

Tomorrow River Schools Code of Conduct Grades (Pre-K-12)

Introduction

This code of Conduct is designed for each student involved in extra-curricular or co-curricular activities in grade pre-K-12. It allows each participant to make a personal commitment to healthy involvement in activities which expand and enrich academic programs.

It is the responsibility of the coaches, advisors, teachers, students, administrators and parents to recognize the unique commitment that the student is making to participate in school sponsored activities. All of these people should work as a support base to encourage the commitment made by the students with whom they work or participate.

Philosophy

The Tomorrow River School District Board of Education believes that involvement in school activities is an important part of the total educational opportunity in the Tomorrow River Schools. School sponsored athletics and other activities are part of the Third Curriculum. The First Curriculum consists of those classes which are mandated for graduation from high school. The Second Curriculum consists of elective classes which a student takes to expand his or her knowledge. Athletics as well as other extra-curricular and co-curricular activities make up the Third Curriculum and help round out the educational experience by promoting the following: physical well-being, emotional growth, development of self-discipline and ethics, good citizenship, and the encouragement of cooperative social skills.

Student Commitment

Pledge:

“I understand that my academic work is a priority for me. I will keep this priority in focus as I participate in the school activities that I select. I will continually demonstrate my commitment through consistent class attendance and continual progress towards my high school diploma.

“I make a unique commitment to maintain a healthy lifestyle through my involvement in school activities. I realize that competition in athletics and activities sponsored by the Tomorrow River Schools is a privilege, not a right, and should be treated as such. Due to the exposure my team or group will receive when participating in these activities, I realize that I represent the Tomorrow River Schools, my parents and myself. I will be held accountable for my actions and/or reactions regardless of whether or not they pertain specifically to the particular activity.

“I ask my parents, teachers, friends, coaches or advisors to recognize and support my commitment and involvement.”

Application

This code applies to all students participating in Tomorrow River Schools sponsored activities in grade pre-K-12.

This code does not preclude action taken due to school rules, club constitutions, team rules, co-curricular activity rules, WIAA rules, municipal, county or state ordinances and laws.

A student who transfers with a code of conduct suspension that has not been served must serve the mandated suspension, as decreed by the previous school.

Responsibilities

The privilege of participating in activity programs is extended to all students, PROVIDING they are willing to assume certain responsibilities. Following the Code of Conduct is a matter of self-discipline. This Code is to be followed by all students and is in effect continuously during the student's school career, grade pre-K-12.

A student's greatest responsibility is to be a credit to their parents, school, community and themselves. Therefore, they should develop leadership qualities that will result in:

1. High standards of social behavior.
2. Outstanding sportsmanship.
3. Proper respect for those in authority, including teachers, coaches and officials.
4. High standards of scholarship.
5. High standards of personal appearance, especially when attending school sponsored events.
6. Socially acceptable language.

Academic Requirements/Rules of Eligibility

The Tomorrow River Schools are a member of the Central Wisconsin Conference and the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) and are bound by all the rules established by these organizations. This enables athletes to participate in conference and state championships.

In order to represent the Tomorrow River Schools in any interscholastic (athletic) competition, a student must meet the following requirements.

1. Must not reach age 19 before August 1st of that school year.
2. High school students must not participate on any but the high school team during the same season.
3. High school students must have completed all work below the ninth grade.
4. Must have completed a physical to meet WIAA standards.
5. Must attend, with at least one parent or guardian, an informational meeting before their first participation in senior high school.
6. All participants in the athletic program must submit either a signed WIAA physical card or alternate year card before they will be allowed to practice. You must also have insurance verification and two co-curricular code pledge cards on file.
7. Must meet these scholastic requirements:
 - a. Any student with an "F" grade will be ineligible.
 - b. Maintain a 1.75 grade point average for the grading period. (Not cumulative)
 - c. A student will be ineligible for 15 school days. A student will regain eligibility after the 15 school days when the student is passing all classes and has a GPA at or above 1.75. The student is responsible to provide written documentation from their teacher to the Athletic Director that they meet the criteria to regain eligibility.
 - d. Students identified as EEN (Exceptional Educational Needs) or "At Risk" will be dealt with on an individual basis, by the Athletic Director, principal and Special Needs teacher.
 - e. No student who is dropped from one activity for disciplinary reasons, or quits, shall be eligible to compete in another activity except by mutual consent of the coaches or advisors involved.
 - f. Grades obtained during the fourth quarter of any year will be used to determine eligibility of the student for the first quarter of the subsequent year.

