
Evansville High School
Home of the
BLUE DEVILS



2024-2025
Activities/Athletics/Co-Curricular
Code of Conduct

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Evansville Community School District ensures no individual may be denied admissions to any public schools in the District or be denied the right to full participation rights in curricular, extracurricular, student services, recreational or other programs or activities because of a student's sex, race, religion, national origin (including persons whose primary language is not English), ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, gender non-conformity, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or any other basis protected by law.

Evansville High School (EHS) Coaching/Advisor Model

The primary purpose of education is to equip each student with the values and training needed to lead a fulfilling and successful life. Activities, athletics, and co-curriculars offer invaluable opportunities for learning and growth across three essential dimensions: Fundamentals, Psychology, and Heart.

Fundamentals encompass tactics, repetition, strength, cardiovascular development, skills, speed, and power.

Psychology involves motivation, confidence, team cohesion, and goal setting.

Heart explores identity, character, significance, self-worth, values, and purpose.

These activities are integral to the educational process, providing unique opportunities and emphasizing goals that are challenging to replicate through other school activities. Participation in activities, athletics, and co-curriculars is considered a privilege, and involved students are expected to adhere to established rules of conduct at all times (24 hours a day / 365 days a year). This responsibility includes maintaining high standards of behavior, maximizing performance, and presenting a positive image to fellow students and the broader community.

Supporting students comprehensively is a proactive approach that respects the guidelines and expectations set forth by each program and the Activities/Athletics/Co-Curricular Code of Conduct. In the event of a code infraction, the aim is to provide fair, predictable, consistent, and appropriate support.

EHS Activities/Athletics/Co-Curricular Offerings

Activities	Bowling	Equestrian Team	
Athletics	Baseball Basketball Cheer Cross Country Football Golf Hockey Lacrosse	Poms & Dance Soccer Softball Swimming Track & Field Volleyball Wrestling	
Co-Curriculars	Band & Choir Music Trip Clay Target Team Environmental Club Fall Play FBLA FFA Forensics Future Problem-Solvers Global Education Project	GSA Jazz Band Math Team Musical National Business Honor Society National Honor Society Pit Band Quiz Bowl	RVC Honors Band RVC Honors Choir Science Olympiad Student Council Vocal Jazz Writing Club

Letter Criteria for Activities & Athletics

For all activities/athletics/co-curriculars, coaches and advisors have the final discretion to award letters.

Activity/Sport	Letter Criteria
Baseball	Athletes must participate in at least one-fourth of all varsity innings played during the season
Basketball	Athletes must participate in one-fourth of the accumulated varsity halves for the season and complete the season in good standing
Cheer Team	Athletes must participate in ALL games/performances of the season unless excused with prior approval and exhibit a spirit of cooperation and sportsmanship on and off the field/court/performance mat with coaches, fellow teammates, athletes of both home and away teams, official personnel and spectators
Cross-Country	Runners must finish in the top seven-team places for one-half of all meets or A runner exceeds the allotted time for one-half of all meets.
Equestrian Team	The United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) determines letter criteria. The USEF will notify the school district in writing of any students who achieve this status
Football	Athletes must participate in one more than one-half of the quarters of all games played
Golf	Athletes must participate in one-third of all varsity matches
Hockey (Co-op)	Host co-op school determines lettering criteria
Lacrosse (Co-op)	Host co-op school determines lettering criteria
Poms & Dance	Team members must successfully complete two sport seasons and perform in 90% of the games within each of those seasons
Soccer	Athletes must compete in a minimum of 7 games and complete the season in good standing.
Softball	Players must participate in at least one-fourth of all varsity innings played during the season.
Swim (Co-op)	Host co-op school determines letter criteria
Track & Field	Athletes must score a minimum of 20 points during the season in varsity competition and be a definite asset to the team
Volleyball	Athletes must participate in three-fourths of the varsity matches, exhibit a spirit of cooperation and sportsmanship, and complete the season in good standing.
Wrestling	Wrestlers must earn a minimum of 20 varsity team points during the regular season. The majority of team points should be earned by winning matches and not by forfeit. Wrestlers need to compete in a minimum of 50% of all possible varsity contests.

