

Conduct and Sportsmanship for Athletic and Co-Curricular Events

Sportsmanship

The Board of Trustees believes that students and employees of the district have the right to work and learn in a positive atmosphere. The district is proud of its tradition of maintaining an educational environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. Therefore, the schools will promote good sportsmanship among students and staff and demonstrate commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity.

Good Sportsmanship Definition: Good sportsmanship is the cooperation of a people as a unit showing common courtesy, patience, pride, and respect. Good sportsmanship will be encouraged, honored and praised.

Teachers, coaches, visitors, parents, and students are encouraged to demonstrate good sportsmanship at all School District 261 events. Examples of good sportsmanship include, but are not limited to:

1. Cooperation between schools, teams, and personnel.
2. Performing community service.
3. Respecting judgment of contest officials.
4. Accepting responsibility at home, school, and community.

Spectator Conduct and Sportsmanship

Any person, including an adult, who behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner during an athletic or co-curricular event may be ejected from the event the person is attending and/or denied admission to school events for up to a year, after a Board hearing. Examples of unsportsmanlike conduct include, but most certainly are not limited to:

1. using vulgar or obscene language or gestures;
2. possessing or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or illegal substance;
3. possessing a weapon;
4. fighting or otherwise striking or threatening another person;
5. failing to obey the instructions of a security officer or school district employee; and
6. engaging in any activity which is illegal or disruptive of the educational process.

Examples of poor sportsmanship include, but are not limited to:

1. Showing disrespect toward officials, players, coaches, patrons or fans through actions such as booing or hissing.
2. Demeaning, degrading or otherwise offensive language toward a team, player, coach or official.
3. Harassing coaches or administrators about rules, policies, players, or teams.
4. Throwing objects on the field/floor during or after a contest.
5. Targeting one player as the person who caused a win or loss.

Consequences of Unsportsmanlike Conduct

The Superintendent may seek to deny future admission to any person by delivering or mailing a notice, sent by certified mail with return receipt requested, containing:

1. The date, time, and place of a Board hearing;
2. A description of the unsportsmanlike conduct;
3. The proposed time period that admission to school events will be denied.

This policy covers all patrons, employees and students of this district, as well as visiting schools, their students, visitors, and parents. The Board of Trustees encourages the reporting of all incidents of unsportsmanlike conduct. Students, staff, parents, or visitors who are found to have engaged in poor sportsmanship may be subject to removal from the competition area, suspension, expulsion, or exclusion from the school and/or its activities.

Legal Reference: I.C. § 33-205 Denial of school attendance
 I.C. § 33-512 Governance of schools
 I.C. § 33-1222 Freedom of Abuse
 I.C. § 18-916 Abuse of school teachers
 I.C. § 18-6409 Disturbing the peace

Policy History:

Adopted on: 10/24/06

Revised on: