

GRAND RIDGE GRADE SCHOOL
EXTRACURRICULAR POLICY

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GRAND RIDGE GRADE SCHOOL EXTRACURRICULAR POLICY

PHILOSOPHY

The primary mission of this school district is to provide each student with a total educational experience that will prepare him/her for the future responsibilities of high school. Extracurricular activities are just one vehicle offered to students in an effort to accomplish this vision. Academic performance is Grand Ridge School's primary focus. Extra curricular activities at Grand Ridge Grade School will focus on participation at each team's grade level. Specific goals should include sportsmanship, learning the rules and skills of the activity, and applying them within a competitive atmosphere. *5th and 6th grade teams are viewed as a learning ground for future participation in IESA events, and therefore playing time may be more equally distributed according to the coach of the activity.*

PARTICIPANTS

Any student who wishes to participate in an extracurricular activity during their school experience may do so if they meet the academic and behavioral expectations as outlined in the Student-Parent/Guardian Handbook and as stated below. These guidelines represent the Grand Ridge School District Policy for student participation in all extracurricular activities.

ACADEMIC POLICY

2.043 For all IESA activities, athletic as well as non-athletic, passing work shall be checked weekly to govern eligibility for the following Monday through Saturday. 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, the eligibility check shall begin the week prior to the first contest in an activity.

2.044 The eligibility check shall be the same day each week unless school is not in session; then it must be taken on the last day of student attendance that week.

2.045 Grades shall be accumulative for the school's grading period.

2.046 In cases where a contest has been postponed or re-scheduled, the current week eligibility shall be used to determine a student's eligibility. For example, a contest is scheduled to be played on Tuesday and because of poor weather, the contest is rescheduled for two weeks later. A student who was grade eligible for the originally scheduled game but is ineligible during the week of the rescheduled game is not eligible. Conversely, a student who was ineligible the week of the originally scheduled game and is grade eligible the week of the rescheduled contest is eligible to play. (IESA 2006 – 2007 School By-Laws 2.00)

Most important to note is that "passing per week" is determined by measuring a student's performance on a cumulative basis from the beginning of a school's grading period (nine-week period) through the date on which the check is made. The check should not reflect only a given school week's scholastic performance (unless it is the first week of the quarter); rather it should reflect the student's cumulative performance through the date of the check.

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Any student receiving 1 or more F's, or 3 or more D's on a report will be ineligible and required to attend homework club. If the student fails to attend homework club, he or she will be ineligible for the following week.

Teachers will post grades electronically to the office by 4pm on Thursday. Student eligibility or ineligibility is then affected on the Monday following the date of the check. Please note that the student is not permitted to play on Monday thru Saturday because of last week's failure to meet the grade requirements. A student becoming scholastically ineligible by the weekly eligibility check must remain ineligible for one full calendar week before possibly becoming eligible again.

***Any student who is ineligible shall participate in homework club for the week of ineligibility in order to complete the necessary work to raise the grade. If the student fails to complete this requirement, they will remain ineligible for the following week.*

***The student may attend practice for the week of ineligibility.*

A 3rd *academic* suspension received during the activity's season, will result in suspension for the remainder of *that* season. Three suspensions will result in dismissal from the team/activity.

Although 5th and 6th grade students are not governed by IESA and are therefore not subject to the same eligibility requirements as 7th and 8th graders, the school will hold all students to the same standards in order to prepare them for future athletic participation. 5th and 6th grade extra curricular activities are viewed as a learning ground to develop needed skills and should prepare student athletes for the academic, as well as physical discipline they will need to be successful.

CONDUCT POLICY

Teachers will report any low conduct rating electronically with the eligibility report. Any students receiving a "4" in conduct will meet with the coach/sponsor and teacher and/or administration. Parent/guardian will be notified. Receiving a second "4" during the season will result in ineligibility.

A student will be dropped from an activity upon the third suspension due to academic and/or conduct ineligibility for the remainder of that activity's season.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

Students participating in athletics and/or cheerleading are required to have a recent physical examination, paid for by the parent/guardian, before participating. This examination must be on file with the school prior to the child practicing.

