

Student Activities Code

The Jesup Community Schools have established the Student Activities Program to provide experiences not normally gained in the classroom. The Student Activities Program includes school organizations, athletics, and those activities not part of classroom requirements.

The privilege of participation is earned by meeting the standards established by the Board of Education. Each student who participates in an extracurricular activity must meet the eligibility requirements set forth by the school and is subject to the consequences of the Student Activities Code.

Section 1 – IHSAA and IGHS AU Regulations

As per IHSAA and IGHS AU Regulations found in the Student Handbook, section I.

Section II – Eligibility Requirements

The Board of Directors of the Jesup Community School District offers a variety of voluntary activities designed to enhance the classroom education of Jesup students. Students who participate in extracurricular activities serve as ambassadors of the school district throughout the calendar year. Students who represent Jesup in activities, whether away from school or at school, are expected to be good role models. Students who wish to have the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities must conduct themselves in accordance with the board policy and must refrain from activities that are illegal, immoral, unhealthy, or highly inappropriate. Participation in these activities is a privilege conditioned upon meeting the eligibility criteria established by the board, administration, and individual activity coaches and sponsors. The principal shall keep records of violations of the good conduct rule.

The following activities are covered by the board’s policy: athletics, instrumental and vocal music performances, drama productions, speech contests, FFA, FCCLA, National Honor Society, all co-curricular clubs (e.g., Art Club, Spanish Club), all honorary and elected offices (e.g., Homecoming King/Queen/court, class officer, student government officer or representative), or other school sponsored activities where the students represents the school outside of the classroom. Senior Parents’ Night, Prom, Graduation Ceremonies, Academic Award Night, Dollars for Scholars, Booster Club Athletic Banquet & Fine Arts Award Night are not subject to this provision. Students will be recognized with their parents at Senior Parents’ Night for athletics but will not wear the uniform.

The principal may initiate an investigation into a possible violation of the Good Conduct Code on the basis of any information. However, in order to be considered a violation of the Good Conduct Code, the allegation must be proven true to the principal’s satisfaction.

Academic Eligibility

High School: To be eligible for an activity, students participating must:

1. be under 20 years of age for students in athletics, music, or speech activities;
2. be enrolled or dual-enrolled in school;
3. be present in school for the whole day unless excused by the administrator, prior to the absence, due to a doctor's appointment, funeral, wedding, or other situation approved by the principal or his/her designee.
4. be passing all coursework for which credit is given and shall be making adequate progress towards graduation requirements at the end of each semester; (Please refer to the Student Handbook for detailed information if student is not passing coursework.)
5. be passing all coursework when evaluated at mid-term and end of quarter; (Please refer to the Student Handbook for detailed information if student is not passing coursework.)

Middle School: To be eligible for an activity, students participating must:

- be present in school for the whole day unless excused by the administrator due to a doctor's appointment, funeral, wedding, or other situation approved by the principal or his/her designee;
- be earning passing grades in all classes;
- Eligibility is determined at six weeks with all students eligible at the beginning of each trimester.
- if a student is not passing all coursework at the progress report check and/or trimester the student will be reevaluated on a weekly basis by the principal to determine eligibility status.

Special education students or students covered by a Section 504 plan shall not be denied eligibility on the basis of scholarship if the student is making adequate progress, as determined by the student’s team, towards the goals and objectives on the student's IEP or accommodation plan.

Transportation

Students who are participating in an out-of-town school sponsored activity must ride in the school vehicle to and from the activity. The following are exceptions to this rule:

- injury to a participant which requires alternate transportation
- under no circumstances can students drive themselves to and from out-of-town events
- a contact by the parent or guardian and a written note from the same indicating that the student will ride home with his/her parent/guardian
- any other special circumstances must be approved by the building principal prior to the event

Physical Examinations and Insurance

Each year that a student participates in an athletic activity (including cheerleading) he/she must file:

- a current physical form, good for one calendar year after the date of the last physical
- proof of insurance
- signed student/parent awareness form

Good Conduct Rule

To retain eligibility for participation in Jesup Middle and High School extracurricular activities, students must conduct themselves as a good citizen both in and out of school at all times. Students who represent the school in an activity are expected to serve as good "role models" to other students and members of the community.

The principal will initiate an investigation into possible violation of Good Conduct Code on the basis of specific credible information. However, in order to be considered a violation of the Good Conduct Code, the allegation must be proven true to the principal’s satisfaction. The violation must have occurred within the past 365 calendar days.

Any student who after an information investigation at which the student shall be confronted with the allegation, the basis of the allegation, and given an opportunity to tell the student’s side; and then at that time is found to have violated the school’s Good Conduct Rule will be deemed ineligible for a period of time, as described below. A student will lose eligibility under the Good Conduct Rule for any following behaviors:

Level 1 Violations

- 1) possession, use, or purchase of alcoholic beverages, including beer and wine (“use includes have the odor of alcohol on one’s breath);
- 2) possession, use, or purchase of illegal drugs or the unauthorized possession or use of otherwise lawful drugs;

- 3) engaging in any act that would be grounds for arrest or citation in the criminal or juvenile court system, excluding minor traffic offenses, regardless of whether was cited, arrested, convicted, or adjudicated for the act(s);
- 4) hazing, harassment, and/or sexual harassment;
- 5) use of any substance in which the effect to simulate the effect of alcohol or controlled substances;
- 6) intentionally damaging school property;
- 7) production, possession, or dissemination of nude or sexually explicit images or videos which would be illegal in nature

Level 2 Violations

- 1.) “Mere Presence” Defined as being in attendance at a gathering where alcohol and/or drugs are being consumed illegally by minors;
 - a. There must be evidence the student knew drugs/alcohol were present and being used illegally, and
 - b. The student failed to leave immediately after the discovery of drugs/alcohol, illegal activity were present
- 2.) Possession, use, or purchase of tobacco products including e-cigarettes or look-alikes such as vape pens or juul pods, regardless of the student’s age;

Penalties

Any student, who, after a hearing before the administration, is found, by substantial evidence, to have violated the Good Conduct Rule, during the school year or summer, is subject to loss of eligibility as follows:

- a. A student who is involved in athletics is declared ineligible for:
 - a. **1st Offense** within the student’s middle school career or high school career – a minimum of 15% up to 30% of current, next athletic activity, or both. (See chart below)
 - b. **2nd Offense** within the student’s middle school or high school career - a minimum of 30% up to 60% of current, next athletic activity, or both. (See chart below)
 - c. **3rd Offense** within the student’s middle school career or high school career. – 12 calendar months of ineligibility.

(If fewer than the required number of athletic contests remain at the time of the violation, the ineligibility shall carry over into the postseason or the next activities season in which the student participates.)

After completing the penalty for a third offense alcohol or drug violation, a student can only regain eligibility by submitting to an evaluation conducted by an approved substance abuse facility. The evaluation is done at the student's/student’s parent's expense. The student must then complete any treatment recommended in order to regain eligibility. The student is required to release the results to the school principal or athletic director in order to regain eligibility.

- b. A student involved in both athletics and activities is declared ineligible for:
 - a. 1st Offense within student’s middle school career or high school career – 30% of current, next athletic activity and activities other than athletics which during that period of time will contribute to reaching that 30% total.
 - b. 2nd Offense within the student’s middle school career or high school career – 60% of current, next athletic activity and activities other than athletics which occur during that period of time will contribute to reaching that 60% total.
 - c. 3rd Offense within the student’s middle school career or high school career – 12 calendar months of ineligibility from athletics and activities other than athletics.

- i. (If fewer than the required number of athletic contests remain at the time of the violation, ineligibility shall carry over into the next athletic activity season in which the student participates.

After Completing the penalty for a third offense alcohol or drug violation, a student can only regain eligibility by submitting to an evaluation conducted by an approved substance abuse facility. The evaluation is done at the student’s/student’s parents’ expense. The student must then complete any treatment recommend in order to regain eligibility. The student is required to release the results to the school principal or athletic director in order to regain eligibility.

A student who was not participating in an extra-curricular activity prior to violating the Good Conduct Policy may not join an activity already in progress. A student involved in an activity who becomes ineligible must complete the activity or season in order for the penalty to be considered served.

Due Process

The principal will conduct an informal investigation upon the report of an incident. If the Principal views there to be a personal conflict of interest, the principal will defer to the investigation to the Athletic Director or another building principal. During the investigation, the student will be interviewed and given the opportunity to state his/her side of the story. At the close of the investigation, the principal will make a decision based upon the information available, including a judgment about the credibility of those providing information. The principal will inform the student orally of the decision, and a follow-up letter will be mailed to the student's parent or guardian within the next school day.

A student or the student's parent or guardian may appeal this decision, in writing, within three school days or five calendar days, whichever comes first, to the superintendent. If the superintendent views there to be a personal conflict of interest in the investigation, the superintendent will defer the review to the two building principals who were not involved in the initial investigation and determination. The review will occur within three school days or five calendar days of the filing of the appeal. The superintendent’s decision will be communicated to the student and parents within the next school day. The filing of an appeal to the superintendent does not affect the principal's decision until and unless that decision is reversed.

An appeal may be made to the school board from the superintendent’s decision by filing a written notice of appeal with the superintendent within three school days or five calendar days, which ever comes first, of the superintendent’s decision. The board will take up the issue at its next regular meeting or the superintendent may recommend a special meeting to the board. The board will go into closed session to hold the review unless the student (if 18 years old) or the student's parent or guardian requests an open session.

Following the principal's decision, the reviews by the superintendent and school board will be in the nature of an oral discussion of the violation rather than a formal hearing with witnesses and evidence. The grounds for review by the school board are limited to the following: the student did not violate the Good Conduct Rule; the student was given inadequate due process in the investigation and determination; or the penalty is in violation of the Handbook or Board Policy. The penalty will remain in effect pending the outcome of the meeting with the board.

Self-Reporting

For a first offense, a student, who reports a violation of the Good Conduct Rule and provides honest and truthful information to the head coach/activity sponsor, appropriate

administrator, or the athletic director within 48 hours of the incident and prior to an investigation, will have their penalty reduced by 50%. The evaluation is done at the student’s/student’s parent’s expense. Permission is given to the students to contact the above mentioned personnel at any time to self-report. Student, who, in an attempt to maintain their eligibility or delay their ineligibly, withhold information, lie to, mislead school officials concerned dates or details of arrests or violation(s) will automatically declared ineligible for the maximum time for that violation

HS	Total Dates Allowed	Level 1 Violation Penalty (1st offense/2nd offense)	Level 2 Penalty (1st offense only)
Football	9	3/6	2
Volleyball	14	5/9	3
Cross Country	10	4/6	2
Basketball	21	7/13	4
Wrestling	15	5/9	3
Track	12	4/8	2
Golf	12	4/8	2
Soccer	15	5/9	3
Baseball	40	12/24	6
Softball	40	12/24	6

- Cheerleading violations will follow those of the sport for which they are cheering for at the time.
- Violations by managers will follow the same penalty as the sport they are managing at the time.

MS	Total Dates Allowed	Level 1 Violation Penalty (1st offense/2nd offense)	Level 2 Penalty (1st offense only)
Football	6	2/4	1
Volleyball	9	3/6	2
Cross Country	7	3/5	2
Basketball	12	4/8	2
Wrestling	9	3/6	2
Track	7	3/5	2
Baseball	*15	5/9	3
Softball	*15	5/9	3

Based off the number of dates we play as there are not state guidelines.

Transfer Student Eligibility

Any student declared ineligible under the prior school district’s Good Conduct Rule, and then without having completed the full period of ineligibility at that school transfers to Jesup High School, may not be eligible for interscholastic competition at Jesup High School, until full period of ineligibility has been completed from the other school.

Section III – Student/Parent Awareness and Approval Form
Request and Release for Activity Participation

(Signature required prior to participation in Jesup Student Activities)

1. I/We, the undersigned, request permission to enter the premises of Jesup Community Schools and participate in the student activities program (extracurricular) in grades 7-12.
2. I/We are aware of the potential risks and expenses of injury to person and property that may be normally sustained in connection with these activities. This release does not relieve the school from negligence or reckless misconduct.
3. I/We represent and certify that the true birth date is stated below.
4. I do represent and certify that I have the permissions of my parents and/or guardians to participate in the activities. I certify that my attendance and participation in the activities is completely voluntary and that I am not, in any way, the employee or agent of Jesup.
5. Check one:
☐ This student is covered by _____ Insurance Company.
☐ We are not covered by an insurance plan and waive the right for compensation in case of injury.
6. Check one:
☐ My student may participate in any Jesup Student Activities.
☐ My student may participate in any Jesup Student Activities except _____.

I have read and understood the request and release information above.

Student Name _____

Birth date _____ Grade _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Parent Signature _____

Date _____