

Co-Curricular
Meridian School District
Co-Curricular Code of Conduct

As participants in Meridian School District's extra-curricular programs and activities, it is understood that the following rules apply for the entire year. These rules are in effect from the first day of practice one year, through the first day of practice the following year.

Attendance

A student participant must be in school the entire day of a game/activity in order to participate in that game/activity unless he/she has a prearranged excused absence. Students must also be in attendance the entire day following a game/activity unless they have an administrative approved, prearranged excused absence (for example: Dr. appointment, funeral) or an absence excused for illness or injury; not more than one of these exceptions is allowed in a school quarter. Any exception to this due to additional extenuating circumstances must be appealed through building administration. Any unusual circumstance should be discussed with the Principal and parent before it becomes a concern.

Behavior

The first violation of the following rules may result in a probationary period of one year (after the applicable discipline has been imposed). A further violation of the following rules, after a violation-free probationary period of one year, may be eligible to begin the "offense count" back at a first offense.

- No smoking or chewing of tobacco
- No excessive use of profane or vulgar language
- No engagement in any delinquent behavior
- Abide by all regulations as prescribed by the Meridian Board of Directors and understand that any act of exceptional misconduct as outlined in the Meridian Student Handbook will also be considered a violation of the MSD Co-Curricular Code of Conduct.

All violations of the following rules are cumulative during the student's time at each school.

- No use or possession of intoxicating beverages or illegal drugs
- No misuse of OTC or prescription drugs (See WIAA rule 18.26.2 on Legend drugs, controlled substances and the consequences).
- Commit no unlawful acts (See note below).
- Not to be present at any function or in any circumstance where alcohol or illegal drugs are involved.

High School Discipline

- **First Offense:**
The student will be immediately suspended from activities for fourteen calendar days to include a minimum of two complete games or contests. Should the period of suspension be less than fourteen days, the student will forfeit participation in two complete games/events in

a subsequent sport or activity. The student may, at the discretion of the coach, be allowed to participate in practices but cannot take part in contests during the time of suspension.

- **Second Offense:**

The student will be dismissed from the team/group for the remainder of that season. Should the period of suspension be less than twenty-one days, the student will forfeit participation in one-third of the games or events in a subsequent sport or activity. The student may, at the discretion of the coach, be allowed to participate in practices but cannot take part in contests during the time of suspension.

- **Third Offense:**

The student will be suspended from participating in all extracurricular activity programs within the Meridian School District for the remainder of his/her high school career.

Middle School Honor Level System

- Any student who falls below Step 3 on the Student Behavior System will be placed on probation and will not be allowed to participate in activities unless he/she is eligible to return to Step 3. This student might be eligible to continue practicing for a specific event with coach/advisor and principal discretion.
- Students on Step 4 are ineligible for games, but will be allowed to practice with the team.
- Any student on Step 5 or suspended from school will not be allowed to participate in practice, games or other co-curricular activities until he/she returns to Step 1, 2, or 3.
- Coaches/Advisers will be given information that will update them on students' status.

MHS and MMS

In all cases involving the use of illegal drugs or alcohol, the student shall be required to submit to a drug/alcohol evaluation by an accredited community agency and must abide by the recommendation of that agency before being reinstated.

Note: The continued eligibility for students involved in criminal offenses, even though not committed on school property or at a school event, will be subject to a review by a committee consisting of the Administration, Athletic Director, Coach and School Counselor. A student may be found ineligible for one game, a number of games or placed on behavior probation. Repeated criminal offenses either in school or outside of school will likely result in ineligibility for the remainder of the season depending on the circumstances involved.

Meridian High School Co-Curricular Academic Eligibility

In order to participate in Co-curricular activities, students must continuously demonstrate academic achievement. Evidence of passing grades must be presented every two weeks. If there are any failing grades, the student must bring the grade up to passing or have special circumstances approved by administration before participating in the next competition.

A student must pass all classes during the previous grading period as well as maintain passing grades throughout the quarter. If the student earns a grade of F, NC, or I, the student may begin participating in interscholastic competitions when...