Participants without physicals are expected to attend and observe practices until physicals are received.

INSURANCE

All students participating in athletics and/or cheerleading are required to carry school accident insurance or must be adequately covered by family health insurance. The school will not be responsible for any expenses incurred because of injuries an athlete or cheerleader might sustain while participating in either practice sessions or contests.

Before a student may participate in practices or events, the parent/guardian must purchase school insurance or sign the insurance waiver. Players are expected to attend and observe practices until proof of insurance is received.

FEES

Participants need to pay a **\$10.00** rental fee for the uniform in each sport, cheerleading, and academic team they participate in except for baseball. Baseball has a fee of **\$25.00**. This pays for the **\$10.00** uniform fee and the cost of the hat and socks that the participant will be able to keep.

ITEMS THAT MUST BE TURNED IN PRIOR TO PARTICIPATION

Physical Exam (athletes only)

Insurance Waivers

Signed Extra Curricular policy by Student(s) and Parents ONCE PER YEAR

LEVELS OF PARTICIPATION

Boys Baseball – 7th and 8th grade boys will Co-op a team with Deer Park School District. The purpose of the cooperative team will expand opportunities in sports activities for students of the two districts that would not otherwise have the opportunity at their own school. This cooperative team will not reduce participation for students in any of the two cooperating schools. The 6th grade students will be invited to participate if additional members are needed. 5th grade students will be invited as needed.

5th and 6th Grade Basketball – 5th and 6th grade girls will form a team, and 5th and 6th grade boys will have a separate team. The 5th and 6th grade basketball is not affiliated with the IESA. If 6th grade boys or girls play up on the 7th grade team, they will be governed by IESA rules.

5th, 6th, 7th, & 8th grade boys and girls track

7th & 8th Grade Boys Basketball – Each grade has a team. (*deleted*)

7th & 8th Grade Girls Basketball – Each grade has a team. (*deleted*)

7th & 8th Grade Girls Volleyball – Each grade has a team. (*deleted*)

Cheerleaders – Cheerleaders will be sponsored at (*deleted*) 7th, and 8th grade, and at the 6th grade if insufficient numbers warrant. Girls or boys wishing to participate may do so. If cheerleaders

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are also participants on other teams/activities, participation in the game or meet takes precedence over cheering. Cheering in a game takes precedence over practices for other events.

Academic Team shall be comprised of 7th and 8th grade students. 6th graders may be invited to participate if low numbers warrant.

In essence this policy dictates that in the event of a conflict, competitive events in ALL activities take precedence over ALL practices.

ROSTERS AND PLAYING TIME

Rosters will be limited to the number of uniforms available. Participation on any team does not guarantee any specific amount of playing time. The amount of time any participant plays will depend on the number of members on the team, the attendance at practice, the amount of effort put forth, the game circumstances, and coach's judgment. ***Rosters will be set after the 1st week of practice, (with the exception of move-in students).*** The decision to bring a player up will be determined by the coaches with parent/guardian consent.

Participation in conference and State Tournaments will follow the IESA rules. The roster will be comprised of the students in the designated grade up to 15. If more than 15 participants are on the team, coaches will determine who does not make the roster using the same procedure outlined in Paragraph 1 above to determine playing time. If less than 15 participants are in the designated grade, the coaches may bring up enough players to fill the roster.

The school will conduct a survey each year during the second semester to assess the level of interest in the extra curricular programs. This task will aid in planning for the next year's program, as well as approximating the numbers of participants in each grade level. Baseball participants should notify the Athletic Director by the end of the school year or inform the school office by July 1st if they want to participate.

Participation does not guarantee playing time. Playing time is determined by the coaching staff and supported by the administration. Coaches will attempt to play all team members, when the situation presents itself.

