

MSHSAA Activities Handbook 2026-27

Gainesville Junior and Senior High Schools are members of the Missouri State High School Activities Association and the Summit Conference. Our athletic teams will follow the rules and guidelines of these organizations along with those established by the Gainesville School District.

The information in this handbook is intended to provide students, parents, faculty, and staff knowledge of our athletic department. Please take the time to review the attached guidelines, stating the example we expect our student-athletes to display as leaders of our school. We hope these guidelines will become part of your goals in preparing for the upcoming school year at Gainesville School.

GET INVOLVED! At Gainesville R-V Schools, teachers, and administrators encourage all students to become involved in the extra-curricular activities we have to offer. We believe that a dynamic program of student activities, including athletics, is vital to the educational development of the student. We realize that through these activities personalities emerge, talents are uncovered, friendships are made and leaders are developed. We also realize that students who get involved in activities do better overall in the classroom and attend school on a more regular basis than those students who do not participate. Young people learn a great deal from participation in interscholastic athletics. Lessons in sportsmanship, teamwork, competition, and how to win and lose gracefully are important aspects of the athletic program. Athletic participation also helps students develop healthy self-concepts as well as healthy bodies. Athletic competition fosters school spirit and provides an opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge, skills and emotional patterns learned through sports.

GAINESVILLE SCHOOL EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY STANDARDS

We hope your years in the Gainesville school system will be enhanced by your participation in one or more of our school's activities and that these years will be some of the most enjoyable of your life. Interscholastic activities are an integral component of Gainesville R-V Schools. Contests are for the benefit of student participants and are viewed as an extension of the classroom. Interscholastic activities provide worthwhile educational and social experiences for students, resulting in positive learner outcomes that contribute to the development of good citizenship and sportsmanship. While the athletic department takes great pride in winning, it does not condone "winning at any cost" and discourages any and all pressures that might neglect good sportsmanship and good citizenship. At all times, the athletic program will be conducted in ways that justify it as an educational activity.

Sports are fun, but they also offer benefits and lessons that carry over into all aspects of life. When our students are asked why they play sports; we should hear them say that they want:

- To have fun
- To improve their skills
- To learn new skills
- To be with their friends
- To make new friends
- To succeed or win
- To improve their physical fitness

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right! Creditable citizenship shall be one of the criteria for participation in Gainesville School Extracurricular Activities. Creditable citizenship includes both school and community citizenship which promotes the best interest of the school. Therefore, students shall exhibit standards of behavior that will bring credit to the student, the activities, the school and the community. Noncompliance with the athletic standards may result in

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suspension or expulsion from extracurricular activity or all extracurricular activities. If you have questions, please contact your head coach, the Activities Director Lance West or the Principal, Dr. Richard Wylie, at 679-4200.

Participation Theory

7th and 8th Grade: The junior high program teaches the basic skills of the activity. Interscholastic competition begins at this level and will afford as many students as possible the opportunity to participate within the schedule so that they may achieve their fullest learning and performance levels.

9th Grade: Some 9th grade activities are more limited in scope and availability for participation. Therefore, while an effort is made to allow as many students as possible to compete, the more advanced participants may receive the majority of participation time. Other team members may be offered the opportunity to participate in a schedule which demands lesser skills development.

Junior Varsity: This program will develop and utilize those that show the greatest ability in a variety of skills. Role specialization may become more evident at this level.

Varsity: The varsity team is for those who have learned the basic skills well and perform them in both practice and in interscholastic competition. Role specialization is often a necessity at this level and participants may be used in specific roles for the benefit of the entire team. Depending on the activity, not all wishing to participate will be able.

Blueprints for The Successful Player

Players are ambassadors for our school, community, team and their family. Our players are expected to exhibit leadership, sportsmanship and character **at all times**. Failure to do so will result in a due process procedure and could result in immediate dismissal from the team-activity.

The player as a leader

- Accepts playing time, positions, and roles designated by their coaches/sponsoring educator.
- Assists where, and whenever, possible in developing the skills of less experienced teammates.
- Accepts and respects the decisions of coaches'/sponsoring educator

Know the rules

- Obtains and reads the basic and supplemental rules of their activity.
- Learns and applies the rules of the activity to the best of their ability.
- Attends any pre-season rules or coordination meetings offered for student participants.

