team(s)
- Criteria is met if the student receives an athletic scholarship in a sport that GEVSD does not offer
- An appointment to a Service Academy for athletic purposes.

There will be 3 ceremonies a year based on time frames established by the NCAA. Ceremonies will be held at 3:00pm

PARTICIPANT EVALUATION & PARENT SURVEY FORM

The Athletic Department is committed to improving all of our Athletics to best meet the needs of our students. Your input is very important to us. Please complete the Participant Evaluation and parents should complete the Parent Survey form on FinalForms. An Email will be sent at the conclusion of the season prompting you to complete the evaluation.

PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Personal Communication Devices (PCDs) include, but are not limited to: phones, smartwatches, etc.) Students are expressly prohibited from using covert means to make or record (audio or video) of any school-related activity. Students are prohibited from using PCDs in a manner that infringes on a person's reasonable expectation of privacy. This includes using PCDs in locations and circumstances where a student may be changing clothes or in any stage of undress, such as gymnasiums, locker rooms, and restrooms/bathrooms

If you have questions or concerns with information contained in this handbook, please feel free to contact:

Scott Hinton	Lisa Ormond	Jess Wills	Chad Gossett
Principal	Principal	Athletic Director	Asst. Principal of Student Support & Activities
Granville HS	Granville MS	Granville HS/MS	Granville HS/MS
740-587-8105	740-587-8104	740-587-8174	740-587-8164