COMMUNICATION

Communication is extremely important to the successful management of any program. Students who are not able to fulfill their commitment to practice or a game or activity must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Student illness reported to the school office excuses a student from practice or a game. **If a student is not in school the full day of a scheduled event he/she cannot participate in the activity, unless they have a prescheduled appointment that can not be arranged outside of school hours.** If a student is absent, they are not to attend a function on the given day.
2. Students are to communicate directly to their coach or sponsor any specific reason for absence from practice or event. Messages are not to be sent via other students. If the

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coach or sponsor is unavailable, the student should inform the administration or office staff, who will inform the coach/sponsor.

- 3. Repetitive absences from practices due to other outside commitments or responsibilities will be dealt with on an individual basis (i.e. parent/guardian visitation rights). Arrangements will be made between home and school in these situations.
- 4. Students who have paper routes, piano lessons, dance lessons, etc., are expected to make arrangements to meet this responsibility. Requests for adjustments in schedules need to be communicated to the coach. **Note:** Playing time will be affected by these absences.

FORMAT FOR FILING COMPLAINTS

Parent/guardian who has concerns or complaints regarding an extracurricular activity should pursue their complaints by addressing the following chain of command:

- 1. Set up a time with the coach or sponsor to discuss concerns. This meeting should take place at a mutually convenient time. The coaches will not be available after games for such discussions and **should be contacted the following day** to set up a time for meeting with the concerned parent/guardian. The following issues should be considered:

Appropriate issues to address with coach	Inappropriate issues to address with coach
Child’s effort at practice	Coaching strategies
Child’s behavior at practice	Playing time
Skills that need improvement/practice	Other athletes/participants
Child’s attitude	

- 2. If resolution is not met after meeting with the coach or sponsor, then the parent/guardian of the student should refer the matter to the athletic director and principal to set up a time in for parent/guardian, coach or sponsor, athletic director and administrator can meet to discuss the concerns.
- 3. If resolution is not met through this meeting and the above options are exhausted and the parent/guardian are not satisfied with the resolution, they may then request a meeting with the superintendent and School Board if necessary to resolve their concerns.

These steps must be followed in the order presented.

PRACTICES

Practices will be held at Grand Ridge School. Generally practices held on Wednesdays will be in consideration of church related activities. Some practices take place on Saturdays. There will be no practices on Sundays. In an effort to have quality practice time for each team, the schedule will be rotated. The schedule of practice will be developed and each team member will receive a copy of the practice schedule in a timely manner. Due to unforeseen circumstances, schedules may change. **In the event of a conflict, competitive events in ALL activities take precedence over ALL practices.**

NOTE:

- **Practices are closed to parent/guardians and visitors.**
- **Only players and coaches will attend practices.**

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- Neither siblings nor friends of players are to be at school unattended, nor are they the responsibility of the coach.

****EVALUATION OF COACHES**

Coaches will be evaluated by the Athletic Director and/or Administration, and recommendations to retain or dismiss will be made to the Grand Ridge School Board.

ATHLETIC RULES

Acts of disobedience and/or misconduct will be reason for disciplinary action. Listed below are some specific violations of misconduct and the resulting penalties which may be imposed for any acts that occur on approved transportation vehicles, at extra-curricular events, or during or after practices; both on and off school grounds.

The Board of Education has directed the administration, coaches, sponsors, school employees, and/or authorized personnel to monitor disciplinary procedures and to direct observed violations to the appropriate authority.

PENALTIES

1. Possession or use of smoking materials.
2. Possession or use of drugs or alcoholic beverages.
 - **Results in the dismissal from the activity for the remainder of the season.**

1. Gross disrespect by either verbal or non-verbal means.
2. Vandalism
3. Fighting
4. General horseplay – fooling around at practice or back talk to the coach.
 - Penalty will vary due to the nature or severity of the offense up to a maximum of dismissal from the team for the remainder of the season.

1. Cutting practice or game without prior notification or valid excuse.
2. Failure to be picked up from practice or a contest in a timely manner.
 - First offense – a one game suspension.
 - Second offense – a one week suspension.
 - Third offense – dismissal from the activity.

