

Forney Independent School District 2020-2021 Extracurricular Code of Conduct

1. Extracurricular Activities: General Provisions

What is an Extracurricular Activity?

- < Any University Interscholastic League (UIL), School District, or campus-sponsored or related public performances, events, contests, demonstrations, displays, club activities, athletics, whether on- or off-campus;
- < Any elected offices and honors (such as student counsel and homecoming queen);
- < All co-curricular activities, which are those held in conjunction with a credit-bearing class, but that may take place outside of school and outside of the school day (such as band and choir);
- < All national organizations (such as National Honor Society or Future Farmers of America); and
- < Any activity held in conjunction with another activity that is considered to be an extracurricular activity (such as a meeting, practice, or fundraiser).

Why are Extracurricular Activities Important?

- < They promote self-discipline, responsibility, leadership, teamwork, self-confidence, commitment, and student wellness.
- < They enhance and enrich curricular educational offerings.
- < They offer participants the opportunity to be leaders and role models on campus and in the community.
- < They enable participants to represent the School District in a positive manner.

2. Jurisdiction

Who is Subject to the Extracurricular Code of Conduct?

Any student who participates in one or more extracurricular activities is subject to the Extracurricular Code of Conduct (ECC). A student is subject to the ECC from the time he/she is selected for, elected to, or otherwise joins an extracurricular activity and continues to be subject to the ECC from that point forward unless or until the student no longer participates in extracurricular activities.

When Does the Extracurricular Code of Conduct Apply?

The privilege of representing the School District carries with it a greater responsibility to conduct oneself with respect and dignity, and to serve as a role model for all students. Consequently, extracurricular activity participants are expected to comply with the ECC at all times, regardless of location. This includes both on and off-campus conduct as well as evenings, weekends, holidays, and summer vacation.

3. Conduct Expectations

What is Expected of Extracurricular Activity Participants?

Participants in extracurricular activities are representatives of the School District, and must conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on the School District at all times. Specifically, they must:

- < Maintain an average of 70% or better in all academic courses, except as provided in District policy FM (Legal);
- < Be punctual and prepared for all games, practices, meetings, performances, camps, and/or other scheduled events related to an extracurricular activity;
- < Treat all school property with respect and ensure that school property is returned upon request and in good condition (excluding reasonable wear and tear);
- < Abide by the District's dress and grooming standards for students as well as any dress and grooming standards applicable to the specific extracurricular activity;
- < Comply with UIL rules, including those related to random steroid testing, if applicable;
- < 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/she quit is still active;
- < Be courteous and respectful toward all fellow participants, school faculty and staff members, spectators, parents, and officials, whether from Forney ISD or from any other school district;
- < Provide advance written or verbal notice to the coach or sponsor of an activity if they are unable to attend a game, practice, meeting, performance, and/or other scheduled event related to the extracurricular activity;
- < Complete training recognizing the symptoms of injuries and the risks of using dietary supplements;
- < Comply with all rules and guidelines in the ECC and those established for a specific extracurricular activity in which the student participates; and
- < Before a student may be allowed to participate in any competitive after-school extracurricular activities, the student and parent (or legal guardian) must present written consent for drug testing (FNF Local).
- < Comply with and adhere to the behavioral standards identified in the District's Student Code of Conduct.

4. Prohibited Conduct

What Conduct is Prohibited for Extracurricular Activity Participants?

Category A Violations:

- < Engaging in theft, destruction, or misuse of school district property;
- < Failing to return school property as directed;
- < Engaging in hazing, harassment or bullying of others as defined by the Forney ISD Student Code of Conduct;
- < Buying, selling, giving, delivering, using, possessing, or being under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, a controlled substance (without a proper prescription), or a dangerous drug at any time and regardless of whether the student is on school property or at a school-related activity;
- < Engaging in any unreasonably dangerous athletic technique that unnecessarily endangers the health or safety of a student;
- < Maintaining, transmitting or being identified on a website, blog or any form of social media that depicts behavior that is illegal or is sexual in nature;
- < Sending, transmitting, or posting images or other material that is related to illegal or sexual activity; and
- < Engaging in conduct prohibited by the District's Student Code of Conduct that is punishable by placement in DAEP or expulsion.

Category B Violations:

- < Being tardy to games, meetings, practices, performances, camps, and/or other events without permission from the activity sponsor or coach;
- < Being absent from games, meetings, practices, performances, camps, and/or other events without permission from the activity sponsor or coach;
- < Engaging in acts of poor sportsmanship, such as cheating, using profane language, or taunting other participants;
- < Being insubordinate to a coach or sponsor;
- < Being disruptive during a game, meeting, practice, performance, camp, and/or other event;
- < Violating the established rules or guidelines of a specific extracurricular activity in which the student participates;
- < Violating the District's standards for dress and grooming or the standards set for the specific extracurricular activity; and
- < Engaging in general misconduct prohibited by the District's Student Code of Conduct.

Note: Students placed in DAEP are ineligible to participate in or attend extracurricular activities pursuant to Texas Education Code § 37.006(g).

Note: The standards of the ECC are independent of the Student Code of Conduct. Violations of these standards of behavior that are also violations of the Student Code of Conduct may result in a student being disciplined under both standards.

5. Consequences

Category A Violations:

First Offense:

The student will be suspended from participation for up to 6 school weeks and may be placed on a behavior contract.

