

# **Brackett Independent School District**



## **Extracurricular Student Activities Regulations**

**2014-2015**

# STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

The District believes that extracurricular activities afford students opportunities to develop leadership, interpersonal, and citizenship skills. A variety of extracurricular programs exists in the form of clubs, teams, and performing groups. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right. Because students represent their school and the District in highly visible positions in elected offices and/or appointed positions in which they perform, participate, or compete, these students are viewed as role models. The demands and responsibilities require participants to commit time and effort while maintaining high standards of conduct.

## DEFINITION OF EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

An extracurricular activity is an activity sponsored by the UIL, the Board, or an organization sanctioned by Board resolution. The activity is not necessarily directly related to instruction of the essential knowledge and skills, but may have an indirect relation to some areas of the curriculum.

Extracurricular activities include public performances (except as described below), contests, demonstrations, displays, and club activities. In addition, an activity is subject to this policy if any one of the following criteria applies:

1. The activity is competitive;
2. The activity is held in conjunction with another activity that is considered extracurricular;
3. The activity is held off-campus, except in a case in which adequate facilities do not exist on campus;
4. The general public is invited; or
5. An admission is charged.

**Exception:** A student ineligible to participate in an extracurricular activity, but who is enrolled in a state-approved course that requires demonstration of the mastery of the essential knowledge and skills in a public performance, may participate in the performance if:

1. The performance is one to which the general public is invited; and
2. The requirement for student participation in public is stated in the essential knowledge and skills of the course.

Before a student is suspended or removed from participation in an extracurricular activity, and before any other consequence is imposed as provided under these guidelines, the alleged infraction of the rule will be documented and a reasonable investigation of the allegation shall occur. The Principal or designee shall then schedule a conference with the student and the student's parent to explain the reasons for which the action is being taken and to offer the student an opportunity to present their side.

## INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITY STANDARDS AND RULES

In cooperation with the campus administration, activity coaches/directors are authorized to develop individual activity standards and rules, which may impose additional consequences related to activity participation for minor infractions or offenses identified as "General Conduct Violations" in the **BISD Student Code of Conduct**. A student's participation in a particular extracurricular activity is conditioned upon the student's compliance with the requirements and standards of behavior set forth in the individual extracurricular activity regulations, the **BISD Student Code of Conduct**, and **The Extracurricular Student Activities Regulations**. Activity coaches/directors may take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the activity, against a student who violates any required standard of conduct. The program sponsor in cooperation with the campus administration has the authority to develop the specific guidelines for membership within their individual extracurricular activity regulations. Due to the vast differences among the various extracurricular groups, the individual program codes of conduct are developed for the purposes of defining the specific requirements within the organization.

## **AGREEMENT TO COMPLY**

Participants who meet UIL and BISD eligibility requirements and are selected to represent a BISD school extracurricular program agree to comply with the behavior guidelines as set forth in the **BISD Student Code of Conduct, Extracurricular Student Activities Regulations**, and the individual extracurricular program requirements.

## **TRYOUT PROCEDURE**

Tryout procedures and the calendar for the various extracurricular activities are determined by the individual activity directors in accordance with BISD guidelines. Upon completion of the tryout procedure, if any, for the extracurricular activity, the sponsor will notify all participants of their membership status. The results of tryout procedures are final and cannot be appealed.

## **DRESS AND GROOMING**

Students who participate in extracurricular activities shall comply with the District's policy on student dress and grooming and the coach/director's specific requirements for the activity. These standards may impose restrictions or standards that are more rigorous than the district-wide dress and grooming standards.

## **FEES, EQUIPMENT, UNIFORMS**

Students will be charged a security deposit for any District equipment issued to a student for the student's use while participating in a school-related activity/organization.

Students must care for District-issued equipment as if it were their own. Equipment must be properly stored, in the proper location, and shall be kept clean and maintained.

Students who lose or damage District equipment will forfeit the security deposit.

All District equipment must be returned at the end of the season or school year, as directed by the coach/director. Exceptions would be for musical instruments issued to the student over the summer.

