

Milbank School District	Code: JJAA

SCHOOL ACTIVITY AND ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT POLICIES

School Activity Policies apply to all activities of the school including but not limited to athletics, cheerleading, speech, drama, student publications, student council, class officers, FFA, DECA, Key Club, and music.

The School Activity Policies are intended to promote positive student behaviors in all school activities. Student participation in school activities is a privilege, not a right. Students who choose to participate in school activities are expected to positively represent their school and community by demonstrating appropriate behavior all year round.

Specifically, the purposes of school activities and policies are:

1. To encourage growth and responsible citizenship.
2. To emphasize the schools' concerns for the health of students in areas of safety while participating in activities and the long-term physical and emotional effects of chemical use on their health.
3. To promote equity and a sense of order and discipline among students.
4. To confirm and support existing state laws which restrict the use of mood-altering chemicals.
5. To establish standards of conduct for those students who are leaders and standard-bearers among their peers.
6. To assist students who desire to resist peer pressure directing them toward the use of mood altering chemicals.
7. To provide consistency among all student activities in student behavioral expectations.

Any middle school or high school student wishing to participate in school activities shall not possess, use, sell, or distribute tobacco, alcohol, and any other controlled, mind-altering, or illegal substance or commit any crime against a person or against property.

These activity policies will be enforced the entire year, which includes the summer months, regardless of whether or not the student is participating in an activity at the time of a violation. A student who violates these policies shall be ineligible to participate in activities according to the policy.

The following activity policies apply for all students participating in activities whether the offense occurs in a school, on school property, in District vehicles or buses, at District events, or away from District property.

School Activity Policies apply to all grades 7-12; Violations are cumulative within grades 7 and 8 and then again in grades nine through twelve. Violations do not carry over from MS to HS. Students moving from 8th grade to HS are considered HS as soon as the last state

event has concluded that school year. Students in grades 7 and 8 who participate in an activity at the varsity or junior varsity level will have any violations which occur during the time of participation handled as high school violations rather than middle school violations. Students must complete a season to get credit for having served suspension time.

Consequences

Students who are involved in the Milbank School District's activity program and violate these policies will have consequences listed below. Please note that there will be no academic penalties for violation of these School Activity Policies. In addition to the activity consequences for violation of these School Activity Policies, other school rules as outlined in student handbooks and School Board policy will apply to violations which occur in the school, at school activities, in school vehicles, and while attending school events in other schools.

Students who violate these School Activity Policies and are serving a penalty must practice and travel with the activity. Students who receive in- or out-of-school suspensions, in addition to these athletic policies, will not be allowed to practice or travel until all other consequences have been served.

The consequences for each violation are minimums required by School District policy and approved by the School Board; activity directors, with the express permission of the principal, may impose additional consequences depending on the nature of the violations and the specific activity expectations.

In order to satisfy the consequences of an activity violation, a student must continue to participate in the activity after the suspension is completed, until the end of that activity season.

If a student violates these activity policies for an activity that is connected to a class, the student will have the opportunity to completely make-up the grade for the time period of the consequences. Make-up activities must be completed within school policy or at the discretion of the teacher/advisor in consultation with the Principal, but before the end of the nine weeks.

Any violations of law observed as a part of monitoring compliance with these School Activity Policies will be reported to appropriate law enforcement agencies.

A consequence, that has begun in one season or school year and has not been fully served by the end of the season or year, will continue into the next activity or the next school year.

1. First Violation

After confirmation of the first violation, the student shall not participate in any school activity event in which that student is a participant for 21 days, beginning with the next scheduled event for the student.

The suspension for alcohol/drug violation will be reduced by 7 days if the student completes the District's drug/alcohol curriculum packet; the time will be reduced to 14 days after the packet is completed and approved by the school.

2. Second Violation

After confirmation of the second violation, the student shall not participate in any school activity event in which the student is a participant for 42 days beginning with the next scheduled event for the student.

The second violation for an alcohol or drug violation, the suspension will be reduced to a minimum of 28 days if the student completes a chemical dependency treatment program at a certified treatment center. The student must successfully complete the chemical dependency treatment program prior to becoming eligible to participate in activities or becoming eligible for activity awards.

If the first violation involved the **OFF LIMITS POLICY**, and the second offense was for a drug alcohol violation, the penalty and method of reduction is the same as the second violation above.

3. Third and or Subsequent Violations

After confirmation of the third or subsequent violation, the student shall not participate in any school activity for 365 days.

If the third or subsequent violation is for an alcohol or drug violation, the suspension will be reduced to a minimum of 60 days if the student completes a chemical dependency treatment program at a certified treatment center. The student must successfully complete the chemical dependency treatment program prior to becoming eligible to participate in activities or becoming eligible for activity awards. Any evaluation or treatment will be at the student's/families' expense.

