

2016-2017
Activities Handbook
Dallas ESD 327



Superintendent

Principal

Activities Director

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Elementary Activities Handbook
2016-2017

Philosophy

We believe that athletics and other extra-curricular activities are an integral and vital part of the total curriculum and educational process of the school. Athletics and extra-curricular activities are thought of as “co-curricular” because of their close link to the district’s educational process. Our co-curricular activities should be used as an educational force. They can be a positive learning experience if each participant strives to achieve his/her highest personal and athletic potential by embracing a lifestyle dedicated to competition, integrity, and self-discipline. Co-curricular activities should also contribute to the student’s health and personal satisfaction, skill development, social competence, and sense of cooperation and also to the team concept.

All students have the right to participate in an activity or sport but actual participation is a privilege and must be earned. Student participants should remember that they are students first and competitors second. Student participants should remember that they are representatives of the community and the school district they represent. Therefore; dishonesty, unsportsmanlike conduct or other inappropriate behavior including the use of illegal substances by any of the student representatives will not be tolerated. Students must realize that decisions and consequences are a part of learning to accept responsibility for one’s actions.

Interscholastic Philosophy Statement/Guidelines: We believe interscholastic athletics and extra-curricular activities are an integral part of the total curriculum of the school. It is believed the following statements reflect our philosophy:

- Activities must be for all boys and girls who wish to participate.
- Athletics and extra-curricular must be educational and contain learning experiences that fit into the overall educational program; be controlled by school authorities, both local and state; and have been duly appointed by the School Board.
- At the 5th/6th grade level the emphasis will be on fun, physical development, skills, social experience, and good sportsmanship.
- At the 7th/8th grade level the emphasis will be placed on achieving team goals, therefore, students will participate in most, but not all, games.
- Students will play at their grade level unless circumstances warrant a move to a higher level.

Sports and Activities

Boys’ Baseball

Boys’ Basketball (5/6)

Track and Field (5-8)

Girls’ Volleyball (5/6)

Band & Chorus (6-8)

Drama (6-8)

Girls’ Basketball (5/6)

Student Council (5-8)

Scholastic Bowl (5-8)

Speech (6-8)

Cross Country (5-8)

Admission Fees to Sports Events (Subject to Change)

Adults	\$ 3.00
Students	\$ 2.00
Senior Citizen	\$ 2.00

Rules in Effect

The rules set forth in this Athletic Code are in effect throughout the school year from the first practice session for any particular sport during a particular school term until the last day of that sport or until the last day of the school term whichever comes last and for twenty-four hours a day, whether or not school is in session and including vacation periods, and holidays. These rules apply on and off campus and for any misconduct at school or school sponsored activity or in some other locale.

Inclement Weather

If school is cancelled due to weather conditions, all athletic and extra-curricular activities will be cancelled. If weather conditions worsen on a Saturday or later in the evening, the decision to cancel will be made by the athletic director or administrator. Coaches and media will be notified of the cancellation. Parents will receive a school all-call message.

Absence from School on the Day of the Activity

The student must be in attendance by **10:30 to participate in an event that evening unless** a legitimate, prearranged excuse other than personal illness is used (examples: doctor or dentist appointment, funeral, or family emergency). Weekend activities are governed by Friday's attendance. An athlete who has one or more truancies or who has been suspended from school may be suspended from participation in athletic activities by administration.

Non-participants at practice

Only athletes who are members of a team are to be present at practice. There should be no parents, siblings or friends of athletes present. Coaches may ask high school athletes to help with their practices.

Transportation

Sponsors/Coaches will be in charge of students from the time they leave school until they return.

- All participants must ride school provided transportation to all events. In case of serious emergency or unusual hardship exceptions may be made with prior approval of the coach. Failure to be on time for the bus is not considered a hardship or an emergency.
- Coaches and/or sponsors will have a sign out sheet at each away event. Parents must sign their child out, indicating that their child is now in their custody.
- Parents who want their child to ride with another parent home from an event must make arrangements with the building principal, school office or coach and submit the request in writing.
- It is a privilege to ride the bus. If the student is removed from any bus (regular route, field trips, or extra-curricular) for a disciplinary reason, he/she is not eligible to ride any buses until reinstated. If he/she cannot ride a bus, then he/she may not participate in away games or activities.

- Sponsors/Coaches are responsible for remaining with the students until all students have been picked up from an event or practices. Students who are riding the bus home from an event will make contact with their parents on the way home giving an approximate time of arrival at a drop off location. Parents must be at the location when students arrive, and must pick up students at ending time from any practices.