Know your organization and its policies

- Supplies the coach/sponsor with accurate information at all times.
- Shows respect for the team's equipment.
- Submit all fees, physical consent forms and parental consent forms, etc. to your coach /sponsor in a timely manner.

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Participation and performance

- Enjoy your activity. If something is troubling you then speak to your coach.
- Is prepared and is on time
- Attends practices and events with proper equipment.
- Listens and participates fully.
- Respect teammates and coaches. **NO MATTER WHAT.**

Gainesville School's Athletic Program Philosophy

The Gainesville School athletic program should provide a variety of experiences to aid in the development of favorable habits and attitudes in students that will prepare them for adult life in a democratic society.

Program Goal – The student athlete shall become a more effective citizen in a democratic society by learning:

1. To work with others in a democratic society we must develop self-discipline and respect for authority and a spirit of hard work and sacrifice. The team and its objectives must be placed higher than personal desires.
2. To be successful. Our society is very competitive. We do not always win, but we succeed when we continually strive to do so. We can learn to accept defeat only by striving to win and by developing a desire to excel.
3. To develop sportsmanship. To accept defeat as a dignified young adult knowing we have done our best. We must learn to treat others, as we would have others treat us. We need to develop social traits, including emotional control, honest cooperation and dependability.
4. To improve. Continual improvement is essential to good citizenship. As athletes, we must establish a goal, and we must constantly try to reach that goal. We should better ourselves in the skills involved and those characteristics set forth as being desirable.
5. To enjoy athletics. It is necessary for athletes to enjoy participation, to acknowledge all of the personal rewards to be derived from athletics and to give sufficiently of ourselves in order to persevere and to improve our program.
6. To develop desirable personal health habits. To become an active, contributing citizen, it is important to obtain a high degree of physical fitness through exercise and good health habits and to develop the desire to maintain a desirable level of physical fitness after formal competition has ended.

"A player who makes a team great is more valuable than a great player. Losing yourself in the group, for the good of the group - that's teamwork." -- John Wooden

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Gainesville School Administration

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>
Superintendent	Mr. Justin Gilmore
Principal	Dr. Richard Wylie
Asst. Principal	Mr. Trevor Hicks
Athletic Director	Coach Lance West

2026-2027 Coaching Staff

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Position</u>
Baseball	Blake Hobbs	Head Coach
Baseball	Bryce Hambelton	Assistant Coach
JH Baseball	Lance West	Head Coach
JH Baseball	Paul Walker	Assistant Coach
Girls Basketball	Nathan Houk	Head Coach
Girls Basketball	Lacy Roberts	Assistant Coach
JH Girls Basketball	Misti Eslinger	Head Coach
JH Girls Basketball	Barb Taylor	Assistant Coach
Boys Basketball	Lance West	Head Coach
Boys Basketball	Bryce Hambleton	Assistant Coach
JH Boys Basketball	Lance West	Head Coach
JH Boys Basketball	Paul Walker	Assistant Coach
Volleyball	Heidi Gaulding	Head Coach
Volleyball	Paige Frontera	Assistant Coach
JH Volleyball	Paige Frontera	JH Head Coach
Cross Country/Track	Gary Emrick	Head Coach
Cross Country/Track	David Murphy	Assistant
HS Softball	Joe Walrath	Head Coach
HS Softball	Jarred Walker	Assistant Coach
JH Softball	Renee Hambelton	Head Coach
JH Softball	Kristi Walker	Assistant Coach
Golf	Lance West	Head Coach
HS Cheerleading	Brandy Crouse	Head Coach
HS Cheerleading	Allisa West	Assistant Coach
JH Cheerleading	Allisa West	Head Coach

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Hazing and Harassment

It is the policy of the MSHSAA Board of Directors and the Gainesville R-IV School District that student hazing is inconsistent with the educational goals of the district and has no place in school-sponsored activity programs. Further, hazing poses a significant risk to the physical and mental welfare of students. Coaches, directors, sponsors and administrators must take an active role in the prevention of all forms of hazing and harassment. Students directly or indirectly involved in hazing other students, on or off school grounds, could be considered ineligible by the school administration under the MSHSAA citizenship standard.