If the first and second violations involved the **OFF LIMITS POLICY**, and the third offense was for a drug alcohol violation, the penalty and method of reduction is the same as the third violation above.

Investigations of potential school activities violations

As potential activity violations are being investigated by the Principal, he/she must inform the student of the rule, regulation, or policy that has been allegedly violated. The Principal must make every effort to inform parents that his/her/their child is being/has been investigated.

The student will be given an opportunity to answer the charges and present evidence on his/her own behalf within five days of the initial investigation by the Principal. During the investigation by the Principal, consequences as detailed in these policies will be implemented.

The Principal shall render a decision as soon as possible after reviewing the case.

Upon suspending a student for an activity policy violation, the Principal shall provide oral and written notice of the suspension to the student's parent or guardian.

In the event that the student or parents believe the student's rights have been violated, they may appeal the school's decision according to other existing policies. The student will remain ineligible during the appeal process.

Traveling as part of a school program

If School Activity Policies are violated while on a school-sponsored trip, the student's parents will be contacted by the activity advisor. Law enforcement will be notified if necessary. The parent will, at his/her own expense, transport the child home from the activity as soon as possible. In addition to the consequences administered as a part of regular school policies and procedures and as detailed in these policies, the student will not be allowed to participate in any activity events for nine weeks.

Dual activity participation

If a student is involved in more than one activity at the time of an alleged violation, the time period for suspensions as well as all other consequences will apply to all activities. The time period will begin whenever the next scheduled event (in any of the activities) for that student occurs.

Between season violations

Since consequences require that a student serve penalties for violations in the next activity in which the student participates, a student will not be allowed to enter an activity for the purpose of serving a penalty unless that student has been involved in that activity at least one year previously.

Mandatory evaluation/counseling/treatment

Whenever a student receives a third alcohol or other controlled substance violation, mandatory evaluation by a certified drug/alcohol counselor is required prior to further participation in activities. Mandatory counseling /treatment must be completed if recommended by the evaluation. A copy of the results of the evaluation must be presented to the principal prior to readmission to activities. Evaluation, counseling, and/or treatment will be at the student's/parent's expense.

Off limits

Milbank will continue the off limits student activities policies; off limits prevents activity participants from attending functions where alcoholic beverages are served unless the student is with a parent, the establishment supervises the sale of alcohol, or the activity is supervised by on-duty law enforcement.

1. First Violation

After confirmation of the first off-limits violation, the students shall not participate in any school activity event in which the student is a participant for 14 days, beginning with the next scheduled event for the student.

The suspension for alcohol/drug violation will be reduced by 7 days if the student completes the District's drug/alcohol curriculum packet; the suspension time will be reduced to 7 days after the packet is completed and approved by the school.

2. Second Violation

After confirmation of the second violation, the student shall not participate in any school activity event in which the student is a participant for 28 days beginning with the next scheduled event for the student.

3. Third and or Subsequent Violations

After confirmation of the third or subsequent violation, the student shall not participate in any school activity event for 42 days. Any subsequent violations will have an additional 14 days added to the penalty period.

SDCL 13-32-9: Suspension from extracurricular activities for controlled substance violation

In addition to the other provisions of this policy, the Milbank School District will implement SDCL 13-32-9 as passed by the South Dakota Legislature.

Random Drug Testing

Students and parents of students, who participate in school activities, agree to accept random drug testing and the accompanying consequences should the student be selected for random drug testing. The Milbank School District desires a drug-free school where substance abuse is not tolerated. Random drug testing is a means to assist activity participants to remain drug-free and to develop healthy lifestyles.

In 2002 the United States Supreme Court upheld the right of a school district to require middle and high school students to consent to urinalysis testing for drugs in order to participate in any extra-curricular activity and ruled that this does not violate the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution (Board of Education of Independent School District of Pottawatomie County v. Earls). The Milbank School District random drug testing program, which is a part of these School Activity Policies, is designed to prevent drug use while protecting students' Fourth Amendment Rights by adhering closely to all aspects of the Supreme Court rulings.

At least once during each of the three activity seasons (fall, winter, and spring), a group of students' names will be randomly selected for urinalysis drug testing.

The randomly-selected students will be taken to the Milbank Clinic for urinalysis. The school will transport the students; the clinic will administer all the testing according to established medical procedures. The clinic will inform the school of the results of the testing.

The clinic will also inform the parents of the results of the urinalysis. After the school is informed of the results, students evidencing drug use will be subject to the activity policies.

