

**COAHOMA**  
**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**2011- 2012**  
**EXTRACURRICULAR**  
**STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**



# EXTRACURRICULAR STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT COAHOMA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT GRADES 7 - 12

## I. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The term “extracurricular activities” means any non-curricular event and membership or participation in groups, clubs, and organizations recognized and/or approved by the Coahoma Independent School District’s Board of Trustees and the school district administrators and staff members and sponsored at the district or campus levels. All University Interscholastic League (UIL) academic and athletic activities, student councils, honor societies, student clubs, and other such student organizations are extracurricular. Extracurricular activities also include, but are not limited to, public performances, contests, and club activities. All extracurricular activity participants, including elected and appointed officers of all campus organizations, are subject to the provisions of this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*.

Any one of five criteria can subject an activity to the provisions of an extracurricular activity:

- 1) the activity is competitive;
- 2) the activity is held in conjunction with another activity that is considered to be extracurricular;
- 3) the activity is held on campus, except in a case in which adequate facilities do not exist on campus;
- 4) the general public is invited; or
- 5) any admission is charged. (Chapter 19, Texas Administrative Code, Section 76.1001)

The purpose of extracurricular activities is to provide for individual student development in more inclusive ways not always possible in the academic classroom alone. **Important goals of the extracurricular program are to give students direction in developing self-discipline, responsibility, pride, loyalty, leadership, teamwork, respect for authority, and healthy living habits.**

The philosophy of the district and campus is that all students should avail themselves of one to three extracurricular activities each year. However, just as students can miss many valuable lessons and opportunities by having no involvement, students may overextend their time, energy, and other resources by concurrently participating in an excessive number of extracurricular activities.

Extracurricular activities offered in grades 7-12 include, but are not limited to, FFA, National/Junior Honor Society, student council, competitive academics, competitive athletics, band, choir, cheerleading, yearbook/newspaper publications, and numerous class and organizational clubs.

## II. JURISDICTION

Student participation in extracurricular activities is encouraged but not required for graduation. Coahoma ISD makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program, with this important difference: **participation in the regular curriculum is a right afforded to each student, while students volunteering for participation in the extracurricular program is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable conduct.** Students engaging in extracurricular activities represent not only themselves, but also other students and the school district when performing, competing, or participating in extracurricular activities and while wearing uniforms or other clothing that identifies students to the community or public in any setting as Coahoma ISD students. For this reason, their behavior must be exemplary and reflect the finest attributes of the total Coahoma ISD student body at all times and places.

This *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* will be enforced with all students in grades 7 – 12 participating in extracurricular activities when the school year is in session or when the student is representing the school if it is not in session;

- \* regardless of whether the offense occurs on or off school property; and
- \* regardless of whether the student is directly involved with the extracurricular activity at the time the prohibited conduct occurs.

It is possible that a student who violates the *Coahoma ISD Student Code of Conduct* will incur consequences from both the appropriate school administrator and from his/her coach/sponsor for the same particular violation. It is also possible that a student participating in extracurricular activities could violate the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and be subject to discipline by a coach/sponsor without having violated the *Coahoma ISD Student Code of Conduct*.

The Extracurricular Code of Conduct becomes effective with the 2009-2010 school year, and thereafter until modified or repealed. It supersedes/replaces any other extracurricular related handbooks for student behavior. However, the coach/sponsor may have additional non-conflicting information to attach to the code relating to specific procedures and student performance expectations.

### III. CONDUCT EXPECTATIONS

The following conduct is expected of all participants. Failure to meet these expectations can result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the program by the coach/sponsor:

