

EXTRACURRICULAR ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY POLICY

1. Background

It should be understood that the primary purpose of school is to provide the best educational opportunity for all students and that the primary responsibility of the student is to achieve to his/her maximum academic potential. A student's involvement in extracurricular activities is considered a privilege and not a right and as such is subject to minimum grade standards placed upon any student who elects to be a member of any sport, club or school-sponsored extracurricular activity. Higher expectations are placed on certain organizations such as National Honor Society, student government and rallies by virtue of their constitutional provisions; however, the following minimum standards will be expected of all participants of any other organization.

2. Standards

Each participant in grades 7-12 shall meet the minimum OSAA and the Central Linn School District standards for eligibility.

a. OSAA Standard:

A student must be enrolled in and passing in a minimum of five subjects and have been enrolled in and passed five classes the previous grading period. He/she also must be making satisfactory progress towards graduation.

b. Central Linn School Standard:

A student is expected to achieve and maintain a 2.0 or a "C" average with no "F's" in any subjects for the grading period.

3. Eligibility

Eligibility for participation will be based on the preceding grading period.

Any student declared academically ineligible according to the district standard under IIB, yet eligible under OSAA standards may, based on a recommendation from the coach or advisor to the principal, be permitted to practice or play with his/her team until the end of the first five weeks of the new semester provided the student submit to the athletic director no later than 4:00 p.m. each Friday or the last day of each school week:

- a. Verification of three (3) hours of study time at Central Linn High School's Friday/Saturday School class supervised by a teacher, instructional aide, coach or person previously approved by the athletic director.
- b. Five consecutive weekly progress reports showing adequate effort to meet the district standard.

After the end of the first five weeks of the new semester:

If the student has failed to meet the district grading standard or if he/she has failed to serve his/her study time or turn in progress reports, he/she will be deemed ineligible for participation for the remainder of the grading period.

If the student has successfully met the district's grading standard, he/she shall be permitted to participate in athletic contests. However, he/she must continue to submit satisfactory weekly progress reports by 4:00 p.m. on Fridays or the last day of the week to the athletic director.

If at any time during the remainder of the grading period, the student fails to meet the district academic standard or fails to turn in progress reports, he/she will be deemed ineligible for athletic competition for the remainder of the grading period.

If offered, completed summer classes may be considered for reinstatement for fall sports.

The five-week academic probation period for winter sports may begin on the first day of the fall semester or the first day of practice for winter sports. The five-week academic probation period for spring sports may begin on the first day of the spring semester or the first day of practice for spring sports.

4. Provision for Assistance

- a. Athletic Director, coaches and advisors will monitor the academic progress of their activity membership on a weekly basis and at the end of each grading period in an effort to identify and provide warning and/or academic assistance to anyone who is in danger of falling below the standards.
- b. Students will begin Friday/Saturday School attendance the first Friday of the season and to keep their eligibility up, will attend every Friday/Saturday throughout the season. Students will need to make adequate progress every week in order to participate for the given week.

5. **Appeal Process**

- a. Any student declared academically ineligible under this policy may have his/her case appealed to the principal by:

- (1) Himself/Herself;
- (2) His/Her Parents;
- (3) Teachers;
- (4) Coach or Advisor.

The appeal must be submitted in writing and received by the principal within ten (10) school days of issuance of a student's grades. Any such appeal must include information regarding any circumstance upon which the appeal is based.

- b. The principal will review the appeal, conduct an investigation as to the legitimacy of the appeal and either:

- (1) Uphold the ineligibility; or,
- (2) Institute the appeal process.

- c. If deemed appropriate, an appeals panel will be appointed by the principal and may consist of:

- (1) Athletic Director;
- (2) Counselor;
- (3) Vice Principal or Dean of Students
- (4) Classroom Teachers.
- (5) Educational Assistant
- (6) Coach

- d. The head coach, assistant coaches or advisors of an activity of which a student is a member shall not be permitted to serve on that particular appeals panel.

- e. The appeals panel will review the information presented by the principal and the student and/or his/her representative and make its decision based on the information presented. A simple majority shall apply. The panel's decision shall either:

- (1) Declare the student eligible; or,
- (2) Declare the student ineligible.