Lettering criteria for music, choir, and drama will be shared with students participating in those activities by their advisor.

Pre-Season Meeting

- **Attendance:** We strongly encourage a family member and the participating athlete to attend the Pre-Season Meeting before the season begins.
- **Code of Conduct:** Participants and families are responsible for understanding the EHS Activities/Athletics/Co-Curriculars Code of Conduct. If you have any questions, please seek clarification from the Activities & Athletic Director.
- **Additional Expectations:** Each coach or advisor will outline additional expectations and team standards for their respective activities/athletics/co-curriculars. These will be provided to each participant before the start of the season/activity.

Rules of Eligibility

Evansville students participating in interscholastic athletics must abide by specific rules of eligibility. These rules of eligibility are established by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) and are supplemented by locally-developed Evansville Community School District (ECSD) rules. All participants must be registered and approved on RSchool (via the ECSD website) prior to the first day of participation. The athletic registration link is: [HERE](#).

Attendance

A student is eligible for practice and competition if they are registered in the attendance system as an enrolled full-time student in either grade 9, 10, 11, or 12 at EHS. A student is also eligible for practice and competition if they reside within ECSD, are enrolled in a home-based private educational program (i.e., homeschooled) and a family member has submitted a written statement affirming that the student meets all eligibility requirements established by District policy and this Code. A student is eligible for practice and competition on a daily basis only if the student has been in attendance for the entire school day or has an excused absence as defined below.

Excused absences and exceptions include, but are not limited to: family emergencies, funerals, prearranged professional appointments (where a doctor's slip has been returned to the office), release for school sponsored activities, college visits, and parental choice situations for which an excuse has been secured beforehand.

In addition, a participant's excused absence due to illness, transportation issues, or other excusable reasons for part of a day, but in attendance for at least half of the day, will be under the discretion of the Evansville High School Principal, Associate Principal, or the Director of Athletics & Activities.

EHS Administration will make determinations related to unexcused absences in accordance with District policy. Unexcused absences may warrant suspension from practice and/or competition.

Tardiness is not tolerated or excusable for participation. In cases of tardiness, parental excuses after the incident do not constitute approval or an excuse and participation in practice and/or competition will be restricted to the following situations:

- If a participant is late 15 minutes or more to class, without an excuse beforehand, the participant is considered "Tardy Unexcused" and therefore will not be eligible for practice and/or competition.
- If a participant is late 14 minutes or less to class, without an excuse beforehand, the participant is still considered "Tardy Unexcused" and therefore may have participation restrictions placed upon them from their respective Head Coach.

Habitual acts of truancy, including tardiness, may result in ineligibility at the discretion of EHS Administration.

Participants suspended or ineligible for activities/athletics/co-curriculars for any reason may still be expected to attend their team's contest or activity. Participants are required to attend all contests or activities and be a non-participant during their suspension. If a participant does not attend a contest or activity during a suspension, that contest or activity will not count as one of the suspension contests.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR ALL ACTIVITIES/ATHLETICS/CO-CURRICULARS

Academic Eligibility

Students and families have the responsibility to be knowledgeable about academic progress and/or grades in cooperation with EHS Staff. Academic eligibility for any nine-week grading period shall be determined by the previous nine-week period grades. The following standard describes the criteria a participant must meet to earn the privilege of participating for ECSD. The standard will determine whether a participant is eligible, ineligible, or on academic probation.

Senior Project Proposal

Incoming graduating seniors must complete and submit a Senior Project Proposal to the Senior Project Coordinator by August 1. Graduating seniors will remain ineligible until such Senior Project Proposal has been submitted.

Academic Standard

- To be eligible to compete, participants must earn a passing grade in ALL classes.
- Incomplete grades count as an "F" when determining eligibility for WIAA athletics.
 - Students identified as ineligible due to an "Incomplete" may practice, but are ineligible to compete in competitions/games.
- Students are ineligible if they do not meet the eligibility standard listed above.