Eligibility

Dallas City is a member of the Illinois Elementary Association, The Sand Valley Conference and the Hancock County Junior High Athletic Organization. In order to represent Dallas City Elementary/Junior High students must meet eligibility rules of IESA. In addition, the following rules and regulations must be met prior to and during athletic and other competitions sanctioned by the IESA.

- All eligibility rules established by the IESA will be in effect at Dallas Elementary School District #327 unless superseded by the existing guidelines at Dallas Elementary School District #327.
- Participants in athletics and/or co-curricular activities must be academically passing all of their classes. For fall sports, the first eligibility check shall be made following the first full week of attendance at the beginning of the school year. During the succeeding weeks of the school year, eligibility checks shall begin the week prior to the first contest in the activity.
- The participant, coach/sponsor, and parents will be notified if a participant becomes ineligible. All eligibility is figured to the end of the day on Wednesday, or the day before the last day of attendance of that week. Ineligibility will be for the following week, Sunday through Saturday. Administration and or the Activities Director will notify coaches, all participants and their parents of the ineligibility.
- Participants who are ineligible may not participate in games but are expected to be at practices and attend all athletic events. The athlete is to sit on the bench with the team, not in uniform, and remain with the team throughout the game.
- If a co-curricular activity occurs only once per year then eligibility will be checked on those participants beginning four weeks prior to their event. For band, chorus, and speech, eligibility rules apply for competition events only.
- Participants who are listed as ineligible for a fourth time during the course of a season are no longer allowed to be a member of the team. The principal and/or superintendent shall have the authority to make the final decision on all eligibility matters. Eligibility checks will begin the week prior to the first contest in an activity except for those contests that occur once a year.
- Any participant suspended from school may not participate or attend any event or practice on the date(s) of the suspension. A participant who is suspended on Friday may not participate during the weekend.
- Before participating in any co-curricular activity, the student must have school insurance or his/her own insurance and an emergency form on file with the coach before participating in any practice or athletic contest. A current physical must be on file for any student before he/she can participate in any athletic practice or sport. A physical examination is good for one full year.

- If an athlete has a medical excuse, which allows him/her to be excused from participating in physical education, then the athlete cannot participate in any athletic practice or contest for the duration of the medical excuse.

Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries

A student athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion in a practice or a game will be removed from participation or competition at that time. A student athlete who has been removed from an interscholastic contest for a possible concussion or head injury may not return to that contest unless cleared to do so by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois or a certified athletic trainer. If not cleared to return to that contest, a student athlete may not return to play, practice, P.E. or recess until the student athlete has provided his or her school with written clearance from a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois or a certified athletic trainer working in conjunction with a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois.

Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco

Except with respect to prescription drugs used by the person for whom such drugs were prescribed in the manner intended by the prescribing medical doctor, the possession, use, distribution, purchase or sale on any alcoholic beverage, drug, drug paraphernalia, controlled substance, look alike, tobacco product or any other substance which, when taken into the human body is intended to alter mood or mental state, including any item or substance which is represented by a student to be, or is believed by a student to be any of the foregoing, regardless of the true nature or appearance of the substance, is prohibited in school buildings, on school buses and on all other school property or school related events at any time. This prohibition shall include all school sponsored or school related activities, whether held before or after, evenings or weekends and shall additionally include a prohibition of the use by a student athlete in any instance where the school can demonstrate a reasonable connection to the school program or school athletic program. For purposes of this procedure, students who are under the influence of prohibited substances shall be treated in the same manner as though they have prohibited substances in their possession.

Code of Conduct

The Athletic Code applies to all students who want to participate in athletics. Athletics includes competitive sports and extracurricular activities. This code applies in addition to other rules and regulations concerning student conduct and imposes additional requirements on student athletes. Participation in athletics is a privilege. Those who participate in athletics have a responsibility to favorably represent the school and community. Student athletes are expected to conduct themselves both in and out of school in a manner appropriate to their responsibilities as representatives of the school and district. If a student fails to comply with the terms of this code, the privilege to participate in athletics may be lost in accordance with the terms of this Athletic Code.

Misconduct by student-athletes will not be tolerated. Misconduct shall include but shall not be limited to:

- a) Insubordination
- b) Any behavior or action which is negligently or intentionally injurious to a person or property or places a person or property at risk of injury or damage.
- c) Any behavior that disrupts the appropriate conduct of a school program or activity
- d) Hazing, bullying, or harassment of any kind
- e) Use of profanity
- f) Exhibition of bad sportsmanship
- g) Violations of any school rules or regulations or laws

Sportsmanship

Participants, coaches/sponsors, fans, community members, and any other representatives of Dallas Elementary School District #327 are expected to demonstrate the highest qualities of sportsmanship.