- \* Student commitment to a team or organization is expected for the entire season or activity. Students are encouraged to participate in more than one extracurricular activity; however, students may not quit one sport or organization in order to participate in another while the sport or club that he or she quit is still active.
- \* Students who participate in extracurricular activities that involve competition among schools and school districts will conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. This includes behavior toward contest officials, visiting teams, or hosting teams as well as the opponent's fans. Coahoma ISD participants will be noted for clean, tough, competitive play. Praise your opponents and play or perform beyond your ability.
- \* Students should arrive to practices (including workouts), meetings and events on time and prepared.
- \* Students who cannot be present for a practice (including workouts), meeting or event should call the coach or sponsor as soon as they are aware that they will be absent. (Missed practices, meetings, or workouts will be subject to being made-up; however, disciplinary action may still be taken if a participant is absent more than two times in a season/semester.)
- \* Injured or ill students who are unable to participate, but are able to attend a practice (including workouts), meeting, or event are required to dress appropriately and sit or stand with the rest of the group.
- \* Students are required to show respect at all times toward coaches/sponsors and peer participants.
- \* Students should follow the rules promulgated in the *Coahoma ISD Student Code of Conduct*. Failure to do so may result in additional disciplinary measures beyond what campus administrators may require as an accountability and/or deterrent measure, as the offense also relates to the student's participation in extracurricular activities as determined by the coach/sponsor.

#### IV. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

Coahoma ISD students who participate in extracurricular activities are prohibited from:

- \* being late to or leaving early from meetings, practices, or events without permission;
- \* being picked up after school or activities in an untimely manner by a parent/guardian;
- \* being insubordinate to coach/sponsor or being disruptive of team/club activities;
- \* failing to follow the reasonable/customary extracurricular activity rules for all the student participants as provided by coach/sponsor and approved by the principal;
- \* verbal abuse (i.e., name calling, ethnic slurs, or derogatory statements) or using profanity, lewd or vulgar language, or obscene gestures;
- \* engaging in any serious misbehavior, as that term is defined in the *Coahoma ISD Student Code of Conduct*; such as
  - \* possessing, selling, giving, or delivering to another person, using, or being under the influence of tobacco products, marijuana, alcohol, a controlled substance, a look-alike drug, any dangerous drug, or contraband of any kind (if attending any school related event at which underage smoking, drinking or drug use is happening a student will be allowed a slight concession for an amount of time long enough to determine that a violation is occurring and to leave the premises)
  - \* stealing or committing robbery or theft;
  - \* conduct that causes injury or harm to persons or property;
  - \* hazing or initiating a fight or assault of another person;
  - \* any conduct resulting in arrest and/or citations from law enforcement officers;
  - \* vandalism or defaming school property of any school district; and
  - \* Lewd or profane internet activity or behavior
  - \* Internet activity or behavior involving drugs, alcohol, or tobacco; or
  - \* Possession, display, or forwarding of sexually explicit or inappropriate photographs, films, or images in any viewable media (“Sexually explicit or inappropriate” means any depiction of nudity or a state of undress of a person, real or animated, in any medium, including digital, electronic, or otherwise).

#### Drug-Testing

All students who are actively involved in extracurricular activities in the District in grades 7-12 shall be subject to random drug testing. Students involved in extracurricular activities shall be randomly tested at least 4 times per school year. Any positive test shall be confirmed by a second more definitive test before being reported as positive. When a test has been confirmed as positive, the student shall be subject to the discipline listed in FNF (LOCAL) policy.

## V. PROCEDURES

The coach/sponsor will determine whether an *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* violation has occurred. The appeal of a decision by the coach/sponsor by the student or parent is up to and including the campus principal only, since no student "right" is affected.

Upon determination of an *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* violation, the following individuals will be notified in an appropriate manner, such as a phone call, personal visit, behavior contract:

- \* the student and the student's parent(s)/guardian(s); and in certain instances
- \* the appropriate school counselor, to provide counseling, support, and guidance in dealing with issues associated with alcohol, drugs, mood-altering chemicals, and other prohibited activities.

The coach or sponsor may **require a conference** at school with the student's parent(s) or guardian(s). The coach/sponsor may consider any and all related matters in determining what actions should be taken to appropriately and effectively address any violations of the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*.

