

**Northern York County School District**

**Code of Conduct for Athletic, Extracurricular, and  
Co-curricular Activities**



**Approved by the School Board  
July 21, 2026**

**2026 • 2027 • 2028**

## **PHILOSOPHY**

The Northern York County School District offers numerous activities, which are an extension of the classroom. The goal and purpose of these programs is to teach students sportsmanship, commitment, fairness, sacrifice, teamwork, and hard work. Additional goals include knowing how to win and how to lose, increasing the knowledge of the activity, realizing potential, and developing a healthy lifestyle and skill development. The activities are laboratories for learning. The Northern York County School Districts school board, administrators, teachers, and coaches/advisors are committed to excellence and providing the best opportunities for students. The participants must keep in mind that they are often in the public eye and that their personal conduct must always be above reproach. They have an obligation to create a favorable image and to gain the respect of their peers and adult citizens of the community.

The Northern York School District does not provide insurance for Northern students participating in School Board approved extracurricular, co-curricular, or athletic activities.

## **DEFINITIONS**

Extracurricular Activities - those activities, which are approved by the Board, but are not offered for credit toward graduation. Such activities shall be available to all students who voluntarily elect to participate. In circumstances where eligibility requirements are necessary or desirable, the Board shall be so informed and must approve the establishment of eligibility standards before they may be operable.

Co-Curricular Activities – those activities that are sponsored or approved by the Board, are offered for credit towards graduation, and have components of their program that include attendance at and participation in activities scheduled during non-school hours.

Athletics – the program of interscholastic athletics shall include all activities relating to competitive or exhibition sport contests, games or events involving individual students or teams of students when such events occur between schools within this district or outside the district.

## **EXPECTATIONS**

Students are expected to:

- Understand that their actions are representative not only of themselves, but also the entire program.
- Represent the Northern York County School District, community, and themselves in a positive manner.
- Show respect for all in authority as well as for all facilities, property, and equipment.

In addition to the Northern York County School District Code of Conduct, the following rules have been developed for interscholastic athletics, extracurricular, and co-curricular activities.

1. Students are the responsibility of the coach/advisor until the organization returns to the school district. When returning from an event, students are expected to leave the premises immediately.
2. All NYCSD students are required ride on the school provided transportation to and from away events. The only exceptions to riding school district transportation are a Family emergency or conflict with another school sponsored activity. Both require written parent request in advance. Requests by parents/guardian to take their student to or home from an event must be submitted in

email form at least 24 hours in advance. These requests can be submitted to the Athletic Director or Activity Advisor.

3. Students will not practice or participate in any activity on the day of in-school/out-of-school suspension. Students may be dismissed from the organization for multiple in-school/out-of-school suspensions.
4. Stealing will not be tolerated. The consequence will be determined by the Principal and either Activity Advisor or Athletic Director.
5. For events where the National Anthem and/or alma mater are performed, students shall be respectful and courteous. The first offense is a warning. The second offense is suspension not to exceed 3 days; the third offense may result in expulsion from the team/activity.
6. Students are expected to attend and participate in all practices, games, performances, etc. The only excusable absence from practice, game, or public performance is either an emergency situation or one previously approved by the coach/advisor/athletic director/principal.

Below are some examples of emergency situations:

- a. A death in the family
- b. Automobile accidents
- c. Illness and not in school

Below are some examples of absences that could receive approval assuming prior notification was given:

- a. College visits
- b. Medical appointments
- c. Religious observances
- d. Any other situation that the coach/advisor/athletic director/principal would consider acceptable.

The first unexcused absence may result in suspension from practices, games, or activities not to exceed 3 days. The second unexcused absence may result in removal from the team/activity.

7. Equipment/uniform/gear issued for practice and competition should be cared for properly. Students are expected to pay to replace any equipment that they lose or don't turn in at the end of the season.
8. Berating or criticizing officials/judges will not be tolerated. Being ejected from a competition will result in sanctions according to that activity's bylaws/procedures/ governing entity.
9. Disrespect towards any teammate, opposing team, coach, advisor, or administrator will not be tolerated. The first offense may result in suspension not to exceed 3 days. The second offense may result in removal from the team/activity.
10. Use of profanity or degrading comments is forbidden. The first offense is a warning. The second offense may result in a suspension not to exceed 3 days. The third offense may result in removal from the team/activity.
11. Students are expected to follow all school rules while riding to and from the activity. Standing, moving, or causing any type of distraction to the driver of the bus/van is not permitted. The first

offense is a warning. The second offense may result in a suspension not to exceed 3 days. The third offense may result in removal from the team/activity.