- f. The decision of the appeals panel will be final.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 332.107 OAR 581-021- to 0050 to -0075

ORS 339.240 OAR 581-022-1680

ORS 339.250 Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988)
Bethel School District No. 403 v. Fraser 478 U.S. 675 (1986)
Haverkamp v. Unified School District No. 380, 689 F Supp. 1055 (D Kan. 1986); (aff'd, F2d (10th Cir. 1987)
Westside Community Board of Education v. Mergens, 496 U.S. 226 (1990)
Equal Access Act, 20 U.S. C. Sections 4071-4074
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sections 1681-1683; 34 CFR Part 106 (2000)

Policy and Rules for Student Participation in All Extracurricular Activities

It is the philosophy of the district that participation in extracurricular activities is an integral part of a student's total educational experience. Our extracurricular program teaches our students an understanding of sportsmanship, leadership, self-discipline, emotional control, physical well-being and teamwork. We believe it is a privilege to be a member of an extracurricular activity and acceptance of this privilege obligates the individual to a higher standard of citizenship.

Each student participating in athletics is expected to uphold the philosophy of competitive athletics which must deal with the concept of winning, for by definition, competition implies winning. Competitive athletics by their very nature require that winning be a prime goal, for without all contestants striving to win and placing great effort on doing so, competition would not exist. Therefore, we feel that winning must be emphasized to give validity to the concept of competitive athletics. Each student-athlete will be subject to district extracurricular guidelines.

The following rules and regulations are set down to be followed by all students of Central Linn schools who may try out for or become a member of any extracurricular activity or sport. This policy applies to all students at any time during the school year or when the season officially begins under the Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) guidelines.

Extracurricular activities regulated by the following guidelines include, but are not limited to:

AFS	Cross Country	Future Business Leaders	Student Council
Baseball	Dance Team	Jazz Band	Track
Basketball	Equestrian	National Honor Society	Volleyball
Cheerleaders	Football	Softball	Wrestling

1. Students shall meet all OSAA and school district requirements for participation.
2. Students shall not:
 - a. Illegally partake or, possess or sell any alcoholic beverages, marijuana or any form of narcotics, illicit drugs or non-prescribed drugs, does not include over the counter drugs;
 - b. Have in their possession on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity any illegal drug paraphernalia, such as bong, pot pipes or other items that are drug related or for drug use;
 - c. Be in attendance at any activity where the illegal use of any alcoholic beverages, marijuana or any other form of narcotics or drugs not prescribed by a licensed physician takes place;

- d. Smoke, chew, use or possess tobacco products;
 - e. Commit an offense which, if an adult, would be deemed a crime;
 - f. Shoplift; and
 - g. Sexual harassment or misconduct.
3. Information on any of the above infractions will result in an investigation. The investigation will be conducted by the chief disciplinary officer of the school or his/her designee. Duration of the investigation will be limited to ten (10) school attendance days from the time the school officials first learned of the infraction. In case of criminal offenses, the chief disciplinary officer may, at his/her discretion, wait until after a legal decision is rendered to proceed with Steps 4 and 5 below.
4. If the chief disciplinary officer determines reasonable cause exists that the student has violated any of these provisions, he/she will be temporarily suspended from all extracurricular activities. The chief disciplinary officer will give written notification to the student and parents of a date and time to appear before him/her and show cause, if any, why the student should not be disciplined, as provided herein. The student may present evidence at such hearing or be represented by counsel. The officer shall make known his/her findings, but need not divulge student sources or call witnesses unless he/she chooses to do so.
5. If the chief disciplinary officer determines reasonable cause exists that an offense has been committed, the student will be suspended for a period of nine weeks from the date of the decision. Based on a recommendation from the coach or advisor of the activity, the individual may be permitted to practice with the squad or organization after the end of the second week of suspension. After the fifth week of suspension, the case may be reopened for review by written request from the student. The chief disciplinary officer will conduct this review. Based on conduct of the student during the first five weeks, he/she may be reinstated on probation for the remainder of the grading period.

