

EXTRA - AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES CODE OF CONDUCT

Mt. Blue Regional School District's goal is for all of our students to be able to compete and participate in any group, club, or sport. We hold our students to both high academic and code of conduct standards as they are representing our school district wherever they may go. Sports and activities are a privilege for our students and the following summarizes our expectations.

1. Parental/guardian consent is required for participation. We believe that in order for our students to be successful, we want to have a strong partnership and support from our parents/guardians.
2. Academically, we require our students to be passing their classes. There are many supports built in that will help students who may need additional time and resources.
3. In order for our students to be successful, we require them to be present in all of their classes.
4. Our students are also held to a high standard for drug, tobacco, and alcohol use. Student will receive consequences for possession and/or use of drugs, tobacco, and/or alcohol. The school will also offer resources to help students make more positive decisions in the future.
5. Students are expected to travel with the team, attend practices, and treat uniforms and equipment with respect.
6. As always, we have a high code of conduct for behavior and expect our students to act with respect towards others, refraining from all forms of bullying and hazing while participating in any group, club, or sport.

Code of Conduct for Middle and High School Students

Since participation in extra and co-curricular activities is a privilege, it is important that students, parents/guardians, and other interested persons are aware of the following rules and regulations. As representatives of the schools, students are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times. These rules are adopted by the School Board in order to support the social, emotional, and physical well-being of students and promote healthy, enriching, and safe extra and co-curricular opportunities for all students.

The following rules shall govern student participation in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities. The list of extra and co-curricular activities will be updated annually by the principals and made available on request. Participation is defined as beginning with the first day of participation in any meeting, practice, contest or performance and ending at the conclusion of the activity or school year (whichever comes later).

General Expectations

1. Students in good standing may participate in the extra and co-curricular activities of their school. A student is considered in good standing if they are not the subject of any disciplinary action for violation of any policy or school rule and is currently academically eligible based on MPA guidelines and this policy.
2. All participants are expected to come to school ready to learn on all scheduled school days. Regular school attendance is required of all participants.
3. Students suspended from school (including in-school and out-of-school suspension) will not practice, participate, attend or compete in extra and co-curricular activities during the days of suspension.
4. Students are required to abide by all Board policies, school rules, and any additional rules, and/or training guidelines imposed by coaches or advisors. Any additional rules and/or training guidelines must be consistent with Board policies and be approved by the Extra/Co-Curricular Administrator in advance of the season/activity.
5. Student use of tobacco, alcohol, and drugs is illegal and negatively affects student health, safety, and performance. Students participating in extra and co-curricular activities carry a responsibility to themselves, their fellow students, coaches/advisors, parents/guardians, and the school to set the highest possible example of conduct, sportsmanship, and training, which includes avoiding any involvement with tobacco, alcohol, and drugs. Therefore, students participating in extra and co-curricular activities may not engage in the prohibited behaviors and activities described in JICH-R at any time or place from the beginning of the student's first extra or co-curricular activity of the school year through the last extra or co-curricular activity of the school year. Any team, club, or group suspensions imposed that cannot be completed in the current year shall be carried forth to the next school year.
6. Students and their parents/guardians are required to sign the Participation Form, as well as all other required paperwork, as a condition of participating in extra and co-curricular activities. Students participating in fall extra and co-curricular activities and their parents/guardians must sign the contract, as well as all other required paperwork, at the beginning of pre-season. All other students who plan to participate in extra and co-curricular activities at any time during the school year and their parents/guardians must sign the contract, as well as all other required paperwork, prior to beginning their first activity.

Rules and Regulations

A. Parental/Guardian Consent/and Permission Forms

A student may not participate in any teams, groups, or clubs until a signed parental/guardian consent/permission form has been completed and returned to the appropriate school office each school year. This form must indicate permission to participate, verification of adequate and appropriate health/accident insurance (where applicable), and agreement to abide by all Mt. Blue Regional School District's District Rules and Regulations.