Requirements Prior to Participation

“Eligibility to represent a school in interscholastic activities is a privilege available to students who meet the essential eligibility requirements established by member schools through this association and any additional requirements set by a member school for its own students. Eligibility is not a student’s right by law, and precedent-setting legal cases have affirmed this.”

Parental Permission

MSHSAA requires student participants to provide information that will be documented on the MSHSAA Participation Certificate. The following information is required before a student may participate in activities:

Prior to each year of interscholastic athletic participation, a student shall furnish a statement, signed by the student’s parents or guardians, which grants permission for the student to participate in interscholastic athletics.

Physical Exams and Insurance

Every athlete must have a current and valid physical before they are allowed to practice and compete. Physicals obtained after **February 1** of the current year are valid for the next school year. It is required that you have a certificate of an issued physical exam signed and authorized by a physician, advanced nurse practitioner in written collaborative practice with a physician, or a certified physician’s assistant in collaboration with a sponsoring physician stating that you are physically able to participate in athletic practices and contests for your school. You will not be permitted to practice or compete until a complete, signed certificate is on file at the school.

No one may practice or participate for a school until there is verification that you have basic athletic health insurance coverage. Athletes are required to provide their own health insurance. Insurance may be purchased through the school. See your coach or activities director for information on this matter if needed. On the physical form, parents are asked to verify coverage.

Tryouts

Tryouts allow selection of the most skilled, dedicated, and coachable students, helping teams compete to the best of their ability in leagues and tournaments. Ensuring Team Competitiveness

Gainesville R-V uses a fair and transparent process to create a structured, objective method for skills assessment for team position selection. This minimizes favoritism and bias. Additionally, the tryout system supports player safety and development is an utmost priority and proper assessment ensures that students placed on teams possess the physical ability and maturity to participate safely and benefit from skill development opportunities.

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Other reasons for tryouts include:

- Resource Management: Teams have limited resources—equipment, facilities, coaching staff—so tryouts help manage numbers and maintain program sustainability.
- Promoting Positive School Climate: Tryouts foster a sense of earned accomplishment and commitment, encouraging student athletes to work hard and value participation.
- Upholding Equal Opportunity: Tryouts provide all students with an equal chance to demonstrate ability; this supports district values of fairness and non-discrimination.

Code of Conduct Form

A copy of the athletic/activities code of conduct form needs to be signed by both a parent and the athlete.

Emergency Medical Authorization

Each athlete's parents shall complete an Emergency Medical Authorization Form giving permission for treatment by a physician or hospital when the parent(s) are not available, and permission for their child to participate.

Scheduling Conflicts With Other Activities

Every effort is made to avoid scheduling more than one activity on the same day. Conflicts do occur because students are involved in more than one activity. The following guidelines apply when conflicts occur:

- District and State events take precedent over the other scheduled activities.
- Events scheduled on the school calendar take precedent over rescheduled events.

Citizenship Requirements For Extra-Curricular Activities

A student shall not be considered eligible while suspended from school or with an unexcused absence. A student must be in attendance for a full day to be considered eligible to participate in an activity on that specific date unless it is a prearranged absence due to a family emergency. For contests on Saturday, the student must have been in school for a full day on the last day of the week in session.

Any student who is alleged to have acted in ways which misrepresent or tarnish the reputation of the Gainesville R-IV school district will be suspended from all activities pending a due process procedure. If it is determined that a student(s) has exhibited poor citizenship the suspension may be extended and/or be made permanent.

Transportation to Extra-Curricular Activities

The school provides transportation to extra-curricular activities. Students are required to ride the bus to events. Any student riding to an activity on school transportation must return on school transportation unless a parent or guardian communicates **through email, text, and/or the application SportsYou** with the sponsor and head coach about the transfer of responsibility for the student's transportation after the activity is complete. The opportunity to delegate who can transport a student from games can be accomplished by having a parent/guardian sign a general release form. These forms will be shared at parent meetings for each program.

Failure to follow proper procedure could result in loss of participation privileges.

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Care Of Equipment

In order to give the student a sense of responsibility and an appreciation of his/her equipment, each student athlete will be held accountable for the abuse or loss of it. **ALL EQUIPMENT MUST BE TURNED IN OR PAID FOR BEFORE THE ATHLETE PLAYS ANOTHER SPORT.**

Athletic Lettering

All of the Gainesville Athletic Programs offer an athletic letter. Each sport offers criteria and qualifications for lettering set forth by the individual sport coaching staff. Generally speaking, criteria include participation, attitude and work habits. Your coach will be able to answer specific questions regarding his/her lettering policy. Students that quit or are dismissed before the conclusion of the season are ineligible to letter.