**Important Notice: Nothing in this *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* limits the authority of a coach/sponsor to impose reasonable sanctions, including extra workouts or drills, for students who breach team or organization conduct expectations.**

## VI. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Coaches/Sponsors will review all the facts, circumstances surrounding a particular violation, and impose an appropriate disciplinary action. Coaches/Sponsors will strive for consistency in determining punishment for *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* violations, but will also exercise sound professional discretion. Violation of any of the above-mentioned rules by a student participating in extracurricular activities will be subject to one specific punitive action or the next in a progression, from less to more punitive, from the following disciplinary actions:

- \* Receive **verbal warning or caution** if infraction is minor, judged to be easily and successfully correctable, and does not require by *Coahoma ISD Student Code of Conduct* a stronger punishment;
- \* Placed on a **behavioral contract** for a week(s), month(s), or semester;
- \* Extra workouts, drills, or assignments
- \* **Suspension** from all extracurricular activities for a week(s), month(s), or semester;
- \* **Removal** from office for a student office holder who commits an offense, or
- \* **Expulsion** from extracurricular activities for a full semester or the rest of the school year.

Either the specific nature of the offense or the repeated violation of an offense can be considered in setting the punishment that is deemed appropriate, as the coach/sponsor exercises their consistent and professional discretion.

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

## VII. EXTRACURRICULAR STUDENT INSURANCE COVERAGE

Coahoma ISD is not responsible for injuries of its students who are participating in extracurricular activities. However, Coahoma ISD will carry insurance covering participation in practice or competition for such activities. The coverage for each injury will vary according to the accident. More detailed information can be obtained by calling the Coahoma ISD Athletic Office, which administers the filing of claims. We will answer any questions you have concerning our program of insurance for injuries.

**VIII. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

A condition to participating in any extracurricular activity or holding any office (elected or appointed) is to sign at least once on an annual basis an acknowledgement that the student has read and understands the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct*. The student’s parent/guardian must also sign the acknowledgement. The acknowledgement states that the signing party understands the consequences for engaging in prohibited conduct. Signing for one extracurricular activity also extends to and is acceptable for another extracurricular activity within the school year.

.....Please detach on this line .....  
(Sign and Return this portion)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the Coahoma ISD *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and agree to adhere to these rules as a condition for my voluntary participation in Coahoma ISD extracurricular activities. I understand that failure to do so will result in disciplinary measures related to my extracurricular participation.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the Coahoma ISD *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and understand requirements for my child’s voluntary participation in Coahoma ISD extracurricular activities. I understand the consequences that my child will face if he or she fails to adhere to these rules and agree to such terms.

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Participant Behavior Contract**  
**Extracurricular Code of Conduct**  
**Coahoma Independent School District**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have committed a violation of *the Coahoma ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct*. Having agreed to abide by the higher standards of the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* when I began participation in an extracurricular activity, I understand that my actions must not occur again. Below, I have detailed the behavior that led to this contract and the consequences of another violation of the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* within the specified period of time. I recognize that my participation in extracurricular activities is now dependent on my behavior until the date that this contract expires.

By signing this contract, I recommit to following the rules of the *Extracurricular Code of Conduct* and recognize that failure to do so will lead to suspension from extracurricular activities for the period of time specified below. My suspension from extracurricular activities will affect not only myself but also my peers.

Behavior that led to this contract:

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Therefore, I am on probation for a period of (coach/sponsor check one) \_\_\_\_ one (1), \_\_\_\_ three (3), \_\_\_\_ six (6), \_\_\_\_ nine (9), or \_\_\_\_ eighteen (18) weeks. This contract begins at 5:00 p.m. on \_\_\_\_\_ and ends at 5:00 p.m. on \_\_\_\_\_.

Another violation within the probationary period will result in suspension from the team, club, or activity for a period of \_\_\_\_ weeks. The suspension period will begin at 5:00 p.m. on the date that the probationary period ends and will continue through 5:00 p.m. of the day that the suspension is set to end. Extracurricular participants may not practice, may not wear school uniforms, nor may they participate in events or competitions while suspended. Suspension through 5:00 p.m. of the day that an event is set to begin negates participation by the student unless the event is set to begin at or after 5:00 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian Signature Date

[Two copies should be signed. The student should keep one copy and the other should be returned to the coach/sponsor by 5:00 p.m. on the day after it is given to the student.]