B. Academic Eligibility Rules

The Principal or his/her designee is responsible for certifying the eligibility of all students participating in extra and co-curricular activities.

A student must take six credits in order to participate in extra and co-curricular activities and maintain a cumulative grade for each course of 60 or higher and a meets-partially meets on Habits of Work at the end of each quarter. If a student fails to maintain a passing cumulative average of 60 or receives an incomplete in any subject at the end of the preceding quarter and less than a Meets-Partially Meets on Habits of Work, they will be declared ineligible to participate in extra and co-curricular activities for the following quarter. If a student agrees to be on academic probation they will be allowed an opportunity to participate or compete.

All students must have a minimum course score of 60 and a meets-partially meets on Habits of Work at the end of each **quarter**.

Students involved in extra and co-curricular activities **MAY NOT** drop courses that they are passing after the season ends unless there are extenuating circumstances and have the principal's permission.

If a student fails to maintain eligibility status in any subject they will be declared ineligible to participate or compete in extra and co-curricular activities for the following quarter. Students who are placed on academic probation will be allowed an opportunity to participate if they are eligible.

Academic Probation is defined as follows: The student will be able to practice, but unable to compete or lead such activities until each course score for the current reporting period reaches an eligible level on the bi-weekly progress report. The student will be responsible for taking the progress report sheet to his/her teachers every two weeks, to monitor his/her progress. This sheet is to be returned to the Main Office and a copy brought to the coach or advisor. If the student is eligible at the end of two weeks, they may return to full participation in the extra or co-curricular activity, with a continuing review every two weeks. Otherwise, they will remain eligible to practice only. This

policy applies to all sports, sports managers, jazz band, drama, class officers, student council, clubs, etc. It does not include any curriculum offering where credit is granted such as performing arts classes (e.g. chorus, concert band, orchestra, library aides, etc.)

If a student receives a failing or incomplete grade, they shall become ineligible when rank cards are issued. Students with incomplete grades will have two weeks to make up incompletes and will remain ineligible until work is completed and graded.

The following supports are available for students:

- Teacher assistance before or after school
- Learning Labs and other supports offered during the school day.
- Extended Day Program
- Extended Year Program

Students may gain eligibility by attending an accredited extended-year program. The student's grade shall be determined by the formula prescribed by the district's extended year regulations.

Students who lose course credit for failing to satisfy the provisions of the district's attendance policy will be considered ineligible immediately at which point they may petition to be put on probation. This probation will include the student maintaining passing grades in all courses that total six or more credits, as well as having no further undocumented absences. The student will be monitored every two weeks (attendance and grades) in order to participate. A student who drops a course with an F shall be immediately ineligible. Mt. Blue School District encourages its students to monitor their eligibility throughout the year.

Special Eligibility Conditions

Students suspended for participation form violations or ineligible students may **NOT** try out for teams with limited rosters. This policy applies to "cut sports" and activities with limited membership, and is intended to ensure that spots on team rosters are not being reserved for currently ineligible students. This does not apply if teams are unable to fill rosters with available students who initially try out. New students moving to Mt. Blue Regional School District who have maintained passing grades in all subjects taken at their previous school will be eligible for extra and co-curricular participation as soon as they are officially registered for classes in Mt. Blue Regional School District schools.

Students failing courses during the fourth quarter may be able to establish eligibility for the opening of the following school year with the approval of the Principal. This may be accomplished by earning passing scores in an approved extended-year program or other

options available through the Guidance Office. Sixth-grade students entering Mt. Blue Middle School and ninth-grade students entering Mt. Blue High School will automatically be eligible for fall extra and co-curricular activities. Students entering the District must meet the eligibility requirements of the Maine Principals' Association and Mt. Blue Regional School District.

Students who become academically ineligible may practice and attend meetings but may not compete, or perform, during an event or contest.

