

## **Grandview Heights City School District Activity Code of Conduct**

### **Statement of Philosophy**

Participants in extra-curricular programs are held to a higher standard of responsibility and conduct. They are representatives of their school, the Grandview Heights City School District, and the Grandview Heights/Marble Cliff community.

The Grandview Heights City School District recognizes that the use and abuse of tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs has a negative effect on learning, behavior, athletic development and performance. The Board of Education and the staff of the school district encourage students to choose healthy, lawful activities. This code of conduct has been developed to ensure that the school district is represented by law-abiding, tobacco, drug and alcohol-free students in the activities it offers. As extra-curricular activities are a privilege and not a right, all students participating in extra-curricular activities agree to be tobacco, alcohol, and drug-free.

### **Voluntary Referral Opportunity**

In recognition that peer pressure is a powerful force and that learning occurs through experience, there is an understanding that errors in judgment are part of the learning process. Taking responsibility for these errors in judgment is also an important part of learning. Therefore, the following Voluntary Referral Opportunity is available as defined below for violations of agreements 1-6.

Voluntary referral must occur before any discovery by school personnel of violations. The student may use voluntary referral once in his/her athletic or academic career grades 7-8 and once in his/her athletic or academic career grades 9-12. Voluntary referral cannot be used if the student has been found to be in violation of any provision of this policy at any other time.

Students have the opportunity for a voluntary referral procedure to seek information, guidance, counseling and/or assessment in regard to the possession or use of tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs. The student or immediate family members may make voluntary referrals. Voluntary referrals will not carry violation consequences on the first offense only. Voluntary referrals are considered a first offense with no penalty.

If the voluntary referral is made due to use or possession of alcohol or drugs, an appointment for assessment and/or the Saturday Family Workshop must be made within five days. The cost of this assessment will be the responsibility of the student or the family of the student.

If the voluntary referral is made due to use or possession of tobacco, an appointment to attend HABIT Smoking Cessation Workshop must be made within five days. If verification is not made with the principal or the principal's designee within five days, the violation will be considered a first infraction with applicable consequences.

In the event that a student is in violation of agreement 7, voluntary referral may not be used. The student must, however, report any violations of agreement 7 in order to lessen the possible consequences. Please refer to the "Violation of Agreement 7" sections below for specific details.

### **Definitions:**

1. Extra-curricular- any school sponsored activity that is not part of the graded course of study. This includes, but is not limited to, athletics, clubs, school-sponsored trips, and other school related activities.
2. Co-curricular- any activity or contest that is required and is directly related to the graded course of study, including, but not limited to Band, Singers, FIRST, etc...
3. Sports Season- the time from the first practice as recognized by OHSAA until the final contest or awards ceremony (whichever occurs last).
4. Leadership position-any appointed or elected position. These include but are not limited to officer of a class or organization, captain/co-captain of a team, student council, or camp counselor.
5. Highly Visible Position- any activity which places a student in front of other students for honor or recognition. Examples include but are not limited to Citizen of the Month, Homecoming Court, and Homecoming Escort.
6. Assessment- a program operated by a certified chemical dependency counselor, a licensed physician trained in chemical dependency or a mutually agreed on provider.

### **Agreement:**

All participants of extra-curricular activities agree to the following:

1. Students will not possess, use, sell, or distribute tobacco in any form.
2. Students will not possess, use, sell, or distribute alcoholic beverages.
3. Students will not possess, use, sell, or distribute non-prescribed or illegal drugs.
4. Students will not sell, distribute, or misuse prescription drugs or over-the-counter medications.
5. Students will not possess, use, sell, or distribute body-altering or performance-enhancing chemicals, such as steroids.
6. Students will not knowingly remain in attendance at any social situation or event in which peer group underage alcohol use or illegal use of drugs is taking place. Actual possession or use is not required to be considered a violation of this provision. First time offenders of this provision will be counseled by school officials regarding this policy. Parents and students will be reminded that future infractions will result in consequences. No other consequences will be given for first time offenders. Upon a second violation, the leveled consequences would begin.
7. Students will not violate any local, county, state, or federal laws or ordinances. For the purpose of this policy, minor moving traffic violations are excluded. A violation occurs when a student is cited or charged by police or other entity for an infraction of local, state, or federal law or ordinances.

### **Violations of Agreement and Related Consequences:**

#### **Interscholastic Athletics:**

Violation of Agreement 1: Loss of 100% of current season contests\*. If student and parent/guardian attend HABIT Smoking Cessation Workshop, consequence will be reduced to 20% of the current season\*.

Violation of Agreements 2-5: Loss of 100% of current season contests\*. If student and parent/guardian attend the Saturday Family Workshop or similar educational/counseling program (must be approved by building principal), consequence will be reduced to 20% of the current season\*.