Sportsmanship

Gainesville High School is a member of the Summit Conference. As a member of MSHSAA and the Summit Conference, Gainesville High School follows all policies and guidelines of the association and conference.

Summit Conference tenets:

"It shall be the purpose of this organization of schools to encourage and actively promote interscholastic activities of such nature as will develop in those who participate in the high ideals of citizenship and cause opportunity to present for them to benefit from competitive association with others. It is further the purpose of the organization to regulate and deal with all interscholastic activities under the jurisdiction of said organization among the member schools and to promote good will among the schools represented.

Sportsmanship Standards

Players, coaches and spectators will:

- Regard coaches, staff members, administrators, and game officials as fair, accept their decisions as final and treat those individuals with respect.
- Respect the property of our school and other schools.
- Cheer for the kids on both teams. Show appreciation of good play by both teams
- Treat the opponent's coaches, players, staff members, and spectators with respect.
- Accept the decisions and judgments of the coaches.
- Wear t-shirts/clothing that displays positive language and themes.
- Remain off the playing field/court before, during and after events.
- Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.
- Maintain an atmosphere of good sportsmanship **at all times.**

Players, coaches, and spectators will refrain from:

- Actions that will offend, embarrass, or intimidate any individual athlete.
- Actions that will call negative attention to yourself.

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- Taunts, chants, noises, cheers, jeers, songs, profanity or motions directed at the opposing team, coach, or school.
- Using noisemakers.
- Throwing objects
- Displaying signs of any type other than official school banners.

Failure to comply with these Sportsmanship Standards may result in your removal from the site of competition and may result in further disciplinary action.

The Roles in the Relationship Between Coach, Parent, and Athlete

Being a part of an athletic program is not easy; the athletes must have a great amount of self-discipline. We believe that when a teenage player grows into adulthood, he/she will use what he/she learns here to meet the expectations and responsibilities placed on them. Living up to these high standards, we feel, will better prepare our athletes for life ahead of them. Knowing the roles of the three main elements in an athletic program, coach, parent, and athlete, is vital in the success of the athlete.

Coaches Role

- Set a good example for players and fans to follow.
- Be positive, fair, and consistent with the players.
- Making playing time and strategy decisions with thought and care.
- Establish and organize practice for the team on a daily basis.
- Be a good communicator with parents and players.
- Protect the safety of all athletes.
- Know and employ injury prevention procedures.
- Make sure all players know the expectations, procedures and rules for the program.
- Make sure everyone has practice and game schedules.
- Be a professional practitioner in dealing with situations in the sport and stay current.
- Keep inventory of equipment.
- Work to help assistants develop and improve.
- Keep track of academic progress of athletes.
- Be available to talk with players and parents.

Parent's Role

- Be a fan of everyone on the team.

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- Respect the decision of officials.
- Respect other fans, coaches, and athletes.
- Talk to their child if they have any questions and, if they still have questions, contact the coach through athletic department procedures.
- Don't put your child in the middle by talking bad about the coach, program or teammates through conversation.
- Don't talk to coaches on game day about a complaint. Make an appointment at the convenient time for both parties.
- Understanding the coach's responsibility is to make sure the students are safe and become better people and athletes, not to win every game.
- Be supportive of the child and of the program.

Player's Role

- Be positive and have a good attitude.
- Support your teammates.
- Always work hard!
- If they have any questions, ask the coach – “The only dumb question is the one that you do not ask.”
- Know and follow school and team rules.
- Challenge themselves as a student, person and athlete.
- Meet everyday classroom expectations.
- Notify the coach of any scheduling conflicts in advance.
- Talk to the coach about any special concerns.

Questions for the Coach

- If appropriate, talk with your child about the question.
- Set up a meeting with the coach if you still have questions.
- Follow the Gainesville Activities “Eight Step Parent Procedure.”

Things not to ask about

- Playing time.
- Game strategies.
- Other players.