C. Attendance

All participants are expected to come to school ready to learn on all scheduled school days. Regular school attendance is required of all participants. In order to participate in a contest, event, or practice, students must be in attendance on the day of the activity (or the last school day preceding the activity if it is scheduled on a non-school day). Being in attendance is defined as being present and appropriately participating in all assigned classes and learning labs. For the purpose of this policy, any student who misses any portion of the school day with an unexcused absence may NOT participate in extra and co-curricular activities. Any exceptions to this requirement must be approved by a building administrator or designee. No exception will be made for illness.

D. Travel

Members of teams, groups, or clubs are expected to travel as a group to and from all away events using transportation provided by the school district. Exceptions may be made for students who submit a permission slip signed by their parent/guardian to the building principal/designee and approved prior to the school event. This exception will typically only be made to approve transportation from the away event in the private vehicle of the applicant's parent/guardian or in the parent/guardian adult (non-student) designee's vehicle.

E. Violations of Student Conduct Code

Except for conduct distinguished in Sections F and G below, any student participating in an extra or co-curricular activity who violates the code of conduct established by any school or department of the Mt. Blue Regional School District will be subject to general school disciplinary measures which may include suspension from participation in the regularly scheduled events, activities, performances or contests at the discretion of the administration. Any student participating in an extra and co-curricular activity who receives disciplinary consequences for violations of school rules must complete the consequences before returning to the activity. Substantiated incidents of bullying or hazing may incur additional consequences related to extra and co-curricular activities. A student who is suspended from school is also suspended from extra and co-curricular

activities during the period of the suspension. A student assigned in-school suspension is also suspended from extra and co-curricular activities during the day(s) of the suspension and until after returning to classes.

F. Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs

Students may not possess, use, be under the influence of, buy, or furnish to others any substance which affects the mood or performance of oneself or others. These substances include but are not limited to, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, use of vaporizers, vape products, marijuana, illegal drugs, prescription drugs (except as prescribed by their physician), look-alike drugs, over-the-counter drugs, or any substance purported to be any of the aforementioned. Taking medication at school or at a school-sponsored event is prohibited except under the supervision of appropriate school personnel. In addition, students participating in extra and co-curricular activities are not to "knowingly remain present" where these substances are being used contrary to the requirements of this policy. Students may not buy, possess, furnish to others, or use tobacco in any form.

Referral (Self or Concerned-Person) Procedures exist in order for students to safely seek help for themselves or others whom they suspect or know are involved with tobacco, alcohol, or illegal drugs. On the first report of either type (self or concerned person) of referral, the student shall receive assistance and shall not be suspended from extra and co-curricular participation, provided there is not a current incident investigation in progress. The student shall be referred to a school-sanctioned local intervention program. On the second report of either type (self or concerned person) of referral, the student and his/her parent/guardian must participate in a meeting with an administrator or designee prior to returning to the activity and must participate in an individual counseling opportunity. Discipline procedures shall be followed as listed below, as necessary with administrative discretion with a second self-referral.

Tobacco Violations

First violation: No participation in extra and co-curricular activities for 7 calendar days. The student and his/her parent/guardian must participate in a meeting with an administrator or designee prior to returning to the activity, and the student will complete the school-sanctioned intervention program at the next available session.

Second violation: No participation in extra and co-curricular activities for 14 calendar days. The student and his/her parent/guardian must participate in a meeting with an administrator or designee prior to returning to the activity and the student must provide evidence of participation in a school-approved support plan.

Repeat violations: No participation in extra and co-curricular activities for 30 calendar days. The student and his/her parent/guardian must participate in a meeting with an

administrator or designee prior to returning to the activity and the student must provide evidence of participation in a school-approved support plan.

Drug and Alcohol Violations

First violation: No participation in extra and co-curricular activities for 14 calendar days. The student and his/her parent/guardian must participate in a meeting with an administrator or designee prior to returning to the activity, and the student will complete the school-sanctioned intervention program at the next earliest session.

Second violation: No participation in extra and co-curricular activities for 30 calendar days. The student and his/her parent/guardian must participate in a meeting with an administrator or designee prior to returning to the activity and the student must provide evidence of participation in a school-approved support plan.

Repeat violations: No participation in extra and co-curricular activities for 60 calendar days. The student and his/her parent/guardian must participate in a meeting with an administrator or designee prior to returning to the activity and the student must provide evidence of participation in a school-approved support plan.

G. Conduct

Students are expected to conduct themselves so as not to discredit themselves, their team, club, or group, their coach or advisor, or their school. If a student is charged with a crime that occurred during the school year, he or she may be suspended from participation in extra and co-curricular activities, as defined in paragraph 2 on page 1, until the case is adjudicated based on the determination of the superintendent in consultation with the building principal or designee. A student who is convicted of a crime shall be suspended from participation in activities for a period of time to be determined by the superintendent in consultation with the building principal or designee based upon the facts of the particular case.

H. School Uniforms and Equipment

Students will be responsible for all uniforms and equipment issued to them by the school. The cost of replacing damaged or lost uniforms/equipment will be the responsibility of the student and parent/guardian. A student will not be issued uniforms/equipment for a new activity until all uniforms/equipment from a previous activity have been returned or paid for.

I. Practices

All participants in performance and competitive activities are expected to attend

scheduled practice sessions, performances, and contests as specified or required by the advisor or coach involved. If a parent/guardian does not want his/her student traveling in adverse travel conditions, the parent/guardian shall notify the coach or advisor prior to the scheduled practice, contest, or performance.

J. Injuries/Illnesses Requiring Medical Attention

Participants in extra and co-curricular activities must report all injuries and illnesses requiring medical attention to the Health Office and Athletic Trainer. Written clearance from the student's physician to return to extra and co-curricular participation must be submitted to the Health Office and Athletic Trainer before the student will be allowed to practice, participate, or compete again.

ADDITIONAL RULES GOVERNING PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETICS

In addition to all other eligibility requirements, a student participating in athletics must meet the following MPA and District requirements:

1. Is regularly enrolled in Mt. Blue High School or Mt. Blue Middle School (or whose parents/guardians reside in Mt. Blue Regional School District and have an approved home school plan);
2. Is less than twenty (20) years of age;
3. At the high school level, is actively enrolled for credit in courses totaling a minimum of six (6) credits;
4. Refrains from participating on an outside team according to MPA rules;
5. Has not graduated from a four-year course in a secondary school prior to the season;
6. Has not competed under a name not verified by a birth certificate;
7. Has not transferred to Mt. Blue Regional School District primarily to participate in athletic activities;
8. Has provided to the Health Office a record of a current physical examination by a licensed physician given within the two previous years;
9. Has provided an annual Interval History Questionnaire (IHQ) to the Health Office if appropriate;
10. Has been cleared by the Health Office to participate based on an evaluation of the IHQ, physical exam record, and clearance records of any injuries/illnesses.

11. Has submitted to the coach or advisor a signed (by the student and his/her legal guardian) agreement that they will abide by the rules and regulations of the Mt. Blue Regional School District, Mt. Blue High School, Mt. Blue Middle School, and/or the Mt. Blue Athletic Department and the team/activity; and
12. Has adequate health/accident insurance, if appropriate.
13. Has followed the Mt. Blue Regional School District's concussion protocol.
14. Does not violate the district's hazing policy.

ATHLETIC TEAM MEMBERSHIP

A student may participate in only one sport at any one time per season. An athlete may not drop one sport and try out for another sport during a season without the permission of the Athletic Director and the coaches involved.

Students wishing to participate on school teams must try out during the period designated for that purpose, and may not join a team after the tryout period without the approval of the Head Coach and Athletic Director following consideration of any extenuating circumstances.

Cross Reference:

JICH - Chemical Health Policy

JICH-R - Student Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Administrative Procedure

JJIC - Athletic Eligibility Rules

JJIC-R - Suspension of Students from Athletic Teams

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