Academic Eligibility Rule: Fall Athletics

The ineligibility period shall be 21 consecutive calendar days beginning with the date of earliest allowed competition in a sport determined by the WIAA. At the start of the first semester ineligible students may regain their eligibility after 21 consecutive calendar days beginning with the date of the earliest allowed competition date for the student's sport/activity.

Academic Eligibility Rule: Winter & Spring Sports and Activity/Club

A student who becomes academically ineligible after the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd grading period will be ineligible for 15 scheduled school days and nights. The student is eligible to attend after school meetings and/or practices, but is ineligible for competitions, contests, or field trips during the 15 day suspension. If the sport/activity is in session when the grades are submitted and a grade report is generated showing a student ineligible, the fifteen days will begin at that time. Mid-term (9 week time frame) grades and end of semester determine eligibility. A student becomes eligible immediately upon passing all classes for the 9-week or 36-week grading periods.

Remediation of Academic Eligibility

A student ineligible for competition must meet with the Activities & Athletics Director or designee to commit to a plan for academic remediation. A student who is ineligible is not allowed in competition for 15 consecutive school days. At the end of the 15-day period, the student needs to meet the eligibility requirements. If the student meets the eligibility requirements, then they have followed the plan for academic remediation. If eligibility is not met, the student can regain eligibility at any point during the nine-week period if they meet the academic eligibility requirements.

If a student has incurred an academic ineligibility suspension and is not in continuous athletic participation from season to season, they must meet academic eligibility requirements in the grading period previous to their participation in the sport/activity later in the year. Student-participants who are ineligible for competition for a period of time for academic or training rule violations must continue to attend practice sessions to remain eligible in the sport/activity upon completion of the suspension.

Enforcement of Rules Related to the EHS Athletic Code

Investigation of the athletic code will be based on the following:

- Violations reported by staff, coaching staff, school officials, family members, or community members presented in writing (signed and dated) to a school administrator.
- Violations reported by students or anonymously that are supported through further investigation.
- Violations confirmed to the school by law enforcement officials.
- Self-admission

Any such report must be received in a timely manner from the time that a person is aware of the alleged occurrence of the violation. Disciplinary action will be handled as outlined in this Code of Conduct. Upon receiving a report of violation, the EHS Principal, Associate Principal, Activities & Athletic Director, and/or designee shall conduct an investigation (including an interview with the accused) in order to determine whether or not the student has violated this Code of Conduct.

Reporting Injuries

- All injuries must be reported to a coach or advisor immediately.
- Participants should consult with the coach or athletic trainer if necessary to see a physician.
- If there is an injury to a participant during a competition or event, an athlete's return to competition will be determined by the athletic trainer. If an athletic trainer is unavailable, the decision will be made by the coach. If a participant requires physician's care, the physician must sign a statement that the participant is physically fit to resume participation prior to the participant being allowed to return to practice and competition.
- In case of emergency, the injured participant will be sent to a local hospital or clinic. Families should indicate any desired medical provider on the participant's emergency card.
- Should an injury be discovered after the participant has returned home, the head coach and/or Activities & Athletic Director must be notified immediately.

GUIDELINES / EXPECTATIONS

Equipment

Each participant is responsible for the equipment issued to them. All equipment must be returned at the end of the season. Failure to return such equipment shall result in one or several of the following:

- Lost or damaged equipment must be paid for by the participant to whom it was issued.
- Any equipment (even though paid for as a lost item) still belongs to the school and shall be repossessed upon discovery.
- A participant found to be in possession of athletic equipment from another school shall have that equipment repossessed and disciplinary action taken which may prevent further participation.

Procedure for Resolving Concerns

Step One – The participant addresses the concern/s with the coach (unless concern is related to the physical mistreatment of the participant). In that case, the participant should address concern with the Activities & Athletics Director.

Step Two – A family member of the participant requests a conference with the coach to address the concern/s. If the family member is unsuccessful in contacting the coach, the Activities & Athletics Director may be contacted in order to facilitate a meeting.