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The main purpose is to open the lines of communication and to assist in understanding expectations of the shareholders within the program. Discussion of these roles takes place every year for every sport. The consistency of these rules in every program is vital for the overall acceptance by the parties involved in the education of our students.

Written with help from "The Young Athlete," Jordan D. Metzl, M.D. and Carol Shookhoff, 2002

Gainesville Athletics - Eight Step Parent Procedure

All concerns regarding your student in the sport which your student is involved in can be addressed by following the eight steps:

- Step 1 – Contact the Head Coach via phone, e-mail, or in person to arrange a meeting time. Please do not make this initial contact immediately after a game or contest.
- Step 2 – Attend meetings on a set date and discuss concerns and come to a resolution. Concerns are limited to your student-athlete only. Discussion of any other student-athletes is meant for meeting termination. Playing time is not an appropriate discussion topic, but discussion about how your athlete can improve is appropriate. The athlete should be present at this meeting.
- Step 3 – Contact the Athletic Director, Lance West, via phone, e-mail, or in person to arrange a meeting time if a satisfactory resolution to the concern is not reached through Step 2. The head coach will be invited to this meeting.
- Step 4 – Attend meetings on set dates and discuss the concern and the proposed resolution to the concern by the Head Coach. The athlete should be present at this meeting.
- Step 5 – Contact the Principal, Dr. Richard Wylie, via phone, e-mail, or in person to arrange a meeting time if a satisfactory resolution(s) to the concern is not reached through Step 4. The Head Coach and Athletic Director will be invited to this meeting.
- Step 6 – Attend meetings on set dates and discuss the concern and the proposed resolution to the concern by the Head Coach and Athletic Director. The athlete should be present at this meeting.
- Step 7 – Contact Superintendent, Mr. Justin Gilmore, via phone, e-mail, or in person to arrange a meeting time if a satisfactory resolution to the concern is not reached through Step 6. The Head Coach, Athletic Director, and High School Principal will be invited to this meeting.
- Step 8 – Attend meetings on set dates and discuss the concern and the proposed resolution(s) to the concern by the Head Coach, Athletic Director, and Principal. The athlete should be present at this meeting.

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General Conduct, Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco, Hazing Policy

The Gainesville School District recognizes that the use and/or possession of tobacco, mood-altering chemicals and performance-enhancing chemicals as a significant health problem for adolescents, resulting in negative effects on behavior, learning, and the total development of each individual. The Gainesville Athletic program is a year round program and we expect athletes to participate in this program 100%. Each athlete will be asked to sign a pledge which will be kept on file in the office of the director of athletics. This pledge is active while you are enrolled as a student/athlete at Gainesville School. Once you become an athlete you are expected to adhere to these rules while you have high school athletic eligibility remaining. You will be subject to suspension if you violate the following rules:

A. **USE OF INTOXICATING BEVERAGES** - the use or possession of an intoxicating beverage in any form or quantity is prohibited.

B. **USE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS** - the use or possession of illegal drugs (drugs not prescribed by a physician) is prohibited.

C. **USE OF TOBACCO/VAPING**- the use or possession of any tobacco product is prohibited.

D. **GENERAL CONDUCT** – The MSHSAA handbook states each eligible student must be a creditable citizen. Creditable citizens are those students whose conduct - both in school and out of school - will not reflect discredit upon themselves or their school. Conduct by the student involving law enforcement should be reported to your principal immediately as your conduct may affect eligibility or contest outcomes.

E. **"HAZING"** or any type of "initiation rite" will be considered a violation of the General Conduct rules and will be dealt with as a serious matter. Coaches, the Athletic Director, and the administration will determine if an incident is considered hazing. If so determined, these officials will consider it a serious disciplinary infraction of both the Athletic and Student Handbooks.

