ACTIVITIES CODE OF CONDUCT
GRADES 6 THROUGH 12

An activities code is required by mandate of the Kenosha Unified School District Board of Education and to meet the requirements of the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA). Although activities programs are a valuable part of the total educational experience, participation in after-school programs is a **privilege**, not a right. As such, all participants must abide by all rules and responsibilities, which apply to each activity program in order to continue participation in these activities.

As a privilege a participant in after-school activities carries additional responsibilities and expectations. The rules and responsibilities outlined in this code of conduct will help ensure that students serve as a credit to themselves, their parents, their school, and their community.

Definition of Activities

Activities include any school-related organized activity that is offered outside of academic class requirements. Activities for grades 6 through 12 are divided into four distinct categories:

1. Athletics,
2. Competitive activities,
3. Leadership and public recognition activities, and
4. Music/theater arts activities.

School district policies and school rules govern all student activities. In addition, each category has unique rules and expectations, which regulate participation.

In accordance with the Kenosha Unified School District and the WIAA, this Code of Conduct shall be enforced uniformly year around.

PHILOSOPHY OF ATHLETICS

The Kenosha Unified School District Board of Education's Philosophy of Athletics states, in part, that:

1. Interscholastic athletics shall provide an educational example of the worth of hard work, physical conditioning, discipline, teamwork, competition, and sportsmanship.

2. Athletics shall be ever mindful that the athlete is also a student and that athletic endeavors shall not supplant other needs of the student, such as satisfactory academic achievement.

3. Athletes are expected to represent the ideals and principles of the Kenosha Unified School District and the WIAA.

PROVISIONS

The following provisions cover every section of the code:

1. Violations occurring when an athlete is between seasons shall be enforced at the beginning of his/her next sport season.

2. Summer School attendance, in accordance with WIAA regulations, does not count as suspension time.

3. Athletes who are required to serve consequences for code violation(s) must complete the season in which they serve the consequences in good standing in order to clear their violation(s).

Categories

CATEGORY I—ATHLETICS

This category is for WIAA competitions.

Athletes will be expected to abide by provisions of the Code of Conduct both in and out of season.

ACTIVITIES	
Fall Sports	
Boys	**Girls**
Cross country (grades 9-12)	Cross country (grades 9-12)
Football (grades 7-12)	Golf (grades 9-12)
Soccer (grades 9-12)	Swimming (grades 9-12)
Volleyball (grades 9-12)	Softball (grades 6-8)
	Tennis (grades 9-12)
	Volleyball (grades 9-12)

Winter Sports	
Boys	**Girls**
Basketball (grades 7-12)	Basketball (grades 7-12)
Hockey (grades 9-12)	Gymnastics (grades 9-12)
Swimming (grades 9-12)	
Wrestling (grades 6-12)	
Spring Sports	
Boys	**Girls**
Baseball (grades 9-12)	Soccer (grades 9-12)
Golf (grades 9-12)	Softball (grades 9-12)
Tennis (grades 9-12)	Track (grades 6-12)
Track (grades 6-12)	Volleyball (grades 6-8)
	Lacrosse (grades 9-12)

CATEGORY 2—COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES

This category is for non-WIAA competitions.

These activities that are competitive in nature and/or require tryouts are governed by the same code requirements as interscholastic athletics.

ACTIVITIES	
Cheerleading	Dance Team
Debate	Distributive Education Clubs of America
Future Business Leaders of America	Health Occupations Students of America
Powder puff football	Pom pons
Robotics Team (LakeView Technology Academy)	Skills USA

CATEGORY 3—LEADERSHIP AND PUBLIC RECOGNITION ACTIVITIES

This category includes those activities in which members have been elected or appointed to positions of leadership and public recognition. There will be an application or nomination process established by the building administration for these activities. Students in this category are expected to be representative of the values, expectations, and ideas espoused by the school.

Students participating in any Category 3 activities will be expected to comply with the academic rules, attendance rules, and social behavior and conduct rules listed as part of the code. In order to be eligible to participate, students must be in good standing, exhibit proper school behavior, and have no school violations. Students who violate stated rules are subject to removal from the activity as deemed appropriate by the activity advisor and/or building administration. All eligibility determinations will be made by the advisor and/or building administration.