12. A student has not officially quit an activity until he/she has spoken with the head coach/advisor of the activity and has handed in all of his/her equipment. The student may not begin another activity, even if during another season, until they have completed the above.
13. Students are expected to follow the Social Media Guidelines as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. Violators may be subject to disciplinary actions including, but not limited to, suspension or removal from co/extracurricular activities and/or athletic teams.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

1. A student may not participate or practice for any athletic team or co/extra-curricular activity unless he or she is in school by 9:00am the day of the scheduled contest or practice. On a two-hour delay, students must be in school by 9:40 a.m. This rule may be waived by the Athletic Director, Activity Advisor, and/or Principal for extenuating circumstances. If a student leaves school before the end of the school day and does not return to school, he /she must provide a medical excuse in order to be eligible to participate in any contest/practice.
2. Students must demonstrate academic eligibility in order to participate in interscholastic athletics and co/extra-curricular activities. The student must be passing four and one quarter (4.25) credits on a weekly cumulative basis, starting with the beginning of the marking period. If students do not meet this standard they become ineligible for the following week (Monday through Saturday). High School Students must also be passing four and one quarter (4.25) credits at the end of each grading period. If not, they will become ineligible for the first fifteen (15) school days of the next grading period. The first time a student is ineligible he/she may practice but not compete/perform during the time of ineligibility. For the second and subsequent periods of ineligibility (of that season), students may not practice or compete/perform. Students carrying less than 4.25 credits (dual enrollment, etc...) must be passing all credits/courses to be eligible.

### **DISCIPLINE**

The Board establishes fair, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory rules and regulations regarding the conduct of all students. Students shall not be subject to disciplinary action because of race, sex, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, or handicap/disability. Participation in extracurricular, cocurricular, and athletic activities is a privilege, not a right.

All students in extracurricular, cocurricular, or athletic activities are expected to abide by the Student Code of Conduct as well as this Extracurricular/Cocurricular/Athletic code of conduct. Therefore, additionally, students participating in extracurricular, co-curricular, or athletic activities are required to abide by the rules listed below 24 hours per day and 7 days per week, when in season.

#### **1. Controlled Substance Violation**

Policy 227 prohibits students from using, possessing, distributing, and being under the influence of any controlled substances as defined by Policy 227. Violations of this policy shall constitute

grounds for suspension from participating in extracurricular, cocurricular, or athletic activities including but not limited to all competitions, performances, and practices.

- First Offense – From the date of the incident, a 30 Calendar Day suspension from the activity (within the School Year Calendar/no carry over) (includes games, competitions, practices, etc.)
- Second & Subsequent Offense - 1 Calendar year suspension from the activity from the date of the incident (includes games, competitions, practices, etc.)

To return to participation at the end of the suspension, the student must have successfully completed a Student Assistance Program evaluation, or a comparable evaluation completed by an outside agency that has been approved by the school. Additionally, student-athletes may need to satisfy the PIAA return-to-play requirements.

2. **Tobacco or Nicotine Vaping Violation** - An activity participant who violates the tobacco policy of the school district will be suspended from games/competitions from the date of the incident according to the following:

- First Offense – two (2) calendar weeks
- Second Offense – four (4) calendar weeks
- Third and Subsequent Offense – one (1) calendar year

3. **HAZING** – According to Board Policy #247, hazing occurs when a person intentionally, knowingly or recklessly, for the purpose of initiating, admitting or affiliating a student with an organization, or for the purpose of continuing or enhancing membership or status in an organization, causes, coerces or forces a student to do any of the following:

- a. Violate federal or state criminal law.
- b. Consume any food, liquid, alcoholic liquid, drug or other substance which subjects the student to a risk of emotional or physical harm.
- c. Endure brutality of a physical nature, including whipping, beating, branding, calisthenics or exposure to the elements.
- d. Endure brutality of a mental nature, including activity adversely affecting the mental health or dignity of the individual, sleep deprivation, exclusion from social contact or conduct that could result in extreme embarrassment.
- e. Endure brutality of a sexual nature.
- f. Endure any other activity that creates a reasonable likelihood of bodily injury to the student.

Any activity, as described above, shall be deemed a violation of this policy regardless of whether the consent of the student was sought or obtained.

Student activity or organization is defined as any organization, team, club, society, or group operating under the sanction of or recognized as an organization by the district.

**Hazing activities of any type are prohibited at all times and may result in temporary or permanent removal from the team/activity for the remainder of the season.**

4. **Other Circumstances** – In circumstances where an activity participant engages in any action resulting in a summary charge, misdemeanor charge, or felony charge under the criminal or juvenile laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (including but not limited to the following examples – theft, weapon,

assault, etc.), or any other offenses of the Student Code of Conduct, a committee consisting of the building principal, activity advisor or head coach, and athletic director (if athletic team) will review the individual situation and take appropriate action. The student will have an opportunity, if desired, to appear before the committee before final action is taken.

5. **BULLYING** – According to Board Policy #249, Bullying is defined as an intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or series of acts directed at another student or students, which occurs in a school setting, that is severe, persistent or pervasive and has the effect of doing any of the following:
  1. Substantially interfering with a student's education.
  2. Creating a threatening environment.
  3. Substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Bullying, as defined in policy #249, includes cyberbullying.

School setting means in the school, on school grounds, in school vehicles, or at any activity sponsored, supervised, or sanctioned by the school.

**Bullying of any kind will not be tolerated and may result in temporary or permanent removal from the team/activity for the remainder of the season.**



### Signature Page

By signing below, we acknowledge that we have read, understand, and agree to the contents of this Athletic, Extracurricular, and Co-Curricular Activities Code of Conduct.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

|                    |       |
|--------------------|-------|
| _____              | _____ |
| Student Signature: | Date  |

|                            |       |
|----------------------------|-------|
| _____                      | _____ |
| Parent/Guardian Signature: | Date  |

|                            |       |
|----------------------------|-------|
| _____                      | _____ |
| Parent/Guardian Signature: | Date  |