F. **ATHLETE UNDER ARREST** - If an athlete is arrested for a misdemeanor (shoplifting, vandalism, etc.) or a felony (assault, robbery, DWI, possession, etc.), the athlete will be allowed to represent the school in interscholastic athletics pending the legal outcome of the case. However, if there is admission of guilt by the athlete or, if after reviewing the case, school officials feel there is strong evidence, e.g., credible witness(s), which indicates probable guilt, then the school may restrict the athlete from participation before the legal outcome of the case

***Some minor infractions may not fall under the general conduct ruling and will be presented to the administration for an imposed penalty.**

PENALTIES for: Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco, Vaping and/or E Cigarettes

Any student who participates in athletics in the Gainesville School District is considered an athlete. Being an athlete in the Gainesville School District is considered a privilege and not a right. Training rules will be adhered to during the entire year. Violations will accumulate throughout the athlete's career. A violation in one program applies to all extracurricular programs. A student's academic and citizenship is reviewed prior to their being able to participate in extracurricular programs. In addition to MSHSAA citizenship guidelines the following penalties will be imposed for violations:

First Offense:

- Cigarettes/smokeless tobacco
 - ✓ Immediate 20% suspension of competition in any extracurricular activity (games/meets)
 - ✓ The suspension may be reduced to 10% with mandatory random screening. Screening would be in effect during the suspension.

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- 10 hours of community service to be determined in partnership between administration, coach and parent.
- ✓ While suspended the student may practice and attend games. While attending games, the student cannot be in uniform and must abide by team rules/dress code established by the coach.
- Vaping/E Cigarettes
 - ✓ Immediate 20% suspension of competition in any extracurricular activity (games/meets)
 - ✓ The suspension may be reduced to 10% with mandatory random screening. Screening would be in effect during the suspension.
 - 10 hours of community service to be determined in partnership between administration, coach and parent.
 - ✓ While suspended the student may practice and attend games. While attending games, the student cannot be in uniform and must abide by team rules/dress code established by the coach.
- Intoxicating and/or alcoholic beverage/illegal drugs
 - ✓ Contact with law enforcement
 - ✓ Immediate 30% suspension of competition in any extracurricular activity (games/meets)
 - ✓ The suspension may be reduced to 15% with mandatory random screening. Screening would be in effect during the suspension.
 - 15 hours of community service to be determined in partnership between administration, coach and parent.
 - ✓ While suspended the student may practice and attend games. While attending games, the student cannot be in uniform and must abide by team rules/dress code established by the coach.

Second Offense:

- Cigarettes/smokeless tobacco
 - ✓ Immediate 30% suspension of competition in any extracurricular activity (games/meets)
 - Suspension may be reduced to 15% with participation in a substance abuse assessment-treatment program and mandatory random screening. Screening would be in effect during the suspension.
 - ✓ 20 hours of community service to be determined in partnership between administration, coach and parent.
 - ✓ During a suspension the student may practice and attend games. While attending games, the student cannot be in uniform and must abide by team rules/dress code established by the coach.
- Vaping/E Cigarettes
 - ✓ Immediate 30% suspension of competition in any extracurricular activity (games/meets)
 - Suspension may be reduced to 15% with participation in a substance abuse assessment-treatment program and mandatory random screening. Screening would be in effect during the suspension.
 - ✓ 20 hours of community service to be determined in partnership between administration, coach and parent.

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- ✓ While suspended the student may practice and attend games. While attending games, the student cannot be in uniform and must abide by team rules/dress code established by the coach.
- Intoxicating and/or alcoholic beverage/illegal drugs
 - ✓ Immediate 50% suspension of competition in any extracurricular activity (games/meets)
 - Suspension may be reduced to 30% with participation in a substance abuse assessment-treatment program and mandatory random screening. Screening would be in effect during the suspension.
 - ✓ 25 hours of community service to be determined in partnership between administration, coach and parent.
 - ✓ During a suspension the student may practice and attend games. While attending games, the student cannot be in uniform and must abide by team rules/dress code established by the coach.

Third Offense:

- Cigarettes/smokeless tobacco
 - ✓ Immediate 50% suspension of competition in any extracurricular activity (games/meets)
 - Suspension may be reduced to 30% with participation in a substance abuse assessment-treatment program and mandatory random screening. Screening would be in effect during the suspension. Further counseling and continuous screening would be recommended to a parent/guardian.
 - ✓ 25 hours of community service to be determined in partnership between administration, coach and parent.
 - ✓ During a suspension the student may practice and attend games. While attending games, the student cannot be in uniform and must abide by team rules/dress code established by the coach.
- Vaping/E Cigarettes
 - ✓ Immediate 50% suspension of competition in any extracurricular activity (games/meets)
 - Suspension may be reduced to 30% with participation in a substance abuse assessment-treatment program and mandatory random screening. Screening would be in effect during the suspension. Further counseling and continuous screening would be recommended to a parent/guardian.
 - ✓ 25 hours of community service to be determined in partnership between administration, coach and parent.
 - ✓ During a suspension the student may practice and attend games. While attending games, the student cannot be in uniform and must abide by team rules/dress code established by the coach.
- Intoxicating and/or alcoholic beverage/illegal drugs
 - ✓ Immediate 365 day suspension in any extracurricular activity