Second Offense:

The student will be suspended from participation for up to 12 school weeks and will be placed on a behavior contract for 4 school weeks.

Third Offense:

The student will be suspended from participation from **all** extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year. If the violation occurs within 3 school weeks of the end of the current school year, the student will be suspended for the remainder of the current school year and the entirety of the next semester, including any extracurricular activities or events during the summer months.

Fourth Offense:

The student's participation in **all** extracurricular activities will be revoked for the remainder of the time the student attends that campus, or any other Forney ISD campus serving the same grade levels as the campus the student currently attends. For example, the remainder of the student's high school career.

Definition: "weeks" means school weeks, but also includes any non-school weeks in which an extracurricular competition or event occurs, such as camps during the summer or on school holidays.

Category B Violations:

First Offense:

The student will receive a verbal warning and reprimand and will be directed to refrain from future violations.

Second and Third Offenses:

The student will be suspended from participation for up to 4 school weeks and will be placed on a behavior contract for 4 school weeks.

Fourth Offense:

The student will be suspended from participation from **all** extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year. If the violation occurs within 3 school weeks of the end of the current school year, the student will be suspended for the remainder of the current school year and the entirety of the next semester, including any extracurricular activities or events during the summer months.

Fifth Offense:

The student's participation in **all** extracurricular activities will be revoked for the remainder of the time the student attends that campus, or any other Forney ISD campus serving the same grade levels as the campus the student currently attends. For example, the remainder of the student's high school career.

Definition: "suspension" means that the student will not be permitted to participate in any competition, contest, scrimmage, performance, or election associated with an extracurricular activity. The student may continue to participate in practices.

Note: An extracurricular activity participant starts each school year with a clean slate, unless he or she had participation in extracurricular activities revoked during the previous school year, in which case that revocation continues from year to year. In addition, any consequences that were assessed during the prior school year for which the student owes additional suspension or behavior contract time must still be completed. For example, a student who was suspended from participation for 4 school weeks during the last week of school may have an additional 3 weeks of suspension to complete beginning with the next school year.

6. Procedures

Who Determines that a Violation of the ECC has Occurred?

The activity sponsor or coach will determine whether a violation of the ECC has occurred and will assess the appropriate consequence.

How will Consequences be Assessed for Different Violations of the ECC?

Consequences for violating the District's ECC are assessed based on the severity of the violation and the commission of prior ECC violations.

Is a Student Entitled to Participate in Extracurricular Activities?

No. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right. As such, a student's participation may be revoked at the District's discretion.

How Will Parents be Notified that a Violation of the ECC has Occurred?

Parents will be notified of all violations *that result in suspension from participation* in extracurricular activities. The activity sponsor or coach will contact the student and the student's parent via telephone or face-to-face conference within 2 school days from the time the activity sponsor or coach learns of such a violation. At this time, the activity sponsor or coach will inform the parent and student that a violation of the ECC has occurred, discuss with them the applicable consequences, and give the student an opportunity to respond to the allegations.

What if a Parent Does Not Agree with the Decision?

All appeals will be addressed through the District's complaint process, contained in policies FNG (Legal) and (Local). A decision of the Forney ISD Board of Trustees regarding an extracurricular activity complaint is final and is not appealable.

Note: Nothing in this Extracurricular Code of Conduct limits the authority of a coach or sponsor to impose reasonable sanctions, including extra workouts, for students who breach team or organization conduct expectations but do not engage in prohibited conduct.

Note: 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.

7. Acknowledgment

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by Forney ISD's Extracurricular Code of Conduct for the 2020-2021 school year. I understand that I will be held accountable for the behavior expectations and consequences outlined in the Extracurricular Code of Conduct. I understand that by participating in extracurricular activities, I am a representative of Forney ISD and a role model to my peers and throughout the community; therefore, the Extracurricular Code of Conduct governs my behavior at all times, and applies both on and off school property. I understand that the behavior expectations of the Extracurricular Code of Conduct are in addition to those included in the Forney ISD Student Code of Conduct. I understand that violations of the behavior standards of the Extracurricular Code of Conduct that are also violations of the Student Code of Conduct may result in my being disciplined under both the Extracurricular Code of Conduct and the Student Code of Conduct.

Student Name:

Parent/Guardian Name:

Campus:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Grade Level:

Date:

Student Signature:

Date:

Forney ISD Extracurricular Activity Participant Behavior Contract

I, _____ [student name], a participant in _____

_____ [list extracurricular activity(ies)] agree to abide by the Extracurricular Code of Conduct, including all conduct expectations and the consequences. I understand that by participating in extracurricular activities, I am a representative of the school district and a role model for my fellow students, and as such, I am held to a higher standard of behavior.

I recognize that I violated those standards by engaging in the following violation(s) of the Forney ISD Extracurricular Code of Conduct: _____

[student should describe violations in detail].

I understand that my continued participation in extracurricular activities is contingent upon my successful completion of this Behavior Contract.

I pledge to do the following: _____

Deadline for completion: _____

I understand that if I do not successfully complete this contract by the specified deadline, I will be suspended from participation in extracurricular activities for the remainder of the current school year. I understand that if the end of the current school year is within 4 school weeks of the deadline for completion listed above, failure to successfully complete this Behavior Contract will result in my suspension for the remainder of the current school year in addition to the entirety of the next semester.

Student Name: _____

Parent Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____