Step Three – If the family member conference with the coach does not resolve the concern/s, there will be a meeting scheduled and mediated by the Activities & Athletics Director or designee.

Concerns the Participant and Families May Discuss

- A. The treatment of the participant mentally and/or physically.
- B. Ways to help the participant improve their performance and skill level.
- C. Concerns about the participants' behavior in school, practice, and/or games.

Concerns the Participant and Families May Not Discuss

- A. Participant's playing time
- B. Team strategy
- C. Play selection
- D. The make-up of a team and the decision as to who plays on a particular team

Tobacco, Alcohol, Illegal Drugs, and Distribution

The illicit buying, selling, consuming, or abusing of tobacco, alcoholic beverages, prescription or non-prescription drugs, E-cigarettes, and/or the possession of drug paraphernalia, synthetic drug, or look-alike drug paraphernalia is illegal and in conflict with the high ideals, principles and administrative policies of ECSD. A participant will be suspended from active competition and activities for acts which include, but are not limited to, the above named activities.

Mere Presence Policy

Participants are expected to leave any location as promptly and as safely as possible where the unsupervised, illegal use of alcohol, underage drinking, and/or drugs are present. This rule is not meant to prohibit one's presence in an establishment whose primary and/or main focus is other than for the sole purpose of serving alcoholic beverages - e.g. bowling alleys, restaurants, golf courses, concerts, etc. Furthermore, participants may be present at events such as weddings, reunions, anniversaries, graduation parties, or other ceremonial functions where alcohol is served.

Within these guidelines, students may not consume alcohol or be in possession of alcoholic beverages, even if they have family/parent permission. Family/Parent permission does not override the provisions of this code.

Disruptive or Detrimental Conduct

A participant acting in a manner considered disruptive of the educational process, or decorum of the school, or encouraging others to do so, may be disciplined under this Code.

A participant who is suspended or expelled from school will not be allowed to participate in any activities/athletics/co-curricular practices, contests, functions, etc. while the suspension or expulsion is in effect. This includes Saturday competitions (e.g., when a student is suspended Friday through Monday). This may also include pre/post season trips, including practices and competitions.

Bullying, Discrimination, Harassment, and Hazing

Students are expected to act in accordance with ECSD Policies 411.1, 411.3, and state and federal statutes involving acts of bullying, discrimination, harassment, and hazing. A student will be suspended from activities/athletics/co-curricular activities for any acts of bullying, discrimination, harassment, and hazing.

Sportsmanship Conduct Violations

Good sportsmanship is a priority at EHS. The essential elements of character and ethics in sports or contests are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and its principles: integrity, fairness, respect, modesty and good citizenship. With them, the spirit of competition thrives, fueled by healthy rivalry, courteous relations, and graceful acceptance of the results. Coaches, advisors, administrators, participants, cheerleaders, competitors, families, and fans are expected to display good sportsmanship at all regular season and tournament contests. Any participant may be suspended

from participation or attendance in activities/athletics/co-curricular activities for acts of poor sportsmanship.

Fulfilling Code Violations

Participant Expectations During Suspension Period:

- Participants must remain actively involved in team activities during their suspension.
- Administration holds the right to make adjustments based on individual circumstances.
- Failure to comply may result in expulsion from the team, necessitating completion of the suspension in the next full season of participation.

Carrying Forward Suspensions:

- If a suspension cannot be completed within the current season, it carries over to the next season of competition.
- Participants cannot join a sport after the first competition of the season to fulfill a suspension.

Group and Level of Suspension:

- Suspensions must be served within the same group or a higher level of activity in which the violation occurred.
- If a violation occurs during the "off-season," the suspension is enforced at the level of the last participation or at the next season's level, but not lower.

Multiple Activities/Athletics/Co-Curriculars:

- Consequences apply to each activity or co-curricular in which the participant is involved.
- For athletics, consequences apply immediately if in-season, or at the start of the next sports season if out of season.
- Consequences for activities and co-curriculars only apply to current activities/co-curriculars.