Second Violation of Agreements 1-5: Loss of 100% of current season contests\*. Families may opt to have a drug and alcohol assessment completed. If the assessment is completed, consequences will be reduced to 30% of the current season\*. The assessment must be approved by the building principal.

Third violation of Agreements 1-5 will result in the loss of participation privilege for one calendar year.

Violation of Agreement 6: No Consequences. (First offense)  
Loss of 10% of current season contests\*. (Second offense)  
Loss of 30% of current season contests\*. (Third offense)  
Loss of 50% of current season contests\*. (Fourth offense)  
Loss of participation privilege for 1 calendar year. (Fifth offense)

Violation of Agreement 7: Any time a student is cited or charged by police or other entity for an infraction of local, state, or federal law or ordinances, the student is required to report the incident to the principal or athletic director the first day the student returns to school. If students are on break (any time when students have one or more days when school is not in session), the report must be made before the student participates in any extra-curricular or co-curricular activity. Failure to report will result in a 50% loss of current season contests\*. Once reported, the student (and parent) will have the opportunity to outline the details of the violation to a panel consisting of the building principal, the athletic director, one coach, and one non-coaching teacher. The panel will make a decision regarding the length and duration of loss of current season contests. The panel may choose to act on the information presented or may require further documentation before rendering a decision. The decision of the panel is final and not subject to appeal.

#### NOTES

\*If the percentage of lost contests cannot be fulfilled during the current season or if the student is not currently involved in interscholastic athletics, the remaining percentage of contests will be lost during the next sport season in which the student-athlete participates for the entire season.

Scrimmages do not count toward the percentage of lost contests. Tournaments do count toward the total percentage of lost contests. Student may continue to practice with the team at the discretion of the coach. Students may not dress for any contest during their suspension period.

#### **Other Extra-curricular Activities**

Violation of Agreements 1-5: Each violation will result in a 2-month suspension from all clubs, activities and organizations. If student and parent/guardian attend the Saturday Family Workshop or similar educational/counseling program (must be approved by building principal), consequence will be reduced to a 1-month suspension.

Violation of Agreement 6: Each violation after the first offense will result in a 1-month suspension from all clubs, activities, and organizations.

Violation of Agreement 7: Any time a student is cited or charged by police or other entity for an infraction of local, state, or federal law or ordinances, the student is required to report the incident to the principal or athletic director the first day the student returns to school. If students are on break (any time when students have one or more days when school is not in session), the report must be made before the student participates in any extra-curricular or co-curricular activity. Failure to report will result in a 6-month suspension of all club and organization activities. Once reported, the student (and parent) will have the opportunity to outline the details of the violation to a panel consisting of the building principal, the athletic director, one coach, and one non-coaching teacher. The panel will make a decision regarding the length and duration of club and organization suspension of privileges. The panel may choose to act on the information presented or may require further documentation before rendering a decision. The decision of the panel is final and not subject to appeal.

NOTE: If the principal concludes that the suspension from an extra-curricular activity due to **this section** of the Activity Code of Conduct would be detrimental to a current production or performance; the principal may enforce consequences immediately following the final performance or production.

#### **Leadership Positions:**

Violation of Agreements 1-6: Each violation will result in loss of extra-curricular leadership positions for one calendar year with the exception of a first offense of Agreement 6.

Violation of Agreement 7: Any time a student is cited or charged by police or other entity for an infraction of local, state, or federal law or ordinances, the student is required to report the incident to the principal or athletic director the first day the student returns to school. If students are on break (any time when students have one or more days when school is not in session), the report must be made before the student participates in any extra-curricular or co-curricular activity. Failure to report will result in a loss of extra-curricular leadership positions for one calendar year. Once reported, the student (and parent) will have the opportunity to outline the details of the violation to a panel consisting of the building principal, the athletic director, one coach, and one non-coaching teacher. The panel will make a decision regarding the length and duration of suspension from extra-curricular leadership positions. Any loss of co-curricular leadership positions will be based on the classroom policies of the sponsoring teacher. The decision of the panel is final and not subject to appeal.

Any loss of co-curricular leadership positions will be based on the classroom policies of the sponsoring teacher.

### **School-Sponsored Trips:**

Trips defined as co-curricular will not be subject to this policy. However, individual teacher policies in regards to co-curricular class trips may limit participation.

Extra-curricular trips will be subject to this policy as follows:

Violation of Agreements 1-5: Loss of travel privileges for 6 calendar months (1<sup>st</sup> offense). Loss of travel privileges for one calendar year (2<sup>nd</sup> offense). No travel privileges for remainder of school career (3<sup>rd</sup> offense).

Violation of Agreement 6: No consequence (1<sup>st</sup> offense). Loss of Travel privileges for 6 calendar months (each additional violation).