1. Late to practice without a valid excuse.
 - First offense – a verbal warning.
 - Second offense – a one game suspension.
 - Third offense – a one week suspension.

1. Dismissal from an activity.
 - Results in a loss of awards for that activity.

The coaches may provide additional rules applicable to the individual sport.

PARENT/GUARDIAN ORIENTATION

Orientation meetings will be scheduled for all parents/guardians for children who wish to participate in an extra-curricular activity. **Three orientation** meetings will be held: in May for Fall baseball; in August for Fall sports and in December for Winter/Spring. Parents/guardians must attend one of these meetings prior to participation in any activity. The coaches/sponsors and athletic director and/or administrator will be on hand to answer questions about the programs. The ethical behavior of coaches, sponsors, students and parents will be addressed. All necessary forms will be available for parent/guardian signature. ***If parents are unable to attend this orientation, they are to set up a meeting with the athletic director to review policy/rules before their child may participate.*** Coaches may hold an additional meeting during the first week of practice for individual events.

STUDENT CODE OF ETHICS

I will remember at all times that I am a member of a team and I will not place my own self interest above those of the team.

I will not cast blame on my teammates, we will win together as a team and we will lose together as a team.

I will demonstrate self-control and respect for others, including officials, parents, spectators, coaches and other participants, at all times.

I will remember that participation in a school activity is a privilege that is not to be abused by un-sportsman/inappropriate conduct.

I will treat my opponents with respect, shake their hands after competition and congratulate them on their performance.

I will respect the integrity and judgment of the officials.

I will remember that improper behavior while in uniform reflects poorly upon my parents, my community, my organization and me.

I will understand and abide by the rules of the game.

I will accept victory with grace and defeat with dignity.

I will remember that school is more important than my additional activities and I will give 100% in the classroom, just as I do in my activities.

PARENT CODE OF ETHICS

I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child participating in youth sports/extra-curricular by following this Parent Code of Ethics:

I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every contest, practice or other youth sports event.

I will be realistic about my child's physical ability and help them understand their role within a team concept.

I will place the emotional and physical well being of my child ahead of my personal desire to win.

I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.

I will require that my child's coach be trained in the responsibilities of being a youth sports coach/ sponsor and that the coach upholds the Coaches' code of ethics.

I will support coaches/sponsors and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.

I will demand an environment for my child that is free of drugs, tobacco and alcohol and will refrain from its use at all extra-curricular events.

I will make my child's athletic career a positive experience and try not to relive my own athletic past through him/her.

I will do my very best to make extra-curricular fun for my child.

I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches/sponsors, fans, and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.

I will help my child enjoy the extra-curricular experience by doing whatever I can, such as being a respectful fan, supporting the Booster Club/school, or providing transportation.

COACHES'/SPONSORS' CODE OF ETHICS

I will place the emotional and physical well being of my participants ahead of a personal desire to win.

I will treat each participant as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.

I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for my participants.

I promise to review and practice basic first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my participants.

I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my participants.

I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my participants.

I will provide an environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from its use at all school events.

I will be knowledgeable in the rules of each activity that I coach/sponsor, and I will teach these rules to my participants.

I will use those techniques appropriate for all the skills that I teach.

I will remember that I am a youth coach/sponsor, and that the game is for children and not adults.

I have read and agree to abide by the COACHES'/SPONSORS' CODE OF ETHICS.

SIGNATURE OF COACH/SPONSOR

A copy of these Ethics has been signed and is on file for each coach and/or sponsor for all extra-curricular activities at Grand Ridge Grade School.

SIGNATURE PAGE

Please return this form to the school office, coach, or sponsor prior to the first day of practice or activity.

SIGNATURE OF ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

We have read and understood the Grand Ridge Grade School extra-curricular policy.

I have read and agree to abide by the Parent Codes of Ethics.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN

I have read and agree to abide by the Student Codes of Ethics.

SIGNATURE OF STUDENT

DATE