

Platteville Middle School

Activities Code

Introduction

The Platteville School District is pleased to have you participate in its activities program. As an integral part of the total school experience, the program is designed to help students become successful individuals and better citizens of our school, community, state, and nation. Additionally, the activities and sports programs allow each participant to make a personal commitment to healthy involvement in activities which expand and enrich his/her academic program.

The Platteville School District's primary mission is an educational one. Although extra and co-curricular activities expand upon the educational experience they are not an entitlement. Participation in extra and co-curricular activities is a privilege that requires good academic standing and appropriate personal conduct.

The intent of this activities code is to provide you and your parents or guardians with information regarding your responsibilities and the school's expectations for your participation in the Platteville Middle School activities program.

Program Foundations

The district believes that the opportunity to take part in school activities should be made available to as many students as possible. Although all students are invited to participate, the exact number of participants shall be determined by the available facilities and the ability of the staff to give adequate attention to each participant. Programs emphasize maximum participation for all students.

There is an expectation that coaches and advisors bring a high level of dedication and commitment to the programs they supervise. Likewise, the student participant is expected to accept the hard work and dedication necessary to compliment a successful program. Students must follow rules outlined in this document as well as other building and district policies, guidelines established by the coach or activities director, and other legal requirements such as those established by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association. All employees, by virtue of their employment with the Platteville School District, endorse and enforce this activities code.

In general, students who participate in the school's activities program are expected to conduct themselves, at all times and in all places, in a positive manner that will bring credit to themselves, their school, and the community.

Student Eligibility

In order for Platteville Middle School students to be eligible for the activities program, they must meet the following academic, attendance, and behavior standards:

* Academic Requirements

1. Participants must maintain a cumulative C average throughout the quarter in each of their classes. Every week during the activity, quarterly cumulative grades will be determined. Daily work, attitude, effort, and behavior determine student grades for participation purposes. Test scores will not be included when determining eligibility for activities.
2. A deficient grade results in the student being placed on Grade Check. Once a student is placed on Grade Check, he/she is ineligible to participate in the activity for the following calendar week (a maximum of the next 2 games or activities). If a satisfactory level of achievement is evident after one week, the student will be eligible for reinstatement. Failure to attain a satisfactory level of achievement will cause the participant to remain on grade check. It is the participant's responsibility to make up any deficiency that he/she may have by completing the Grade Check Contract. Students on Grade Check are expected to attend practice sessions during this time, but may not travel to any away contest. They will be expected to sit on the bench (home games), to dress, and to help out on the bench.
3. Students who remain on Grade Check for **three consecutive weeks** (or for half or more of an activity's season) will be ineligible for the remainder of that activity. The parent/guardian and student will be notified when the student becomes ineligible.
4. Grade check will be conducted every week during the activity. A list of participants will be distributed to teachers at the beginning of each activity. Grade check forms are due in the office by the last day of the school week prior to the week Grade Check will begin. All teachers of participants will complete Grade Check forms.

* Attendance

Regular, daily attendance is one component of the commitment to academic success. Participants who are unexcused from class during any part of the day will not be allowed to participate in the next scheduled contest or performance.

Students must be in attendance at least half of the school day (four complete class periods) to be eligible to participate on that day. The requirements of this section can be modified only through prior arrangement with the principal or activities director.

* Behavior Expectations

CHARACTER COUNTS! Behaviors that are contrary to healthy involvement, good citizenship, ethical considerations, school rules, or violations of the law, will subject the participant to loss of participation in activities.

Examples of behavior that violate the code include, but are not limited to:

1. Must comply with all school rules.
2. Academic dishonesty. (Cheating on a test or class assignment.)
3. Conduct resulting in an in-school or out-of-school suspension. Students on suspension are not allowed to attend any school activities during the period of the suspension.
4. DRESS FOR RESPECT. A game activities day dress code will be followed in all activities. The purpose of the dress code is to build group unity and pride. Students are expected to follow the specific guidelines provided by the activity or sport. Athletes are expected to wear dress clothes on game days. (No jeans, shorts, jean shorts, boxer shorts, or pajama bottoms.) Please refer to the “Personal Dress” section of the School Code of Conduct for specifics.
5. Negative acts against persons or property (behaviors which are viewed as contrary to accepted moral and ethical standards including profanity, abusive language, vandalism, theft, bullying or harassment, fighting, cheating, chronic abuse of school rules, etc.).
6. Abuse of equipment or materials issued or failure to return materials from a previous activity.
7. Possession or use of alcohol, controlled substances, or tobacco products; knowingly being present in an environment where alcohol and/or controlled substances are present and in use. (The exception being in an environment where students are supervised by parents in a socially acceptable setting - e.g. weddings, religious or family celebrations, etc.).

Consequences

Violations of this activity code will result in the following consequences:

Each violation will result in a suspension from the next activity or contest. Any violation that results in an office referral, in-school or out-of-school suspension will result in a suspension from the next two (2) activities or contests.

Any combination of violations resulting in suspension from four (4) activities or contests will render a participant ineligible for all activities for one calendar year.

Advisor of activities with fewer than four events or contests must file a written report of disciplinary action for approval by the student activities director.

Violations accumulate for the entire school year. They do not start over when a participant begins a new activity. If a suspension is not completed during one activity season, the remainder of the suspension will be served during the participant's next activity. If the suspension cannot be completed within the school year, the suspension will be served during the following school year.

If a participant is involved in more than one activity at a time, and is determined to have violated the code, the suspension will be served one (1) from each activity.

Note: On occasion, student conduct may be of such a severe nature as to warrant immediate dismissal from the activity program as determined by the advisor/coach and student activities director.

Enforcement Procedures

All legitimate complaints of violations will be investigated by the principal or athletic director. In some cases, complainants may be asked to file a written statement which will be kept confidential. If there is a determination that a violation has occurred, the student participant and his/her parents/guardians will be contacted and informed of the consequences. The participant and parents/guardians will be given an opportunity to appeal the initial determination at a hearing. (See Appeal Procedure)

The hearing will be conducted by a committee consisting of the building principal (or designee), a coach, and an activity director. If the committee determines that no violation has occurred, the matter is immediately dropped. If the committee determines that a violation has occurred, the principal will assess and implement the consequence for the violation of the code.

A student involved in an activity is eligible to participate during the appeal process until the process reaches closure.

Appeal Procedure

There are three levels of appeal that a student and his/her parents/guardians can pursue:

1. Principal - The appeal must be presented in writing to the building principal within five (5) calendar days from the date the determination of the violation is sent by the building administrator. The principal will act on the appeal (convene the hearing committee) within five (5) calendar days. Notification in writing of the result of the appeal will be sent within this five (5) day period. The individual who has sought the first step in the appeal may appeal pursuant to step two below.

2. Superintendent of Schools - The appeal must be submitted in writing to the superintendent within five (5) calendar days of the date the principal sends notification of the determination of the initial appeal. The determination by the superintendent shall be sent in writing within ten (10) calendar days of the receipt of the appeal. If the individual wishes to appeal the determination of the superintendent, he/she shall follow the procedures set forth in step three below.

3. Board of Education - The appeal must be submitted in writing to the Board of Education within five (5) calendar days of the date of the determination by the superintendent. The Board of Education shall consider the appeal in closed session within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the appeal. Notification of the Board's decision will be within five (5) calendar days of the closed session. The decision of the Board of Education shall be final.

Conflict Resolution

Students who participate in more than one activity sometimes find themselves having a conflict, obligation-wise, when a co-curricular event is scheduled the same date as an athletic event. Because of the number of events scheduled, a conflict of this nature is sometimes unavoidable. An ideal resolution to a conflict where a student has two obligations would be to have the affected parties (the student, the coach, and the director) meet and attempt to arrange for the student to participate in both activities. When the situation can only be resolved by choosing one participation over the other, the procedure should be as follows:

1. Student makes coach/director aware of the problem.
2. Student confers with parent and chooses his/her participation preference and notifies both the coach and director of his/her decision.
3. Both coach and director will accept the decision of the parents/guardians and student.
4. The choice will not affect continued/future participation in any activity.
5. Students that are involved in a curricular activity that affects their grade (e.g. concerts) are expected to meet those obligations.

The philosophy of the middle school is to encourage students to participate in a variety of activities that will enhance their education and provide personal growth. Their educational growth, not the immediate success of the activity, is paramount. There is educational value in allowing students, along with their parents/guardians, to make choices and decisions. The school will be supportive of students' choices.

Miscellaneous

1. The school does not carry student accident insurance. Parents/guardians are expected to provide coverage for their children who participate in school activities and sports. The school does have information on insurance programs available for participants from a private carrier.
2. All athletes must have a physical examination every other year. The exam card or an alternate year card must be given to the coach prior to the student being allowed to practice or participate. Athletes cannot practice until this is done and turned in.
3. All injuries should be reported to a coach/director immediately.
4. Individual coaches/activity directors may establish more specific rules for their programs with the prior approval of the principal. Expectations will be provided and explained to participants at the beginning of the season/activity. Participation in events/activities is affected by students' attitude, effort, cooperation, attendance at practice, etc.
5. Student participants in all activities are subject to the code, except for students involved in an activity that directly contributes to a grade in a course (e.g. marching band participation).
6. No student may participate in any activity until a signed "Parent-Participant Acknowledgement Document" is on file in the Middle School Office. This document will suffice for all activities for the school year. Families must submit a new "Parent-Participant Acknowledgement Document" at the beginning of each school year.
7. Cell phones are only to be used to communicate with parents concerning arrival time home from activities. Cell phones are to be used only after all contests are completed.
8. Student must ride the bus to all away events unless previously arranged with the coach.
9. Student must pay a replacement fee for any damaged property.

Work hard. Participate with passion and pride.

GO HILLMEN!!

**Platteville Middle School Emergency Medical Treatment
Parent/Participant Acknowledgement Form**

PARTICIPANT:

I hereby acknowledge that I have read the Activities Code of Conduct and understand the rules and penalties for infraction of the rules as stated in the Code. I hereby agree to abide by these rules and regulations.

Student Name	Grade	Date
---------------------	--------------	-------------

PARENTS:

*List health conditions:

*List Allergies:

*List current medications:

*Date of last tetanus shot:_____

Please list an emergency contact person/phone number that we can contact if needed:

Name:_____ Contact #_____

Health & Dental Services

I, the undersigned, do hereby authorize officials of Platteville School District to contact directly the persons named on the student information form, and do authorize the named physician or dentist to render such treatment as may be deemed necessary in an emergency for the health of said child. In the event physician or other persons named on this form cannot be contacted, the school officials are hereby authorized to take whatever action is deemed necessary in their judgment, for the health of aforesaid child. I will not hold the school district financially responsible for the emergency care and/or transportation for said child. I understand that this form will be shared with all school personnel that need to know this information to protect the life and safety of said child. This authorization will be renewed annually.

Field Trips

I, the undersigned, grant permission for my child to attend field trips and class excursions that are sponsored by the school.

Student Handbook & Student Code of Conduct

I, the undersigned, have been made aware of the Student Handbook and the district Code of Student Conduct. I am aware that these documents contain rules, policies, and procedures that govern the operation of the School.

Student Activities Code

As parent or guardian of the above activities participant, I acknowledge that I have reviewed the Activities Code and understand the rules and regulations set forth for all participants. I give my son/daughter permission to participate under those conditions. I also give permission to the attending physician at a school event to give first aid and care to my child should he/she require such assistance or emergency first aid by the coach or advisor.

Parent/Guardian Signature	Date
----------------------------------	-------------

Parent Cell Phone # _____

Parent Home Phone # _____

Parent Work Phone # _____

This form must be signed and returned to the school office.