ACTIVITIES	
Badger Boys	National Honor Society
Badger Girls	Student Council
Commencement speakers	Homecoming court
Prom court	School clubs
District clubs	

CATEGORY 4—MUSIC/THEATER ARTS ACTIVITIES

These activities are governed by the relationship of after-school performance to earning credits for graduation or receiving grades that are recorded on student transcripts. Behavior under this category remains under the direction of the building administration and the supervision of the individual classroom teacher. All students participating in these respective activities will adhere to school board policies, school rules, and classroom rules and regulations.

Violations

Note: Infractions are rounded to the nearest whole number. Decimals of .5 or higher will be rounded up to the next number. (Minimum of 1 competition) All percentages are based off of the maximum allowed competitions determined by the WIAA at the varsity level.

GROUP 1

ALL GROUP 1 VIOLATIONS ARE CUMULATIVE BUT DO NOT CARRYOVER FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL TO HIGH SCHOOL. For example, a first offense in alcohol possession would cause a second penalty offense for a second Group 1 violation even if not alcohol related.

A. Students using, in possession of (students occupying a private vehicle containing alcoholic beverages, tobacco, nicotine products, or controlled substances may be considered in possession), or buying alcoholic beverages, tobacco, nicotine products, controlled substances (including steroids and other performance-enhancing substances [PES]) shall be held accountable as follows:

1. First offense

   The student shall be suspended for 50 percent of the total season competitions. The penalty will be reduced to 25 percent of the season's competitions if the student undergoes an assessment program by a state certified AOD counselor and completes all recommended treatment. During the suspension it is required that the student maintains participation in all other team activities (practices, study tables, etc.).

   Honesty clause: The penalty for the first violation will be reduced to 25 percent of the

season's competitions if the student self-reports the violation within 24 hours to the building principal. This only applies to a student's first violation.

2. Second offense:

   The student shall be suspended from competitions for one calendar year from the date of the rule infraction. The penalty will be reduced to 50 percent of the season's competitions if the student undergoes an additional assessment program different than the first violation by a state certified AOD counselor and completes all recommended treatment. During the suspension it is required that the student maintains participation in all other team activities (practices, study tables, etc.).

3. Third offense

   All future competitions at this level will be terminated.

B. Students charged with attendance at an unacceptable gathering of secondary school students and/or recently graduated students which is not chaperoned by a parent(s) or other responsible parent-aged adult where alcohol or controlled substances are present and being or have been consumed shall be held accountable as follows:

   1. Penalty

      The student shall be suspended for 25 percent of the season's total competitions.

      Honesty Clause: Suspension will be reduced to 10 percent of the season's competitions if the student self-reports the violation to the building principal within 24 hours of the violation. This only applies to the first violation.

      (An activity is defined as a contest, performance or competition).

   Examples of acceptable gatherings are those with adult family members or close parental family friends, anniversaries, etc. which have parental permission and certain well-publicized community related affairs. The intent of Section B is to discourage students from attending peer group parties where there is known use of controlled substances or alcohol. If a student attends a gathering and finds use to be a fact, he/she should depart immediately. If the student does not depart the premises immediately, the penalty shall be applied.

C. Except as herein above covered, a student, whether or not a juvenile, who has been charged or could be charged with committing a crime, or what would be a crime if the student were not a juvenile (e.g., vandalism, breaking and entering, stealing [including school uniforms and equipment], assault or attempted assault [i.e., striking a teacher, administrator, or other person of authority], distribution of controlled substances, possession of a weapon, or otherwise endangering the lives of others) shall be held accountable as follows:

1. Students will be suspended immediately from participation until due process has established his/her innocence. If guilty or determined to be delinquent or if there is informal or other disposition which would show that the student committed prohibited acts, the student shall be suspended for up to one calendar year from the date of the infraction determined by a committee formed by the building principal or their designee in coordination with the District Coordinator of Athletics.

GROUP 2

ALL GROUP 2 VIOLATIONS ARE CUMULATIVE WITHIN THEMSELVES ONLY. Group 2 violations accumulate within themselves until the student completes one calendar year without a Group 2 violation.

A. Students violating school rules which results in an <u>out-of-school suspension</u> shall be held accountable as follows:

1. First and second offenses

   Out-of-school suspensions up to 3 days will result in a suspension of 10 percent of the season's competitions.

   An infraction of three or more days out-of-school suspension will result in a suspension of 25 percent of the season's competitions.

   When the student is back in school and is serving the suspension for the Code of Conduct violation, it is required that the student maintains participation in all other team activities (practices, study tables, etc.).

2. Third offense

   The student shall be suspended from all competitions for one calendar year from the date of the infraction.

B. Students violating school rules which results in a full day <u>in-school suspension</u> shall be held accountable as follows:

1. **<u>First/second offense:</u>**

   Suspension from one activity with mandatory practice continuing.

2. **<u>Third offense:</u>**

   Three-week suspension to include one activity with mandatory practice continuing.

3. **Fourth offense:**

   Suspension for one calendar year from the date of the infraction.

C. Students who have been designated by the school attendance officer or administration, as truant from class shall be held accountable as follows:

   1. **Students considered truant one or more times on a date during the WIAA sports-specific season will miss one competition.**

(Activity is defined as a contest, performance, or competition.)

GROUP 3

Wisconsin Anti-Hazing Law. 948.51

No person may intentionally or recklessly engage in acts, which endanger the physical health and safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any organization operation in connection with a school, college or university. Under those circumstances, prohibited acts that may include any brutality of a physical nature, such as whipping, beating, branding, forced consumption of any food, liquor or other substance, forced confinement or any other forced activity which endangers the physical health and safety of the student **are prohibited**. In this section "forced activity," means any activity, which is a condition of initiation, rite of passage or admission into or affiliation with an organization, regardless of a student's willingness to participate in the activity.

A. If school authorities find that a student violated Wisconsin's Anti-Hazing Law, the student shall be suspended from all activities for one calendar year from the date of the infraction. The student will be referred to the local authorities since violation of the Wisconsin Anti-Hazing Law, depending on the seriousness of the act, can be classified as either a misdemeanor or a felony.

GROUP 4

Athletes failing to provide the school with a valid WIAA medical examination signed by the examining physician and by the parent/guardian every two years cannot participate in the program. Students who submit examinations, waivers, or activity codes signed by parties other than their parent/guardian shall be suspended from all activities immediately for one year from the date of discovery.

Additional Rules for Athletes

A. Students attending Kenosha Unified Schools that do not sponsor WIAA athletic programs are eligible only at the WIAA school in which their parents reside.

B. School or athletic team infractions and absences

1. A coach**, in coordination with the building athletic director,** may suspend an athlete temporarily from the athletic squad for no more than one week for minor infractions of school or athletic rules and regulations. Suspension for more than one week or removal of an athlete from a team requires the approval of building administration. Each head

   coach will provide a copy of the team rules covering his/her particular sport to each athlete, building administrators, and have it on file in the building athletic director's office.

2. Athletes must be in attendance the entire school day prior to an after-school or evening practice or contest. Serious illness or death in the immediate family; medical/dental appointments; and special situations such as field trips, college visits, etc. for which an excuse has been secured beforehand from the school designee are exceptions to the rule.

C. Student Transfer

1. **All students transferring to a Kenosha Unified School District school will be handled in accordance with the WIAA transfer rules.**

Academic Eligibility Requirements

A. Athletics

1. Kenosha Unified School District's academic eligibility rule is within the WIAA's Rules of Eligibility guidelines.

2. An athlete must meet the Kenosha Unified School District, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, and WIAA requirements defining a full-time student.

B. Activities/Athletics

1. A student receiving 1 F or more in a grading period **or an incomplete** will be declared academically ineligible for a period of 15 school days and nights. Academically ineligible status means that a student will be allowed to practice with the team or activity; however, they will not be allowed to compete in any contest. A student will regain eligibility after the 15 school days and nights if they are doing passing work in **ALL** of their classes. Students are required to have a weekly progress report signed by all of their teachers and turned into the building athletic director or advisor. Students not passing **ALL** of their classes will be ineligible for competition until the next weekly progress report. This report must be completed weekly and will remain in effect until the next grading period. Incomplete grades shall count as Fs until completed.

2. **Final transcript course grades will be used to determine academic eligibility.**

3. The 15 school days and nights will begin the day after the validation date for grades at the schools.

SPECIAL NOTES

A. A student who participates in activities where there are not competitive contests will be suspended from a percentage of the regular activities which follow the violation.

B. If a student is participating in more than one activity at a time, the full consequence will apply to each activity.

C. A nonathletic suspension does not supersede an athletic suspension.

D. The responsibility for enforcing this code lies with the student, his/her parents, the coaches/advisors, and the school administration.