Appeals Process

The consequence for the violation of the Code will remain in effect through the conclusion of the appeal process.

First Appeal

- **Who to Appeal to:** EHS Principal.
- **Deadline:** Within 5 school days of the suspension decision.
- **Submission Requirements:** Must be in writing and include the rationale for the appeal.
- **Criteria for Hearing:** Granted only if new information is presented to the Principal.
- **Outcome Communication:** Principal will communicate findings within 5 school days after the hearing.

Second Appeal

- **Who to Appeal to:** District Administrator.
- **Deadline:** Within 5 school days of the initial suspension decision.
- **Submission Requirements:** Must be in writing and include the rationale for the appeal.
- **Criteria for Hearing:** Granted only if new information is presented to the District Administrator.
- **Outcome Communication:** District Administrator will communicate findings within 5 school days after the hearing.
- **Final Decision:** The District Administrator's determination is final. If a second appeal is not granted, no further appeals are allowed.

Representation

- Both the student and the school district may have representation during an initial or second

appeal hearing.

- The school district is not responsible for providing or paying for the student's representation.

EXPECTATIONS AND CODE VIOLATIONS FOR ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

- Suspensions will begin immediately upon the completion of the investigation of the violation and a determination that the student violated the Code of Conduct.
- Any student charged and/or convicted of a felony shall, upon the filing of felony charges, become ineligible for all further participation until the participant has satisfied the conditions of their sentence and the courts consider the sentence served (including probation, community service, etc.)
- Consequences in Set "A" are cumulative regardless of the type of violation. Set "B" are stand-alone non-cumulative consequences (See "Fulfilling Code Violations").
- All consequences listed are minimum consequences. EHS Administration has the right to increase a participant's suspension based on any factor, including, but not limited to, the severity of the violation, the impact of the violation on the community, or the impact of the violation on the school.

Post-Season Awards

Any participant suspended for an activities/athletics violation that equates to a Level 2, 3, 4, or 5 will not be eligible for all-conference, and will forfeit any individual recognition (team-issued awards) in the sport season where the violation occurred or the suspension began.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The listed standards, rules, and penalties for violations of the following code serve as minimum guidelines. EHS administration reserves the right to adjust penalties as deemed appropriate. Consequences will be served simultaneously for students involved in more than one activity/athletic/co-curricular at the same time.

Honesty Clause (For All Activities/Athletics/Co-Curriculars):

- **Truthfulness:** The participant shall always communicate honestly and provide accurate information.
- **Transparency:** The participant shall be forthcoming with relevant information and shall not withhold details that are necessary for a fair and informed decision-making process.
- **Integrity:** The participant shall not engage in deceptive practices, including lying, misrepresentation, or any form of dishonesty.
- **Cooperation:** The participant shall work collaboratively and openly with coaches, advisors, teammates, and any relevant authorities, ensuring that all interactions are marked by honesty and integrity.

If the participant's answers are subsequently found to be untrue and it is determined that the participant violated the honesty clause, the suspension will be increased by one level.

SET "A" VIOLATIONS - Cumulative

The Activities & Athletics Director will notify the participant and a family member of the violation and administer the consequences

1. **Use, possession, purchase, transfer or distribution of tobacco, E-cigarettes, alcohol, controlled substances, and/or illegal drugs*** (*May include but not limited to: the illicit use of prescription drugs, look-alike drugs, marijuana, anabolic steroids, performance enhancement drugs, cocaine, and drug paraphernalia.*) **Note:** A list of banned substances is provided on the WIAA website www.wiaawi.org and this information is also available in the activities office.

