

Extracurricular activities, for purposes of this policy, include all extracurricular athletics, cheerleading, dance team, clubs, extracurricular fine arts performances, student government, and any other activity or group that participates in contests, competitions, or community service projects on behalf of or as a more visible representative of the school district.

It is a privilege to participate in extracurricular activities at the Cedar Falls Community Schools. Students participating in these activities serve as more visible ambassadors of the school and role models to other students, and must adhere to high standards of conduct. When students violate these high standards, the District may withdraw the privilege to participate in extracurricular activities. Students participating in extracurricular activities are expected to abide by all rules of this policy 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, in and out of the specific extracurricular season and on or off school grounds.

The activity director may declare a student ineligible whose conduct is contrary to and in violation of the rules and regulations established and made known by the activity director or whose conduct is contrary to or in violation of this conduct policy or other board policy.

Item 1: To retain eligibility for participation in the Cedar Falls Community Schools extracurricular activities, students must conduct themselves as good citizens both in and out of school. Any student who is found to have violated the schools conduct code for extracurricular activities will be deemed ineligible for a period of time as described below. A student may lose eligibility under the conduct code for any of the following behaviors, including, but not limited to:

- Possession, use, distribution, or purchase of tobacco products, regardless of the students age;
- Possession, use, distribution, or purchase of e-cigarettes, vapor products, or alternative nicotine products, unless with physician permission regardless of the student's age;
- Possession, use, distribution, being under the influence, or the sale or purchase of alcoholic beverages;
- Being in a car or in attendance at a function or party where alcohol or other drugs are being consumed illegally by minors;
- Possession, use, distribution, being under the influence, or purchase of illegal drugs and/or drug paraphernalia, and the unauthorized possession, use, distribution, being under the influence of, or purchase of otherwise lawful drugs, and the possession, use, distribution, being under the influence of, or purchase of lawful items for the purpose of achieving mind-altering effects;
- Engaging in any act that would be grounds for arrest or citation in the criminal or juvenile court system, excluding minor traffic offenses, regardless of whether the student was cited, arrested, convicted or adjudicated for the act(s);
- Inappropriate conduct such as fighting, insubordination, bullying, hazing or harassment of others, or unauthorized possession of weapons.

Length of Suspension:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense - Students shall be suspended for a minimum of twenty percent of all activities in which a student is participating at the time of the violation.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense (within one year of the date of the first offense) – A student will be suspended for a minimum of forty percent of all activities in which the student is participating at the time of the violation.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense (within one year of the date of the previous offense) – A student will be suspended from all activities for a period of one calendar year from the date of the last violation.

This number of events/games missed shall be determined by multiplying the total number of events in each activity for a period by twenty percent or forty percent for a second offense. In the case of a fractional number, the total events that a student shall be withheld from will be determined by rounding to the nearest whole number. A student will be suspended for a minimum of one extracurricular event. If there is not a sufficient number for contests or performances remaining in the scheduled season to fulfill the terms of a suspension, or if the student is not currently participating in an extra-curricular activity, the suspension balance will be carried over to the tournament series and/or to the next season in which the student participates. A season is defined as commencing with the first day of practice, concluding with the last contest or performance. The penalty shall be immediate. To resume eligibility, it is mandatory that the student obtain and follow the recommendations of the school approved evaluation procedures.

For the first infraction, the voluntary admission of an infraction of the rules involving alcoholic beverages, tobacco or controlled substance will not result in a suspension if the coach/sponsor/administrator is notified within 72 hours of the violation. This provision may be used one time throughout the student's junior high school (7-8) and one time throughout the student's high school (9-12) career by any student. This voluntary admission may not be used by a student if the infraction is already known to the school or law enforcement agencies. In addition, it is mandatory that the student obtain and follow recommendations of the school approved evaluation procedures before that student regains eligibility. The purpose of this provision is to allow a student to seek help.

- Item 2: The Administration may also have at their discretion the ability to impose consequences of greater magnitude due to the severity of the violation. These violations include, but are not limited to the sale or use of an illegal drug during an activity, at school or away; a student who is arrested for or charged with a felony or charged with an act that would constitute a felony if committed by an adult.
- Item 3: Students cannot attempt to evade the intent of the Code of Conduct Rule by joining a new activity specifically to allow their suspension days to run its course. If a student athlete participates in an activity he/she had not been previously involved with, he/she must complete the season of the new activity in good standing in order for the suspension days to count.

- Item 4: A student must be present for the last three periods of a school day in order to perform at an activity that day, unless otherwise determined by a building administrator.
- Item 5: Students must follow the IHSAA and IGHSAA academic requirements.
- Item 6: A student who is suspended from school due to disciplinary reasons according to Board Policy shall not participate in extracurricular practices or events, or attend Cedar Falls High School activities (on or off campus), during the suspension period. Additionally, a student who is expelled or excluded from school for an extended period of time may be ineligible to participate in activities for the remainder of the school year.
- Item 7: The director of extracurricular activities will establish and make known rules of conduct and regulations for the students participating in the activity. Those rules of conduct shall be approved by the activities director or building principal. Said rules shall be in writing and delivered to each student and parent in the particular activity at the beginning of the season. Additional rules of conduct may be established and will be made known at the beginning of the season. Students are expected to abide by the rules as a condition of their continued participation in extracurricular activities.

### **Appeal Procedure**

Suspension of a student from an extracurricular activity shall be the decision of the activities director within the parameters of this guide, and after the activities director has informally investigated the allegation of misconduct, and has given the student notice of the allegation and the opportunity to respond. If the activities director determined that a violation of the activity code did occur, said student may be declared ineligible for extracurricular activities.

A student may contest the declaration of ineligibility by the activities director orally or in writing to the building principal within three school days from notified of the declaration of ineligibility. The building principal shall make a ruling within two school days of receipt of notice of objection.

In the event the ruling of the building principal is adverse to the student, he or she may appeal the ruling in writing to the appropriate building activities council. The appeal shall be no later than three school days from receipt of decision of the building principal. The student will not be allowed to participate in any contest or performance during the appeal process, but may be allowed to participate in practice sessions. Said notice shall be delivered to the chairman of the appropriate building activities council. Any member of the building activities council who has been involved in prior matters regarding the ineligibility at issue may be disqualified from serving on the building activities council with regard to that matter. The building activities council shall hold a hearing within seven school days of the receipt of notice of appeal and make a ruling within two school days of the conclusion of the hearing.

A decision of the building activities council adverse to the student may be appealed by the student in writing to the superintendent or designee. The appeal shall be within seven school days of receipt of decision from the building activities council and the superintendent or designee will make a ruling within two school days of receiving the appeal.

In the event of a decision by the superintendent or designee that is adverse to the student, the ineligibility may be appealed to the Board of Education. However, it is with the discretion of the Board to determine whether to hear the appeal. The appeal shall be made in writing within seven school days of receipt of the decision from the superintendent or designee. If the Board determines not to hear the appeal, the decision by the superintendent or designee shall be final.

**Date of Adoption:** July 9, 1979

**Date of Review:** July 10, 2023

**Date of Revision:** January 23, 1989  
December 9, 1996  
June 14, 1999  
January 13, 2003  
May 9, 2005  
June 12, 2006  
October 27, 2008  
April 8, 2013  
June 9, 2014  
December 8, 2014  
June 12, 2017