

# DOVER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT EXTRA-CURRICULAR/CO-CURRICULAR PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

The following guidelines governing student participation in extra-curricular/co-curricular activities are established in accordance with School Board Policy #122, Extra-Curricular/Co-Curricular Activities and School Board Policy #123, Interscholastic Athletics. The guidelines set forth on this document are applicable to all students who participate in school-sponsored activities that routinely meet beyond the regularly scheduled school day. These guidelines purposefully emphasize the importance for the student to recognize that academic success is their primary mission while attending schools within the Dover Area School District. Participation in extra-curricular/co-curricular activities at Dover Area School District is a privilege.

## ATTENDANCE

Participants must be in school by 8:30 AM on regular school days to participate in contests or practices. A student must be in attendance by 8:30 AM on Friday to participate in any contest or practice that weekend. A dentist or doctor's note is an acceptable excuse for participants who arrive after 8:30 AM. A participant who is on a school sponsored field trip is considered in attendance. A participant who leaves school during regularly scheduled hours to go home or to a doctor cannot participate in a practice, contest, or performance that is scheduled on the same day unless a doctor's note is presented to the coach or activity director **prior to the event**. He or she may participate in a practice, contest, or performance on the following day.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible, participants in grades 9 through 12 must be passing all classes in which they are enrolled. A participant in grades 7 or 8 must be passing a minimum of five (5) full credits or their equivalent and cannot be failing more than one (1) class. Participants who do not meet the academic standards on a weekly basis will be ineligible to participate in contests, or performances for a minimum of one week. Participants who do not meet the academic standards at the end of a marking period will be ineligible to participate in contests, or performances for a minimum of ten (10) **school days**. Prior to the start of any new P.I.A.A./Y.A.I.A.A. athletic season, participants must be passing all courses in which they are enrolled from the beginning of the semester to the date of the start of the new season to be eligible for participation. Fall participants must have passed all courses in which they were enrolled during the previous spring semester in order to be eligible to participate in competitions or performance activities but they may participate in practices prior to the start of fall semester classes. Once fall classes have begun, the student may not participate in contests, or performances for a minimum of ten (10) school days. If, after this period of ineligibility, the student has established a record of passing grades, in accordance with eligibility requirements, he or she will have athletic eligibility restored. Any student who has failed to successfully complete any project that is required for graduation and is advised in a course in which the student has been previously enrolled is not eligible to participate in any extra-curricular or co-curricular activity until such project has been successfully completed. Eligibility will be restored immediately upon successful completion of a failed project.

## REGULATIONS

1. Any participant who intends to participate in an extra-curricular or co-curricular activity is prohibited from doing so until they have submitted a DASD Extra-Curricular/Co-Curricular Participation Guidelines form signed and dated by the participant and the parent or guardian.
2. An athlete who intends to participate in an interscholastic activity may not participate in any tryout, practice, or contest without having passed a physical examination administered by a physician licensed in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
3. If an athlete quits a sport, he/she shall be unable to tryout for another team during that season unless he/she has been released to do so by the head varsity coach of the sport quit.
4. Participants are to remain in their practice, rehearsal, or performance areas while waiting for rides. Participants are not allowed to have unsupervised access to lockers or other parts of the school building at any time.
5. Athletes will be provided a combination lock to secure personal equipment and belongings in an assigned locker. No personal locks may be used on school issued athletic lockers.
6. Wearing of practice/game uniforms is prohibited, except on game days for which the coach grants permission.
7. All school-issued equipment must be turned in to the coaching staff at the completion of that season. Athletes will not be allowed to tryout for another sport until all equipment has been returned to the head coach or has been paid for.
8. Any athlete in possession or use of tobacco products, alcohol or drugs will result in the revocation of privilege of participating in any extra-curricular or co-curricular activities as described in Dover Area School District Board policy #227.
9. Any participant may be suspended from an extra-curricular or co-curricular activity and may not participate in any other extra-curricular or co-curricular program for a period of time up to 60 school days for committing willful and flagrant acts of poor sportsmanship or improper behavior. Such acts include, but are not limited to, verbally or physically threatening or assaulting game officials, fellow participants, or spectators and committing other illegal acts, such as theft, vandalism, and indecent exposure. (A second offense in any of the offenses outlined above in numbers 8 and 9 will result in immediate dismissal from the team and will result in suspension of participation privileges from all athletic programs for the remainder of the current school year.)
10. Inappropriate in-school or out-of-school behavior could result in suspension or revocation of the privilege of participating in any extra-curricular or co-curricular activity. A participant placed on in-school or out-of-school suspension is not considered in good standing and will not be able to practice, participate in, or attend any contests, practices, or performances on the day the suspension is imposed and for the duration of the suspension.
11. Any athlete who is ejected from a scheduled exhibition contest, league competition, or tournament by an official will be excluded from participation in the next scheduled event. The athlete or school administration may request a review of the incident which led to the ejection.
12. The head coach has the authority to temporarily or permanently remove an athlete from a team with just cause.
13. An athlete will not be permitted to tryout for or participate in two sports in the same season unless both coaches and the athletic director sign a written permission agreement.
14. An athlete who has been removed/dismissed from a team is not eligible for any athletic award from Dover Area High School or the Dover Eagle Athletic Booster Club.
15. The Dover Area School District prohibits hazing or other inappropriate team initiation practices in any school sponsored extra-curricular or co-curricular activity. Students who, without the coach's knowledge, organize and/or take part in such activities will face suspension and/or dismissal from the activity.
16. A senior athlete will be ineligible to participate in extra-curricular activities if they are failing senior focal project the semester in which they are enrolled in the class or if they failed senior focal project the fall semester and have not satisfactorily completed all project components.
17. All practices are mandatory, unless excused by the Head Coach.

## TRANSPORTATION

All student participants will travel to school-sponsored events using district transportation and will return to the school using the same transportation. Any exceptions must be approved through the high school office and must be requested in writing on a Travel Release Form to the Director of Student Activities at least one day prior to the date of the event. When returning from an event or performance, participants are expected to leave school premises as soon as possible.

## WARNING

Participation in athletics can be dangerous. Injuries, possibly life-threatening, may occur in both practices and contests. Our intent is to inform you of the risks involved in all athletic programs. **I have been informed of the risk of injuries inherent in participating in athletics and I agree to abide by the Dover Area School District guidelines set forth on this document, and the school's decision(s) involving any violation(s) of the guidelines.**

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PARENT'S SIGNATURE/DATE

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SPORT/ACTIVITY

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STUDENT-ATHLETE'S SIGNATURE/DATE

WHITE COPY - PARENT/STUDENT

YELLOW COPY - ATHLETIC OFFICE

PINK COPY - COACH/ADVISOR

DASD revised 07/14/09