Student-owned equipment is the sole responsibility of the student; BISD will not be responsible for any loss or damage that occurs to student-owned equipment.

If uniforms are required for an activity/organization, the student shall be required to ensure that the uniform is worn only at appropriate times and is neat and clean for the practice, performance, competition, or game/tournament. A fee for the maintenance, dry cleaning, or laundering of the uniform may be collected.

## **TRAVEL**

Students who have the opportunity to travel in connection with the BISD extracurricular activity/organization are representatives of the District and must exhibit exemplary behavior at all times. The BISD Student Code of Conduct is applicable and enforced during all extracurricular travel and activities. District officials may search all luggage and carry-on items for contraband prior to departing for travel to the activity.

Students who dress or behave inappropriately while traveling to or from a BISD activity may be suspended or removed from the activity or organization, depending upon the nature of the misconduct. When feasible, such action should be taken in consultation with the principal or designee.

All students who participate in school-sponsored trips are required to ride in transportation provided by the school to and from the event. Students may be released to a parent or other adult specified by a parent prior to the end of the trip if the parent has submitted the request in writing to the sponsor.

Students involved in travel shall:

- Be on time for all trips;
- Dress neatly and in compliance with the District dress and grooming code;
- Be on their best behavior in restaurants and hotels;
- Care for any equipment assigned to the student and return it to the proper storage location upon return to

the school;

- Be on their best behavior while on the bus or other vehicle; and
- Promptly obey all instructions given by the coach/director or any adult chaperone.

## **GENERAL RULES OF CONDUCT**

Students who participate in extracurricular activities shall comply with the following rules of conduct at all times. Students who participate in extracurricular activities shall:

- Show respect for all officials and staff.
- Participate in every practice, competition, performance, game, tournament, and event required by the coach/director, unless the coach/director has granted an excused absence.
- Arrive promptly, properly attired, for every practice, competition, game, tournament, etc., unless the coach/director has granted an excused absence/tardy.
- Adhere to the grooming standards established by the individual activity sponsor's regulations.
- Demonstrate a sportsmanlike behavior.
- Demonstrate a positive attitude.
- Be polite to others.
- Exemplify honesty in all school work.
- Maintain good conduct in their classes.

Students who receive poor conduct reports in class may also be subject to suspension or dismissal from extracurricular activities.

## **ATTENDANCE AND TARDIES**

Students engaged in extracurricular activities are expected to participate in all practices, performances, competitions, games, tournaments, and other events identified by the coach/director. The coach/director will identify times for required practices, performances, competitions, games, tournaments, etc., at the start of each semester for fine arts or at the beginning of the sport or program activity season. The coach/director has the discretion to modify the schedule as needed.

## **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY CONFLICTS**

### ***ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY BISD***

In the case of a conflict between BISD-sponsored student activities, extracurricular or otherwise, coaches/directors will work together to accommodate the student so that the student may participate in all activities to the extent possible. UIL and other BISD-sponsored performances or competitions will take precedence over clinics and/or practices. Students involved in multiple BISD-sponsored activities shall not be penalized by a grade reduction or limitation on further participation based upon such a conflict.

### ***ACTIVITIES SPONSORED BY OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS***

In the case of a conflict between BISD-sponsored student activities and student activities sponsored by outside organizations, UIL and other BISD-sponsored performances, competition, clinics and/or practices will take precedence over the activity sponsored by the outside organization. Absences or tardies to BISD extracurricular activities due to schedule conflicts with activities sponsored by outside organizations will be unexcused. Consequences for unexcused absences or tardies due to participation in outside organizations will be at the discretion of the BISD coach/director.

## **PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVITIES ON DAY OF ABSENCE**

Unless extenuating circumstances exist, students should be in attendance at school prior to after-school practice that day or to participate in an extracurricular activity that day/night. A student absent from school for any portion of a school day shall provide a note signed by the student's parent that describes the reason for the absence.

Students who fail to appear for a scheduled event without a written excuse from the student's parent may be prohibited from participating in the next scheduled activity. Students' absences from extracurricular activities shall be excused for only those reasons set forth by the coach/director. Excessive unexcused absences may result in suspension or dismissal from the activity/organization. Such decisions shall be made in consultation with the campus principal and are subject to review through BISD Board Policy FNG (LOCAL).