2. **Hazing, Harassment, or Discrimination** (Penalties may be increased based upon the severity of the violation and serve as minimums. *May include but not limited to: Conduct resulting in out-of-school suspensions, truancy, criminal violation, vandalism, violence-threats of violence, acts of aggression, willful damage to property, hazing, and harassment as defined by ECSD Policy 411.1 and state and federal statutes.*)
3. **Hosting/organizing a party where drugs and/or alcohol are present**
4. **Attending a party where drugs and/or alcohol are present**

1st Violation	Level 2
2nd Violation	Level 3
3rd Violation	Level 4

SET "B" VIOLATIONS - Non-Cumulative within the Set and School Career

Penalties serve as minimums and may be increased based on the severity of the violation

1. **Disruptive or Detrimental Conduct** (*May include but not limited to: inappropriate internet activity, cheating-plagiarizing, conduct resulting in in-school suspensions, disrespectful/defiant attitude such as insubordination during an athletic activity, behavior or conduct which reflects unfavorably on a participant, unsportsmanlike conduct resulting in contest expulsion, and profanity or obscene gestures during athletic involvement.*)
2. **Conduct contrary to the ideals, principles and standards of the Rock Valley Conference and/or the WIAA** (*May include but not limited to: Misconduct, verbal abuse of officials/opponents*)
3. **Attendance at a party where drugs and/or alcohol are present** (*Student leaves and does not consume drugs or alcohol*)
4. **Attendance at a party where drugs and/or alcohol are present** (*Student does not leave, but does not consume drugs or alcohol*)

1st Violation	Level 1 (Warning)
2nd Violation	Level 2
3rd Violation	Level 3

CONSEQUENCES - Activities & Athletics

Level 1	Warning
Level 2	Suspension from participation in ONE (1) contest scheduled AND School Assistance Program (SAP)
Level 3	Suspension from participation in 50% of contests scheduled AND SAP by a non-school agency at personal expense

Level 4	Suspension from participation in 75% of contests scheduled AND SAP by a non-school agency at personal expense
Level 5	Suspension from participation for one (1) calendar year

Note: Participants with consequences at level 5 are prohibited from attending all Activities/Athletics/Co-Curricular events during the suspension period.

CONSEQUENCES - Co-Curriculars	
These consequences do not override organization bylaws, as set by individual co-curricular clubs.	
Level 1	Warning
Level 2	10 hours of approved Community Service
Level 3	20 hours of approved Community Service AND SAP** education program
Level 4	40 hours of approved Community Service and suspension from further co-curricular activities for a semester (90 school days) AND SAP education program (by a non-school agency at personal expense).
Level 5	Suspension from participation for one (1) calendar year

*Students who have a code violation in the categories of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Illegal Drugs/Controlled Substances have the opportunity to reduce their suspension by 50% (for consequences in the Level 3, 4, or 5 categories) if they agree to an AODA assessment and random drug testing for one calendar year at the student's expense

****School Assistance Program (SAP)**: ECSD staff use the Teen Intervene student assistance program. This program allows us to have a guiding platform to address drug and alcohol use in addition to other behaviors displayed by the student.

Community Service

Students are required to fulfill a community service contract to fulfill the code violation. Community service hours must be pre-approved by the Activities & Athletic Director. Completed forms must include signatures from the EHS Principal or Associate Principal, the Activities & Athletic Director, and the supervisor overseeing the community service.

Exceptions / Specific Requirements For Some Music Performing Groups

The music performing groups at EHS have a unique structure where they are considered part of the curriculum and taken for credit. This means that performances, even when they take place outside of regular class time, are seen as an extension of the classroom work and are essential to the students' learning experience. As a result, disciplinary actions for students involved in these courses or activities cannot involve suspension from concert group performances. The reason for this is that ineligibility would affect not only the student but also the ensembles and other related group activities.

In situations where disciplinary action is necessary, the EHS administration will work in consultation with the music director(s) to determine specific consequences. This approach ensures that any disciplinary measures are fair and take into account the importance of the ensemble to the students' overall learning and development.

Policies and Regulations

Policies and regulations are subject to change. Updates will be posted on the ECSD website in a timely fashion. The ECSD Board of Education, in partnership with the EHS Administration, reserves the right to modify existing policy based on extenuating circumstances.

Activities/Athletics/Co-Curricular Contact Information

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