

SPORTSMANSHIP

(As it pertains to all co-curricular activities)

The Board believes that all co-curricular activities and athletic competition should be a healthful, positive and safe experience for everyone involved, conducted in an environment that teaches values and ethics, strengthens the community, promotes competition without conflict and enriches the lives of athletes. Student participants should learn to handle success with grace and losing with dignity. In order to promote core values such as discipline, fairness, responsibility, trustworthiness and citizenship, everyone associated with athletics, including student athletes, coaches, parents and spectators, is expected to exhibit good sportsmanship during all events/competitions.

A. PARTICIPANTS

In exhibiting sportsmanship, student participants are expected to:

1. Understand and follow the rules of the activities;
2. Understand the expectations of the District Code of Conduct and Student Handbook;
3. Recognize skilled performance of others, regardless of the students' group;
4. Display respect for teammates, opponents, coaches and officials;
5. Respect the judgment of officials and accept their decisions;
6. Refrain from antics, taunting opponents and using insulting language or swearing;
7. Be modest when successful and gracious in defeat; and
8. Recognize that their conduct reflects on their school.

B. COACHES (Assistant coaches, trainers, volunteer coaches, etc.)

In exhibiting sportsmanship, coaches are expected to:

1. Recognize that they are role models for students and set a good example for participants and fans to follow;
2. Abide by the rules of the activity, in letter and in spirit;
3. Treat all with respect, including the participants on the opposite teams;
4. Behave with dignity and self-control;
5. Respect the judgment of officials and accept their decisions;
6. Take corrective action toward any student participant who intimidates or shows disrespect toward an official or displays unsportsmanlike behavior; and
7. Be modest when successful and gracious in defeat.

C. SPECTATORS, INCLUDING PARENTS, STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Spectators attending co-curricular events are expected to:

1. Realize that the main purpose of the competition/activity and the role of the spectator is one of support;
2. Show positive support to the teams and student participants for outstanding performances;
3. Show respect for injured student participants, regardless of which team they are on;

4. Refrain from angry or abusive language or actions toward any student participant, official, coach or other spectators;
5. Refrain from endangering participants or spectators by throwing objects;
6. Refrain from heckling, taunting or berating student participants, officials, coaches or other spectators; and
7. Follow all Board policies and rules pertaining to conduct on school property, including but not limited to those pertaining to tobacco, alcohol, drugs and weapons.
8. Refrain from stepping on the competition area.

School co-curricular events are school activities that are part of the educational program and are not a public forum. The public is invited to attend co-curricular events for the purpose of supporting the participants on both teams and the schools they represent. Appropriate behavior by spectators, especially adults, provides a positive model for students and contributes to the value and educational purposes of co-curricular activities. Negative comments and behavior by spectators are inconsistent with the purposes of co-curricular activities. School administrators and officials have the authority and discretion to remove any spectators who do not comply with rules of sportsmanship.

D. PENALTIES FOR INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR

Student participants who engage in unsportsmanlike behavior will be subject to penalties described in Board policy, school rules or the Student Code of Conduct and/or Student Handbook, to appropriate disciplinary consequences.

Student spectators whose behavior constitutes a violation of Board policy, school rules or the Student Code of Conduct will be subject to appropriate disciplinary consequences.

Adult spectators who engage in unsportsmanlike behavior or conduct that violates Board policy may be asked to leave the premises and may be excluded from future events. The administrator in charge of the event may seek the assistance of law enforcement authorities if necessary to ensure the safety of student participants, coaches, officials or other spectators or to prevent damage to school property.

E. NOTICE OF RULES

The building administrator/co-curricular coordinator will be responsible for posting spectator rules at the entrance to each interscholastic competition site.

CROSS REFERENCES: JJ—Interscholastic Athletic Philosophy
 JJIBA—Hiring and Evaluation of Coaches
 JJIBC—Relations with Booster Groups
 JJIE – Drug, Alcohol, & Tobacco Use by School Students in
 Co-Curricular Activities

ADOPTED: January 9, 2007