Swearing, use of questionable language, obscene gestures, inappropriate body language, arguing, or insubordination towards game officials, coaches/sponsors, other athletes, and spectators will not be tolerated.

The administration and coach/sponsor will handle these cases individually, and a violation can result in immediate dismissal from the team or activity. Poor sportsmanship is never acceptable.

Program Development

- Students may be encouraged to attend appropriate camps and clinics to learn fundamentals and to practice the basic skills and techniques of the activity, but attendance at camps or clinics is not mandatory to participate in athletics or co-curricular activities.

Expectations for Participants

- Participants are to fully comply with district policies and regulations for participation in athletics and co-curricular activities.
- Participants are expected to observe all training/practice rules.
- Participants are expected to give their best effort at all times. This is for practices and contests.
- Participants are expected to represent their school in a positive manner and display outstanding sportsmanship, and high standards of acceptable social behavior.
- IESA rules 3.042 says that students may participate in non-school athletic competition, either as individuals or team members, at any time they are not members of a school team in that same sport. Participation in those teams is encouraged as long as the activity does not conflict with a school sponsored sport or activity. If there is a conflict the student must be in compliance with the school sponsored activity.
- Participants are to be present for and participate fully in all practices and games/events/contests, unless excused by the coach or sponsor. Participants who know in advance that they will be absent from practice or an event for appointments or other good reasons (excluding participation on another athletic team) must discuss his/her absence

with the coach/sponsor in advance. Unexcused absences from practices or games will carry penalties as determined by the coach/sponsor. (See bullet above)

- It is required that every participant and parent/guardian sign off that they have read, understand, and will implement the activities handbook regulations.
- If a participant neglects or does not take proper care of his/her uniform, including lost items, they must pay the cost of replacing the individual uniform at a price determined by the activity director.
- Participants are expected to comply with all rules and directions governed by State sponsored events as well as all team and school rules when attending State events. This would also include any directions and rules given by coaches or other school affiliated adults during the event.
- It is the responsibility of the participant and their parents to pay for any expenses they committed to before the completion of the season. If the debt is not paid the student will not be allowed to participate in any other sport or activity until debt is paid.
- It is the responsibility of the participant to return within one week from the end of the season uniforms and/or any other clothing or gear issued to the participant during the course of the activity.
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Chain of Command

When a problem or grievance develops in an athletic or co-curricular activity, the following chain of command is to be followed by the person who has a problem or grievance. It is the responsibility of the party in grievance to appropriately contact the coach/sponsor first and then to follow the chain of command, Activities Director or Principal/Superintendent and finally the Board of Education if the problem remains.

- Coach/Sponsor - As soon as practical, the participant must first attempt to solve the problem with the coach/sponsor involved. This process shall be completed in a prompt and timely manner. The participant should try to appropriately communicate his/her concerns with the coach/sponsor first before the parents step in on their child's behalf.
- Principal - If the situation is not resolved, the participant/parents may appeal to the activity director, principal or superintendent as appropriate.
- Board of Education - If a problem or grievance cannot be resolved at the lower levels of the chain of command, the final decision regarding any part of this regulation shall be with the Dallas Elementary School District #327 Board of Education.
- Any grievance should be mutually satisfied within 30 days of the incident.

Miscellaneous

- All athletic practices and games/events are canceled on days when school is dismissed early or not in session due to weather conditions.
- A game may be played the night school is canceled due to weather at the discretion of the administration under certain circumstances.
- Specific rules can be added by each coach/sponsor or activity director as deemed necessary. Coaches/sponsors may impose certain rules that are stricter than the rules within this handbook with the approval of the administration.
- Administration has the final say on any disciplinary actions taken.

Cooperative Athletic Teams

In the event that the Dallas Elementary School District #327 is fielding an athletic team in cooperation with another school district, an agreement must be reached as to the regulations to be used for that sport. Dallas Elementary School District #327 participants who wish to participate in a co-op sport will be expected to comply with the rules reached in that agreement.

Co-op agreements have been made with LaHarpe for the following sports:

Boys' Baseball	(7 th and 8 th)
Boys' Basketball	(5/6 and 7/8)
Girls' Basketball	(5/6 and 7/8)
Girls' Volleyball	(5/6 and 7/8)
Track and Field	(5 th , 6 th , 7 th and 8 th)
Scholastic Bowl	(5 th , 6 th , 7 th and 8 th)
Cross Country	(5 th , 6 th , 7 th , and 8 th)