When the offense involves the use, possession or distribution of illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco, the student may be reinstated after five weeks provided he/she agrees to:

- a. Complete a drug/alcohol assessment and subsequent follow-up or be subject to suspension for the remainder of the school year;
- b. Sign a release of information allowing the assessor and the school official to exchange information regarding student behavior;
- c. Work in cooperation with the school to follow through with the recommendations of the assessment;
- d. Enroll in an educational class on substance use and abuse.

The cost of the assessment, counseling class and any follow-up is the responsibility of the student and the parent.

The second infraction of the Code of Conduct during the school year will result in the student losing all extracurricular participation privileges for the remainder of the school year.

6. In case of suspension for any of the above reasons, the student and parents retain the right to appeal to the superintendent in writing for a review of the case, stating why the lower decision was erroneous. This appeal shall be limited to the written record of the case.
7. Three unexcused absences from meetings or practices are cause for dismissal. One unexcused absence from a scheduled game, meet, contest or special activity is cause for dismissal from the squad or team for the remainder of the season.
8. A student suspended from riding the school bus will not be allowed to travel or participate in any activities which require busing during the length of the suspension:
 - a. Three bus violations may result in a one-week suspension;
 - b. Four bus violations may result in a two-week suspension;
 - c. Further bus violations may result in a five-week expulsion.
9. Coaches and advisers have permission to formulate reasonable, additional rules for their particular sport or activity with prior approval from the administration.
10. Transportation to and from activities and games:
 - a. All members of activities including athletic players and managers must ride to events on transportation provided for, or arranged by, the school and will return home by the same means. A student may be permitted to ride home with his/her parents or guardians provided that the parents or guardians accept responsibility in person for their child as soon as the activity or athletic event is over;
 - b. If a member of an activity, player or manager wishes to stay overnight, proceed to a different destination or return home by means other than school–arranged transportation, the parents or guardians must write a note and/or see the coach or advisor personally. The note should specify that the parents are accepting responsibility for their child as soon as the activity or athletic event is over. If the parents or guardians sign out with the bus driver, students would be permitted to make alternative transportation arrangements.
11. No student shall participate in any athletic event, practice or other activity unless he/she has been in school for the half day immediately preceding that event. This excludes a dental or doctor appointment (providing the student is pronounced physically fit to participate) and certain extenuating circumstances approved by the principal or vice principal. A violation of this rule will result in suspension of the student in the next scheduled practice, contest or activity following discovery of the violation.
12. Areas of specific conduct and/or personal appearance and grooming unique to each organization will be determined by those organizations and presented to their membership. Generally speaking, any behavior that is deemed unacceptable by the coach, sponsor and/or chaperon may result in disciplinary action.

13. Each student participating in interscholastic activities will be required to have on file a statement from a doctor specifying his/her physical fitness.
14. Insurance will be made available at the school. This insurance is voluntary. Students participating in sports must carry insurance or the school must receive a statement from the parents/guardians that the participants are otherwise covered and the parents/guardians assume full responsibility for any and all injuries incurred while participating in an extracurricular activity.
15. The above policy is to be read to each organization annually at the beginning of the activity and will be conspicuously posted in areas frequented by students in these activities. It shall be the responsibility of each student who participates in any extracurricular activity to be familiar with the policy.
16. When any student is disciplined for violations of this policy, Section 2, the student will be excluded from the following list of activities during the period of suspension:

Athletics

1. Participation in any extracurricular activities;
2. Wearing of the team uniform;
3. Sitting on the bench with the team;
4. Travel with the team;
5. Keeping stats, records, etc;
6. Eligibility for end-of-the-season honors including:
 - a. Public recognition on Senior Night;
 - b. Selection to special team honors or awards;
 - c. Nomination to league All-Star awards;
 - d. Granting of athletic letters.
7. Practice with team for first two weeks of suspension.

Other Student Body Activities

1. Performance of duties of any office the student may hold;
2. Participation in any special group activity;
3. Recognition for any singular recognition or honor;
4. Other specific sanctions that any organization identifies in their rules.