Appeal Procedures

ATHLETICS

A. If the athlete or parents contend that there are extenuating circumstances regarding the code violation, they may submit a written appeal to the principal within five school days after receiving notification from school authorities. The suspension, however, remains in effect through the hearing process.

B. After receiving a letter of appeal, the principal will contact the coordinator of athletics, physical education, health, recreation, and senior center who will appoint a hearing committee. These individuals along with the principal (hearing officer) and building athletic director will comprise the hearing committee. The coordinator of athletics, physical education, health, recreation, and senior center will also be in attendance as a nonvoting member (unless there is a tie vote) to insure that all district and WIAA rules are upheld.

C. The hearing will be set at the earliest convenience to all parties prior to the next scheduled contest, if possible. If the principal cannot conduct the hearing, he/she will designate an assistant principal as the hearing officer.

D. After hearing the case, the hearing officer will call for a closed session; and the hearing committee will deliberate the merits of the case. If during the deliberations the hearing committee finds that extenuating circumstances were involved, it has the authority to reinstate or provide for a reduction in the penalty as set forth in the Code of Conduct. The hearing officer (principal/designee) will contact the parents of the athlete in question and will

inform them in writing of the committee's decision.

E. The decision of the hearing committee will be final

F. **There are no appeals for athletes suspended for only one contest.**

CATEGORIES 2, 3, AND 4

A. If the student or parents contend that there are extenuating circumstances regarding the code violation, they may submit a written appeal to the principal within five school days after receiving notification from school authorities. The suspension, however, remains in effect through the appeal process.

B. The principal/designee shall, within five days, respond in writing to the appeal.

C. A second appeal may be submitted to the chief of school leadership within five school days after the principal's ruling. This appeal should be in writing and will be responded to in writing within five school days by the chief of school leadership. The decision of the chief of school leadership shall be final.

D. **There are no appeals for students suspended for only one activity.**

Enforcement

In accordance with the Kenosha Unified School District and the WIAA, this Code of Conduct shall be enforced **uniformly year around**.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) should retain this Code of Conduct for their home records.

The Kenosha Unified School District is an equal opportunity educator/employer with established policies prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age, race, creed, religion, color, gender, national origin, disability or handicap, sexual orientation, or political affiliation in any educational program, activity, or employment in the district. The superintendent of schools/designee ([262] 359-6320) addresses questions regarding student discrimination, and the chief human resources officer ([262] 359-6333) answers questions concerning staff discrimination.

RULES OF ELIGIBILITY SIGN-OFF FORM

This form must be completed and submitted to the athletic director prior to a student being declared eligible for practice and competition.

I, _____ HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, AND
(Please print.)

DISCUSSED THE ACTIVITIES CODE OF CONDUCT AND THE WISCONSIN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION RULES OF ELIGIBILITY WITH MY PARENT/GUARDIAN. I AGREE TO PARTICIPATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN THE ACTIVITIES CODE OF CONDUCT. I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT IF I DID NOT UNDERSTAND ANY OF THE INFORMATION IN BOTH DOCUMENTS, I HAVE SOUGHT AND RECEIVED AN EXPLANATION OF THE INFORMATION PRIOR TO SIGNING THIS STATEMENT.

_____	_____	_____
Student's signature	Grade	Date

I, THE PARENT/GUARDIAN OF _____
(Please print.)

HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, AND DISCUSSED THE ACTIVITIES CODE OF CONDUCT AND THE WISCONSIN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION RULES OF ELIGIBILITY WITH MY STUDENT. I FURTHER AGREE TO PERMIT MY STUDENT TO PARTICIPATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONDITIONS SET FORTH IN THE ACTIVITIES CODE OF CONDUCT. I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT IF I DID NOT UNDERSTAND ANY OF THE INFORMATION IN BOTH DOCUMENTS, I HAVE SOUGHT AND RECEIVED AN EXPLANATION OF THE INFORMATION PRIOR TO

SIGNING THIS STATEMENT.

_____ _____

Parent's/guardian's signature Date

One agreement must be signed each year for all student participation in Categories 1, 2, and 3 activities.

Please list the activities your student will be involved in during the present school year.

SPORTS	**ACTIVITIES**

Coaches/advisors must retain a signed copy of this form in their files for each student involved in their activity.