In administering the random drug use policy/procedures, confidentiality will be maintained; Names of students tested will not be released. Names of students who test positive for drug use will be released to the impacted parent, Principal, athletic director, and activity advisor(s) having the student in an activity. These individuals will maintain confidentiality.

The Milbank School District will pay for random drug tests initiated by the school.

If a parent questions the results of the testing, a second test approved by the school at parent's expense will be allowed within twenty-four hours of notification of the results of the

testing. If a second test is requested, all precautions to maintain the efficacy of the results will be implemented.

Refusal of a student to submit to a random drug test will be documented by the Principal. Parents will be informed of the student's refusal. Continued refusal after contact with the parent will lead to the assumption of positive test results and implementation of the consequences of this policy.

Confidentiality and due process

In all matters related to School Activity Policies and their application to individual students, confidentiality of students and parents will be maintained. Due process according to South Dakota law and Milbank School District policies will be followed.

Parent – Student Training Rules and Athletic Policy Forms

Each student and his/her parents will be required to sign one set of Consent and School Activity Policies per year, in both Middle and High School. All policy revisions include all activities in the policies and will provide us with unity among all activities in the District.

Cell Phone – Instant Messaging Rule

1. Road Games: Coaches are responsible for collecting cell phones before departure.
2. Coaches will give the phones back 15 minutes from Milbank for calls to Parents for rides.
3. Home Games: Cell Phones are to be left in the locker room and will not be in the playing arena.
4. Athletes are not to leave the playing area to use instant messaging.
5. **The expectation is that our athletes will not use any form of instant messaging to have contact with anyone outside of the team or on the team. Ipods are permissible, do not abuse the privilege.**
6. Violation of any of the above will result in the athlete not being in uniform the next contest. Subsequent violations will be handled the same. The Athletic Department feels this is not the same as a violation of the drug and alcohol policy, because that violation is against the law. For extenuating circumstances in the violation of the policy, the Athletic Director will make the decision concerning the consequences.
All Sports have their own uniqueness. Example: A JV Football player violates the rule coming home from a game. The penalty will be served the next JV game, not the next varsity game. A Basketball or Volleyball player violates the rule. They will not play on the next date.

Communication Chain: Athlete – Parent – Coach - Administration

Open lines of communication are vital to the success of any and all teams. However, there are certain topics that are unacceptable, because they are detrimental to the team and compromise the coach's ability to lead. Below is a guideline of topics acceptable and unacceptable. Numbers 1-3 are acceptable, while 4-6 are not.

1. Athlete to Coach: What can I do to get to play??? / Discussion of the athlete's role within the team.
2. Athlete and or Parent, to the Coach and or Administration: Discussion of Physical or Emotional Abuse, Coach to Player.
3. Parent to Coach and or Administration: Psychological or emotional help the Parent can provide the Coach in dealing with the Athlete. Any communication you can provide the coach in dealing better with the athlete. Could be medical, family, work, or many other things that fit into this category.
4. Unacceptable discussion topics for the Parents to the Coach or Administration:
(A) Playing Time (B) Other Athletes (C) Strategy
5. Unacceptable by the Athlete to the above: (A) Other Athletes (B) Strategy
6. All communication with the Coach and or Athletes during a contest is out of bounds, unless it is of a medical nature or family emergency.
7. To the Parents: "Prepare your Athlete for the Path, not the Path for your Athlete."

Social Networking Expectations

The Milbank Athletics Department recognizes its student-athletes' rights to freedom of speech, expression, and association, including the use of social networks. Each student-athlete must remember that they represent the Milbank School District, and are expected to portray themselves, their team, and the Milbank Athletic Department, in a positive manner at all times.

If you participate on a social networking site:

- Everything you post is public information. Texts or photos are out of your control once placed online.
- Use caution when adding or inviting friends.
- Limit information about your location or plans.
- Use of disrespectful comments and behavior online will not be tolerated by the Milbank Athletic Department. This includes but is not limited to:
Comments or photos that depict unlawful or prohibited conduct.

Derogatory, defamatory, harassing, or discriminatory posts related to teammates, a coach or coaching staff, or the Milbank Athletics Department, that will adversely affect team chemistry.

Comments that create a serious danger to the safety of another person or that constitute a credible threat of emotional or physical injury to another person.

Situations involving any of the above activity will result in a meeting with the Athlete, Parents, Coach, Principal, and Athletic Director. The results of that meeting could range from just having the meeting, to different levels of suspension. Those involved in that decision will be the Coach and Administration.

This applies to all athletes in the Milbank School District playing on school sponsored teams in grades 7-12. It is in effect for 365 days a year. All penalties will be administered during the sport that has been adversely affected.

Legal References:

Cross References:

Legal References:

Adopted: February 2012

Reviewed:

Revised: