

GARNER-HAYFIELD-VENTURA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS GOOD CONDUCT CODE, GRADES 7 – 12 GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATION IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Student Eligibility For Extra-Curricular Activities

The Board of Directors of the Garner-Hayfield-Ventura Community School District offers a variety of voluntary activities designed to enhance the classroom education of its students. Students who participate in extracurricular activities serve as ambassadors of the school throughout the calendar year, whether away from or at school. Students who wish to exercise the privilege of participating in extra-curricular activities must conduct themselves in accordance with board policy and must refrain from behaviors that are illegal, immoral, unhealthy, or highly inappropriate. Participating in these school sponsored activities is a privilege, conditioned upon meeting the eligibility criteria established by the board, administration, and individual activity coaches and sponsors. The principal/activities director shall keep records of violations of the Good Conduct Code.

The following extracurricular activities are covered by the board's policy and these rules: Athletics, instrumental and vocal music performances (includes drum major and colorguard), drama productions, musical productions, speech contests, FFA, FCCLA, National Honor Society, all clubs including Archery and Trapshooting, all honorary and elected offices (e.g., Homecoming King/Queen court, class officer, student government officer or representative), state contests and performances for cheerleading and drill/dance team, mock trial or any other activity where the student represents the school outside the classroom in an extracurricular activity or co-curricular activity that is not an extension of the classroom's graded activities.

General Definitions

Co-Curricular – student is graded and earns credit for this class and certain activities/performances outside the classroom. If the activity is a graded extension of the classroom, the Good Conduct Code would not be enforced.

Extra-Curricular in a Co-Curricular Activity – activities/performances over and above expectation of the student in this class.

Extra-Curricular – (may be yearly or season) includes activities that a student chooses to participate in where the student publically represents the school.

“Law Violation” – commission of any act which results in any of the following:

- issuance of a citation or complaint
- arrest or detention
- filing of a delinquency petition
- entering into an Informal Adjustment Agreement or agreement for deferred prosecution
- finding of adjudication
- granting of a consent decree, deferred judgment or deferred sentence
- entry of conviction

A law violation does not include traffic violations punishable by a scheduled fine, non simple misdemeanor, and misdemeanor hunting or fishing offenses.

Academic Eligibility

To be eligible for an activity, students participating must meet the following:

- be enrolled or dual-enrolled in school;
- have earned passing grades in at least four full-time classes the previous semester;
- be earning passing grades in at least four full-time classes in the current semester;
- for students in athletics, music, or speech activities, be under 20 years of age;
- for students in athletics, music, or speech activities, be enrolled in high school for eight semesters or less;
- for students in athletics, have not been a member of a college squad nor trained with a college squad, nor participated in a college contest nor engaged in that sport professionally;
- have met all transfer requirements, if the student is a transfer student, or be eligible under state law and regulations if the student is an open enrollment student.

Special education students or students covered by a Section 504 plan shall not be denied eligibility on the basis of scholarship if the student is making adequate progress, as determined by the student's team, towards the goals and objectives on the student's IEP or 504 plan.

Good Conduct Code

To retain eligibility for participation in Garner-Hayfield-Ventura High School or Garner-Hayfield-Ventura Middle School extra-curricular activities, students must conduct themselves as good citizens both in and out of school at all times. Students who represent the school in an activity are expected to serve as good role models to other students and to the members of the community.

Any student who, after a hearing at which the student shall be confronted with the allegation, the basis of the allegation, and given an opportunity to tell the student's side, is found to have violated the school's Good Conduct Code will be deemed ineligible for a period of time, as described below. A student may lose eligibility under the Good Conduct Code for any of the following behaviors:

- possession, use, transmission or purchase of tobacco, nicotine or imitation products, regardless of the student's age; this is to include, but not limited to, e-cigarettes, vapor devices and tobacco pens.
- possession, consumption, or purchase of alcoholic beverages, including beer and wine; having the odor of alcohol on one's breath is evidence of use.
- possession use, purchase, attempt to purchase, delivery or attempted delivery of illegal drugs, or the unauthorized possession, use, purchase attempted purchase, delivery or attempted delivery of any drug;
- committing a law violation;
- inappropriate or offensive conduct, including but not limited to assaulting staff or students, gross insubordination, disrespect to or refusing to cooperate with authorities, hazing or harassment (even if it does not constitute a violation of the anti-bullying/harassment policy), inappropriate or disparaging comments to or about others, threats, inappropriate comments about a trait of an individual or group, creating parodies to make fun of others, posting or otherwise sharing potentially embarrassing photographs, drawings, video or depictions of others without their permission, whether done verbally, in writing, electronically (e.g. text messages, electronic mail, instant messaging, chats or social networking sites) or otherwise. A Good Conduct Code violation may result from group conduct.

If a student transfers in from another Iowa school or school district and the student had not yet completed a period of ineligibility for a violation of a Good Conduct Code in the previous school, the student shall be ineligible if the administration determines that there is general knowledge in our school district of the fact of the student's misconduct or violation in the previous district.

Penalties and Ineligibility:

Any student who, after a hearing before the administration, is found to have violated the Good Conduct Policy, during the school year or summer, is subject to loss of eligibility as follows:

1.) First Offense Within the Student's Middle School or High School Career - Up to 40% of ineligibility for the student's current or next activity.

2.) Second Offense within the next 15 months of a Student's Middle School or High School Career- Up to 80% of ineligibility for the student's current or next activity.

3.) Third Offense Within the Student's High School Career - Out of all activities for the remainder of their Middle School/High School Career.

First Offense Buy Down Option and Process:

If a student chooses this buy down option, they will be declared ineligible for 20% of all scheduled events in every extra-curricular activity he/she is currently competing/participating and/or the next seasonal activity or activities in which they compete/participate. **If a student chooses to not participate in the "Buy Down Option," ineligibility is 40%.**

Alcohol, Tobacco, Nicotine products, or Other Substances. Students will be expected to complete four (4) components to be eligible to participate in the "buy down option."

- 1.) An initial individual evaluation screening at Prairie Ridge (or another evaluation program that has been approved by the school administration) along with any counseling that may be deemed necessary or required as a result of this initial evaluation. This initial individual evaluation will be at the expense of the student.
- 2.) Students will be expected to give an oral apology to the parties/team affected by their actions.
- 3.) Students will be expected to give an approved presentation about the dangers of alcohol, tobacco or other substances to an Elementary or Middle School class through the Guidance/At Risk Departments.
- 4.) Community service hours and/or appropriate restitution will also be assigned and will be determined by the administration or his/her designee. Prior to a student becoming eligible again, there needs to be proof of completion of the evaluation screening, the presentation program or an agreement needs to be made with the school's administration on a time to have the presentation/education process completed and completed community service hours. If a student does not complete the entire process within a timely manner as decided by the school's administration, the student may be declared ineligible for extracurricular activities until the program has been completed.

Other Misconduct That Violates GHV Good Conduct Code: Students may be required to complete activities such as community service, education, restitution as assigned in the criminal or juvenile court system, or activities such as this assigned by the high school principal, junior high school principal, or activities director. Other education/prevention programs may also be accepted with the approval of the administration.

Second Offense Buy Down Option and Process:

“Buy Down Option” - Upon the second offense within a 15-month period, the student will be declared ineligible for 40% of all scheduled events in every extra-curricular activity he/she is currently competing/participating and/or the next seasonal activity or activities in which they compete/participate. **If a student chooses to not participate in the “Buy Down Option,” ineligibility is 80%.**

Alcohol, Tobacco, Nicotine products, or Other Substances. Students will be expected to complete four (4) components to be eligible to participate in the “buy down option.”

- 1.) An initial individual evaluation screening at Prairie Ridge (or another evaluation program that has been approved by the school administration) along with any counseling that may be deemed necessary or required as a result of this initial evaluation. This initial individual evaluation will be at the expense of the student.
- 2.) Students will be expected to give an oral apology to the parties/team affected by their actions.
- 3.) Students will be expected to give an approved presentation about the dangers of alcohol, tobacco or other substances to an Elementary or Middle School class through the Guidance/At Risk Departments.
- 4.) Community service hours and/or appropriate restitution will also be assigned and will be determined by the administration or his/her designee. Prior to a student becoming eligible again, there needs to be proof of completion of the evaluation screening, the presentation program or an agreement needs to be made with the school's administration on a time to have the presentation/education process completed and completed community service hours. If a student does not complete the entire process within a timely manner as decided by the school's administration, the student may be declared ineligible for extra-curricular activities until the program has been completed.

Third or Subsequent Offense:

Upon the third offense within their junior high/high school career, the student will be declared ineligible to participate in all extra-curricular activities for the remainder of their junior high/high school career. A student may apply for reinstatement by following the procedure described as follows:

After a one-month period of ineligibility, the student may make an application for reinstatement to the Administration/Athletic Director to consider possible reinstatement to eligibility. This application will include positive actions taken and/or to be taken by the student to retribute and/or improve their situation. This could include any treatment plans or programs the student is exploring. If the Administration/Athletic Director rejects the first application for eligibility reinstatement, the student may re-apply a month later for his/her application to be reviewed again. Any reinstatement could not occur prior to completing an ineligibility period of 50% of each extra-curricular activity that he/she participates in within the next 12 months. For example, if a student participates in cross-country, basketball and track within the 12 months, he/she would be ineligible for 50% of each activity.

Violations Occurring During Ineligibility:

If a student is ineligible at the time of a violation of the Good Conduct Code, the penalty for the violation will not begin until the student regains eligibility. Here are a couple of scenarios/examples for clarification:

- a.) A student academically ineligible for a quarter (or “semester”) is found to have been in possession of tobacco, a Good Conduct Code violation. When the student is again academically eligible, the penalty attaches and begins at that time,.
- b.) A student violates the Good Conduct Rule and is ruled ineligible for three weeks. While ineligible, the student again violates the Code. The second penalty attaches when the first penalty is completed.

Academic Consequences:

There will be no academic consequences for the violation (e.g., detention, suspension, expulsion from school, or grade reduction/withholding) unless the violation of the Good Conduct Code occurred (a) on school grounds, (b) at a school event regardless of location, or (c) the violation has a direct and immediate negative impact on the efficient operation of the school despite occurring off school grounds/time.

Appeals:

Any student who is found by the administration to have violated the Good Conduct Code may obtain review of this determination to the superintendent by contacting the superintendent within 3 days of being advised of the violation. The penalty will be in effect until reversed.

If the student is still dissatisfied, he or she may seek further review by the school board by filing a written appeal with the board secretary at least 72 hours prior to the next board meeting. A special meeting of the board will not be called. The review by the board will be in closed session unless the student's parent (or the student, if the student is 18) requests an open session. The grounds for review by the school board are limited to the following: the student did not violate the Good Conduct Code; the student was given inadequate due process in the investigation and determination; or the penalty is in violation of the Handbook Rule or Board Policy. The penalty will remain in effect pending the outcome of the meeting with

the board. If the school board reverses the decision of the administration, the student shall be immediately eligible and shall have any record of the ineligibility period and violation deleted from the student's records.

Special Notes:

- A. "Buy Down and Honesty Clause": Any student who denies violation of any rules outlined in this policy, but for whom there is evidence clearly indicating guilt, or any student who refuses to cooperate or is not completely honest with the administration during investigation of possible violation, shall not be given the "buy down" option.
- B. Student must report violation, or potential violation to activity director or principal within seven calendar days of charges being filed to qualify for the "buy down option."
- C. Each student must be in school the last half of the day in order to participate in an activity or practice session. Any exceptions to this regulation are at the discretion of the building principal. The student shall communicate with the building principal as to why he/she plans to be absent in a timely fashion. The last half of the school day will be defined as after 12:29 p.m.
- D. A violation is a first offense if the student has not previously had a Good Conduct Code violation, or if the student has not had any Good Conduct Code violation findings within the preceding 15 months.. A violation is a second offense if the student has had one Good Conduct Code violation finding within the 15 months before the current violation. A violation is a third or subsequent offense if the student has had two or more Good Conduct Code violation findings within their high school career.
- E. Multiple offenses committed around the same time are all treated as first offenses, but are still treated individually
Example: A tobacco and alcohol violation would have two first offenses going at once. If next month another violation occurs, it would be his/her third offense.
- F. If a student does not complete substance abuse evaluation or such activities or projects as directed by the administration in the time limit allowed, the administration may deem the student ineligible for all extra-curricular activities until the student completes the requirements or may rescind the "buy down option."
- G. Any student who, on his/her own accord, admits to a school staff member a substance abuse problem prior to a good conduct code violation will not be ruled in violation of this policy. The student will remain eligible contingent upon completion of an approved evaluation and recommended treatment program. This provision may not be used following a violation of the good conduct policy in an attempt to bypass or usurp the good conduct policy.
- H. Any student serving out a period of ineligibility must successfully complete that activity season in full or that sanction will be carried over to the next activity of participation. To serve an ineligibility period a student must begin the activity during the first week of practice.
- I. Any student declared ineligible shall not participate or be in uniform in any public performances, games or contests, or participate in any other school-sponsored extra-curricular activity. Students are allowed to practice/participate in any/all scrimmages or dress rehearsal type activity during the period of ineligibility.
- J. In addition to the Good Conduct Code, each coach or sponsor may have additional team rules and guidelines. These rules should be reviewed with the students at the beginning of each season or periodically.
- K. Upon entering high school, all freshmen students will begin with a fresh start/clean slate of the Good Conduct Policy to start their high school careers. Unique freshmen circumstances/multiple offenses in junior high are at the discretion of the high school administration and athletic director.