Students under a doctor's care for an injury are expected to attend any practice, performance, competition, or other event relating to the activity/organization but will be allowed to participate only to the extent authorized by written order of the student's physician.

Students should make every effort to schedule health care appointments at times that will not interfere with school or extracurricular activity participation. If a conflict is unavoidable, the student shall inform the coach/director prior to the appointment and provide written documentation, acceptable to the coach/director, of the appointment. The note shall be signed by the student's parent.

## **DISCIPLINARY INFRACTIONS AND LOSS OF EXTRACURRICULAR PRIVILEGES**

In addition to obeying rules set forth in the BISD **Student Code of Conduct**, the particular extracurricular activity's constitution, handbook, rule book, and/or regulations, if any, or rules otherwise communicated to the student by the activity's coach/director, a student in grades 6 through 12 participating in any BISD extracurricular activity shall comply with the **Extracurricular Student Activities Regulations** and will incur the following standardized additional extracurricular consequences for certain violations of the BISD Student Code of Conduct:

### **1. Behaviors resulting in In-School Suspension.**

Disciplinary action as outlined below represents the **minimum** consequences that may be administered.

Any student removed from the regular educational setting and assigned to In-School Suspension, shall be suspended from all extracurricular activities as outlined below:

- 1st Offense (Grades 6-8) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for the term of the ISS.
- 2nd Offense: (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for up to 3 school calendar days upon completion of ISS term, at the discretion of the coach/director.
- 3rd Offense: (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for up to 5 school calendar days upon completion of ISS term, at the discretion of the coach/director.

The principal will not ordinarily interfere in a coach/sponsor's judgment regarding appropriate extracurricular discipline but has the authority to increase or decrease the punishment based on his or her assessment of the situation.

### **2. Behaviors resulting in Out-of-School Suspension from School.**

Disciplinary action as outlined below represents the **minimum** consequences that may be administered.

Any student suspended from school shall be suspended from all extracurricular activities as outlined below:

- 1st Offense (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for the term of the suspension.
- 2nd Offense: (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for up to 10 school calendar days, at the discretion of the coach/director.

- 3rd Offense: (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the semester.

The principal shall make all final disciplinary action decisions.

### **3. Behaviors resulting in Disciplinary AEP Assignment (Mandatory or Discretionary)**

Disciplinary action as outlined below represents the minimum consequences that may be administered.

Any student removed from the regular educational setting and assigned to DAEP shall be suspended from all extracurricular activities as outlined below:

- 1st Offense, (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The AEP assignment will be followed by campus counseling, campus-based community service, and no participation in all extracurricular activities for 10 school calendar days after returning from AEP.
- 2nd Offense (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year.
- 3rd Offense, (Grades 6-12) Suspension: The student shall be suspended from further participation in all extracurricular activities for one school calendar year after returning from AEP.

The principal shall make all final disciplinary action decisions.

## ***TRANSFER STUDENTS***

Nonresident transfer students or students moving into BISD from another school district who wish to participate in extracurricular activities in BISD will have their disciplinary records from the previous district reviewed and may be ineligible for participation for some period of time, as provided in this **Extracurricular Student Activities Regulations**.

## ***BEHAVIOR OUTSIDE SCHOOL'S ORDINARY JURISDICTION***

Any student who participates in a BISD extracurricular activity and who is involved in an off-campus situation that results in substantial disruption or a reasonable forecast of substantial disruption to campus operations or activities and that involves possessing, sending, forwarding, posting, accessing or displaying electronic messages that are illegal, abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, may be subject to disciplinary actions within their extracurricular organization in addition to consequences, **if any**, in accordance with the **Student Handbook** and **Student Code of Conduct**. Furthermore, arrest or citation for drug, alcohol, weapon, or violent offenses or any felony offense may result in disciplinary actions within their extracurricular organization in addition to consequences, **if any**, in accordance with the **Student Handbook** and **Student Code of Conduct**.