Fourth Offense:

- Cigarettes/smokeless tobacco

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- ✓ Immediate 365 day suspension of participation in any extracurricular activity (games/meets)
- Vaping/E Cigarettes
 - ✓ Immediate 365 day suspension of participation in any extracurricular activity (games/meets)
- Intoxicating and/or alcoholic beverage/illegal drugs
 - ✓ Career suspension from any extracurricular activity (games/meets)

Subsequent Offense:

- **Cigarettes/smokeless tobacco**
 - ✓ Career suspension of participation in any extracurricular activity (games/meets)
- **Vaping/E Cigarettes**
 - ✓ Career suspension of participation in any extracurricular activity (games/meets)
- **Intoxicating and/or alcoholic beverage/illegal drugs**
 - ✓ Career suspension of participation in any extracurricular activity (games/meets)

PENALTIES for: General Conduct (to include hazing, harassment, and bullying)

Any student who participates in athletics in the Gainesville School District is considered an athlete and represents themselves, the district, and the community. Being an athlete in the Gainesville School District is considered a privilege and not a right. Training rules will be adhered to during the entire year. Violations will accumulate throughout the athlete's career.

- General Conduct - 0-50% of contests. Upon review by the principal, athletic director, and coach the student athlete may be subject to consequences ranging from a warning up to suspension. The seriousness of the incident and attitude of the student will determine the penalty. Community service to the school is a likely consequence. Repeat offenders will receive stricter penalties including suspension from any and all extra curricular opportunities. Repeat offenders will receive stricter penalties including suspension from any and all extra curricular opportunities to include 365 day up to lifetime suspension.

PENALTIES for: Citizenship Violations (to include misdemeanor and felony convictions):

First Offense:

- Athlete Under Arrest-
 - Misdemeanor 1st offense (excluding minor traffic violations) 10% suspension of competition **after** all legal penalties have been satisfied (excluding probation).
 - Felony- Suspension from practices and games for 365 days.

Second Offense:

- Athlete Under Arrest-
 - ✓ Misdemeanor Second Offense (excluding minor traffic violations) - 30% suspension of competition **after** all legal penalties have been satisfied (excluding probation).
 - ✓ Felony- Career Suspension

Third Offense:

- Athlete Under Arrest-

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- Misdemeanor Third Offense (excluding minor traffic violations) - 50% suspension of competition **after** all legal penalties have been satisfied (excluding probation).

Fourth Offense:

- Athlete Under Arrest-
 - Misdemeanor Fourth Offense (excluding minor traffic violations) - 365 day suspension of competition **after** all legal penalties have been satisfied (excluding probation).

Subsequent Suspension:

- Athlete Under Arrest-
 - Misdemeanor Subsequent Offense (excluding minor traffic violations) - Career suspension of competition **after** all legal penalties have been satisfied (excluding probation).

OTHER INFO:

- After a 50% or greater suspension of competition a student would be required to petition the school board to retain the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities.
- If an athlete is suspended from school, he/she will automatically be suspended from all practice and games for the duration of the school suspension.
- Violations occurring at the end of the season, off-season, or during the summer. The loss of eligibility carries over to the next season in which the student/athlete participates. For example: If a student commits a violation during the last contest of the season, he/she loses eligibility (as per the consequence of the category involved) in the next season of participation. The remainder of the penalty will be served during the next season of participation.

DEFINITIONS:

Authorized Prescriber – Includes a healthcare provider licensed or otherwise authorized by state law to prescribe medication.

Controlled Substances – Substances listed in schedules I, II, III, IV, and V of the federal Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. § 812. For the purposes of this policy, a controlled substance shall also include any controlled substance, counterfeit substance, or imitation controlled substance as defined in § 195.010, RSMo., and any chemical substances structurally similar to and treated as controlled substances under state law.