- If the student received a grade of I or incomplete...
 When the incomplete has been made up and the teacher has submitted a passing grade to the registrar.
- If the student received a grade of NC or no credit...
 When a weekly progress report shows that the student has 90% or better attendance for a minimum of three school weeks during the current semester.
- If the student has received a grade of F... (see below)

Previous Semester Grades

- Fall student athletes who fail two or more previous semester classes are ineligible to compete for five weeks (WIAA).
- Fall student athletes who fail one semester class are ineligible to compete in the first 15% of their next sports season.
- Spring student athletes who fail one or more previous semester classes are ineligible to compete in the first 15% of their next sports season.

Length of Season	Activity	% Games Ineligible	Contests Missed
Less than 10	Cross Country	15%	1
10	Football, Track	15%	1.5 (consecutive contests at highest level)
12	Golf, Swim	15%	2
16	Soccer, Volleyball	15%	2 games OR 1 game AND 1 tourney
20	Basketball, Baseball, Fastpitch	15%	3
33	Wrestling	15%	5 matches OR 1 tourney OR equivalent

- Students who document successful completion of course work (pre-approved by the school) that makes up credit for the classes failed may recover their whole eligibility.
- Note: Class makeup/Credit recovery: Students attempting to recover credit from failed course work (i.e. Summer/Online) must re-take the same class. Any exceptions to this must have prior administrative approval.

Current Semester Grades

- Goal: All students will earn a C- or better.
- Grades will be checked on a two week basis.

- The first two week grade check (to occur during the second full week of school, week three) of each semester will place failing student athletes on a probationary “grace period”. Students with failing grades retain full eligibility status. This is considered a “status” warning and takes into consideration the infancy of the term. All students are encouraged, but not required to attend ASA (after school academics).
- The second grade check (week five) of the semester will identify those with failing grades as ineligible for competition. Student athletes earning less than a C- are required to attend ASA daily in order to practice with team.
- For the remainder of the semester, any student whose grades in any class slip under 60% are ineligible for competition. Students earning less than a C- in any class are required to attend ASA (after school academics) until grades improve above C-.
- MHS Students may restore their athletic eligibility at any point in time. There is no set term of suspension. Note: Passing status must be communicated from the teacher to administration, in person, electronically (email, text), or by phone. (*Hand notes are not acceptable. The WIAA penalty for forgery is a one calendar year athletic suspension).

In addition, it is understood that as a member of the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association, all students in the Meridian School District are subject to WIAA regulations.

Meridian Middle School Co-Curricular Academic Eligibility

Students must be passing all classes with a C- or better to compete.

- A student failing one class may continue to practice with the team, but not compete.
- Weekly grade reports will determine student athletes’ eligibility status.
- Students who do not clear the “eligibility” check are considered ineligible until their grade improves to a C- or better. This may happen at any point throughout the week
- Grade checks will occur every Thursday of each week. If there is a game on that day, the students are cleared to play even if failing. Their status changes that evening, after the contest.
- The athletic secretary and athletic director will verify students who fail the eligibility check and need to clear the following week’s status check.
- Meridian Middle School athletes may remain on their respective teams for the entirety of the season regardless of the amount of times they appear on the grade check. Athletes will be encouraged to get the help necessary to improve their grades, but will not be removed from the team for appearing on the grade check multiple weeks in a row.

It is important to realize that each student may have unique circumstances that will need to be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. The goal of the school is to help each individual student improve in both academics and citizenship.

Meridian School District Appeal Process

A student dismissed from a team/group for violation of rules may petition the school principal, in writing, to arrange an appeals hearing. The hearing is to be held within three days of the petition. The appeals committee will consist of the athletic director, the principal and a teacher or coach selected by the principal. If additional conferences are necessary to resolve an issue, the student may appeal to the Superintendent.

Approval For Participation

Every student who participates in interscholastic athletics (including cheerleaders) must have each of the following completed documents signed and on file through the office of the Athletic Director:

- ASB card prior to participation in activities.
- Physical Examination Form
- Eligibility Form
- Participation Fee paid

Equipment

Students are fully responsible for all equipment checked out for the sport or activity in which they are engaged. Equipment is to be kept clean and in good condition, and it is the student's responsibility to turn in the equipment promptly at the end of the sports season. Students who fail to turn in equipment will not be allowed to participate in any subsequent sport or activity until they have done so.

Adoption Date: 06.01.11

Revised Dates: 07.27.16