Violation of Agreement 7: Any time a student is cited or charged by police or other entity for an infraction of local, state, or federal law or ordinances, the student is required to report the incident to the principal or athletic director the first day the student returns to school. If students are on break (any time when students have one or more days when school is not in session), the report must be made before the student participates in any school-sponsored trip. Failure to report will result in a loss of travel privileges for a minimum of one year. Once reported, the student (and parent) will have the opportunity to outline the details of the violation to a panel consisting of the building principal, the athletic director, one coach, and one non-coaching teacher. The panel will make a decision regarding the length and duration of loss traveling privileges. The panel may choose to act on the information presented or may require further documentation before rendering a decision. The decision of the panel is final and not subject to appeal.

Prior to committing to a school-sponsored trip, families should discuss the implications of this policy. If a student loses the privilege of Travel, no refunds will be made by the school district. Families may want to independently explore Trip Insurance prior to committing to any school-sponsored trip.

### **Highly Visible Position:**

Violation of Agreement 1-5: Loss of Highly Visible Position (excludes co-curricular positions) for 1 calendar year (each offense).

Violation of Agreement 6: No loss (1<sup>st</sup> offense). For each subsequent offense, Loss of Highly Visible Position (excludes co-curricular positions) will be for 6 calendar months.

Violation of Agreement 7: Any time a student is cited or charged by police or other entity for an infraction of local, state, or federal law or ordinances, the student is required to report the incident to the principal or athletic director the first day the student returns to school. If students are on break (any time when students have one or more days when school is not in session), the report must be made before the student participates in any extra-curricular or co-curricular activity. Failure to report will result in a loss of highly visible position(s) for one calendar year. Once reported, the student (and parent) will have the opportunity to outline the details of the violation to a panel consisting of the building principal, the athletic director, one coach, and one non-coaching teacher. The panel will make a decision regarding the length and duration of suspension from highly visible positions. Any loss of co-curricular highly visible positions will be based on the

classroom policies of the sponsoring teacher. The decision of the panel is final and not subject to appeal.

**Investigation:**

All reported suspected violations of this policy will be investigated. Documentation for a rules violation must come from one or more of the following:

1. Staff member's report.
2. Police Report.
3. Result of Principal/Athletic Director/Coach/Advisor/Teacher investigation.
4. Video or Picture Evidence.
5. Athlete's/Participant's Admission.

**Additional Provisions:**

1. This policy is in effect for all Grandview Heights City School students' grades 7-12.
2. Cumulative consequences are in effect for students in grades 7-8. Upon completion of grade 8, students receive a fresh start beginning the day they complete their 8<sup>th</sup> grade school year. From that point, cumulative consequences are then in effect until graduation from Grandview Heights High School.
3. Graduated Seniors are not eligible to participate in school related co-curricular or extra-curricular activities/trips.
4. This policy is in effect for actions on and off school grounds.
5. This policy is in effect 24 hours a day throughout a student's school career (grades 7-12).
6. This policy is in addition to any and all other consequences related to Code of Conduct violations.
7. Decisions rendered by the principal as applied to this policy are not subject to appeal.

**SIGNATURE SHEET FOR CODE OF CONDUCT AND RISK OF INJURY**

***STUDENT—GHCSO Activity Code of Conduct and Risk of Injury Acknowledgement***

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have received a copy of the Activity Code of Conduct. I understand that I am responsible for complying with the rules and regulations of Grandview Heights City School District as set forth. I understand that my participation in extra-curricular activities is a privilege and not a right and is contingent upon strict adherence to the rules specified in the Code. I further understand the penalties that will be imposed if I violate any of the rules.

I hereby agree to participate in interscholastic athletics and/or activities sponsored by the Grandview Heights City School District. I realize and appreciate the risk involved in each of the activities in which I choose to participate. I realize that the risk of injury may be severe, including the risk of fractures, head injuries, paralysis and even death. I agree to accept this risk during my participation in athletics and/or activities.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Student*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

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***PARENT—GHCSO Activity Code of Conduct and Risk of Injury Acknowledgement***

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have received a copy of the Activity Code of Conduct. I understand that my son/daughter is responsible for complying with the rules and regulations of Grandview Heights High School as set forth. I understand that my son's or daughter's participation in extra-curricular activities is a privilege and not a right and is contingent upon strict adherence to the rules specified in the Code. I further understand the penalties that will be imposed if my son or daughter violates any of the rules.

I, as parent or guardian of the student indicated, hereby grant my son/daughter permission to participate in interscholastic athletics and/or activities sponsored by the Grandview Heights City School District. I realize and appreciate the risk involved in each of the activities in which my son/daughter participates. I realize that the risk of injury may be severe, including the risk of fractures, head injuries, paralysis and even death. I permit my son/daughter to participate in these athletics and/or activities and accept the risk of injury during his/her participation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Parent*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*