Diabetes Medical Management Plan – A document developed by the student's personal healthcare team that sets out the health services needed by the student at school and that is signed by the student's personal healthcare team and parent/guardian.

District Activity – Any activity, event, or function that is sponsored or approved by the district and where students are under district supervision, such as field trips or athletic events.

District Property – Any property owned or leased by the district, including any vehicle owned, leased, or used for district purposes, and any location where a district-sponsored or district-approved activity takes place.

Imitation Tobacco Product – Any edible or non-edible non-tobacco product designed to resemble a tobacco product intended to be used by children as a toy. Imitation tobacco products include, but are not limited to, chocolate cigarettes, bubble gum cigars, shredded bubble gum resembling chewing

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tobacco, pouches containing flavored substances packaged similarly to snuff, and shredded beef jerky in containers resembling snuff tins.

Medications – For the purposes of this policy, medications include prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs, including herbal preparations and vitamins. Medications also include substances that claim or purport to be medicinal or performance enhancing, including essential oils, cannabidiol (CBD) products, and CBD derivatives.

Prohibited Substances – For the purposes of this policy, a prohibited substance shall include:

1. Alcohol
2. Controlled substances for which the student does not have a valid prescription.
3. Unauthorized inhalants.
4. Counterfeit or imitation controlled substances.
5. Marijuana or marijuana-infused products.
6. Any other illegal drug.
7. Any drug or medicine prohibited on district property by law or policy.
8. Substances intended to create a false negative on a drug test.

The district is concerned with the health, welfare, and safety of its students. Therefore, the district prohibits individuals from manufacturing, using, selling, transferring, distributing, possessing, or being under the influence of prohibited substances on district property, at district activities, and in any district-owned or district-approved vehicle used to transport students to or from district activities. The use, sale, transfer, or possession of drug-related paraphernalia is also prohibited.

- ***Marijuana***
Because marijuana and marijuana-infused products are prohibited under federal law, the district does not permit their possession, use, or administration for medicinal or other purposes on district property or at district events even with a valid, Missouri-issued medical marijuana card.
- ***Under the Influence***
If there is evidence that a student is under the influence of a substance prohibited by this policy, the student may be removed from school or activities and may be disciplined depending on the circumstances. The student will be given an opportunity to explain the apparent impairment prior to being removed. The district may conduct student drug testing in accordance with policy JFCI.
- ***Consequences***
Students who violate this policy will be disciplined in accordance with the district's code of student conduct. In accordance with law, the district is required to immediately notify law enforcement when a student is in possession of a controlled substance and will also notify law enforcement when a student is in possession of any other illegal substance or illegal drug paraphernalia.

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The board encourages the superintendent or designee to consider alternative discipline for students who are willing to seek treatment or counseling options.

Smoking/Vaping – Inhaling, exhaling, burning or carrying any lit or heated cigar, cigarette, pipe or any other lighted or heated product that contains, is made of, or is derived from a natural or synthetic form of nicotine, tobacco or other plants and that is intended for inhalation. Smoking/Vaping also includes carrying or using an activated electronic smoking device.

Tobacco Product – 1) Any product, whether synthetic or natural, that contains, is made of, or is derived from tobacco or nicotine that is intended for human consumption by chewing, smoking, absorbing, dissolving, inhaling, snorting, sniffing or ingesting by any other means. 2) Any component, part or accessory of a tobacco product including, but not limited to, cigarettes; electronic smoking devices; cigars; little cigars; cheroots; stogies; periques; granulated, plug cut, crimp cut, ready rubbed, and other smoking tobacco; snuff; snuff flour; Cavendish; plug and twist tobacco; fine cut and other chewing tobacco; shorts; refuse scraps; clippings, cuttings and sweepings of tobacco; and other kinds and forms of tobacco.

Tobacco-Related Devices – Ash trays, rolling papers, wraps or pipes for smoking and any components, parts or accessories of electronic smoking devices.

Vapor Product – Any noncombustible product containing nicotine that employs a heating element, power source, electronic circuit or electronic, chemical or mechanical means, regardless of shape or size, that can be used to produce vapor from nicotine in a solution or other form. Vapor product includes any electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe or similar product or device and any vapor cartridge or other container of nicotine in a solution or other form that is intended to be used with or in an electronic pipe or similar product or device. Vapor product does not include any alternative nicotine product.