Inappropriate Behaviors

Behaviors that are contrary to healthy involvement or interaction, good citizenship, ethical considerations or violations of the law are suspendable offenses.

Violations involve:

Possession or use of alcohol tobacco or controlled substances.

Students are directed to not possess or to place themselves in the presence of others who are illegally possessing or using alcohol or controlled substances. It is the expectation of this code that a student will leave, disassociate themselves, and not knowingly linger in the presence of others illegally possessing alcohol, possessing or using controlled substances or knowingly remain in environments where illegal possession or use is taking place. If the student remains at such a place, even though he/she does not violate the code, the student is “guilty by association”.

Conduct resulting in expulsion or suspension from school.

Negative acts against persons or property (involvement in behaviors that are viewed a contrary to accepted moral and ethical standards).

Criminal Acts

An offense requiring the investigation of Law Enforcement personnel that leads to a mandatory court appearance.

The suspension for such an offense (as per Code of Conduct) will be upheld pending the final outcome of the court appearance.

Other Inappropriate Behaviors

Abuse of school property or failure to return equipment from a previous sport or activity. (It should be noted that students would not be allowed to participate in a new activity until all equipment from previous activities had been returned).

Penalties for Violation of the Code of Conduct

A student shall be suspended from activities for these acts at any time:

- a. Use or possession of alcohol or tobacco or the use, possession, buying, or selling of illegal drugs.
- b. Any conduct deemed unacceptable to the school, CWC or WIAA including, but not limited to criminal behavior. (This applies to both Co-Curricular and athletic activities.)

Any student who is suspended out of school, for any reason, will not be eligible for participation in any activity until their return to school.

Students will be in school at least half the day in order to participate unless excused in advance by the principal or designee.

Individual coaches or advisors may set up additional rules.

Athletics:

*** As per WIAA rule changes regarding tournament competitions; if any of the acts identified in this code of conduct result in the student being suspended for one or more WIAA tournament competitions, the minimum penalty is immediate disqualification of the student for the remainder of the total tournament series in that sport.**

1. First Offense: Suspension from 20% of the scheduled season. If an athlete chooses to participate in a district approved educational based program (applicable to the particular offense) the athlete will receive a 10% reduction of the Suspension. If a program is not successfully completed or it is unavailable in a timely manner during the recommended suspension time frame, the remainder of the suspension will take effect immediately. (Participation in any approved program will be at the expense of the Parents/Guardian/Student).

Students will be required to participate in practices, meetings and may not dress for games. (If the student refuses to comply, he or she will forfeit the remainder of the season.) In-season violations of the school code will result in immediate suspension of the student from interscholastic competition.

The suspension must consist of no less than one day of competition (but also at least one complete game or meet) for acts (a) involving the use of alcohol, (b) use, including chewing, of tobacco and/or (c) use, possession, buying or selling of controlled substances, regardless of any reduction of suspension due to honesty clause or district approved program.

2. Second Offense: Suspension from 50% of the scheduled season. If an athletic chooses to participate in a district approved educational based program (applicable to the particular offense) the athlete will receive a 10% reduction of the Suspension. If the program is not successfully completed, the 50% suspension will be immediately reinstated.
 3. Third Offense: Out of athletics for the calendar year.
 4. Additional Offenses: An additional calendar year.
- Honesty Clause- If a student athlete turns themselves in to the athletic director for a Code of Conduct offense. The student athlete will receive a 10% reduction of the suspension.

If the violation occurs out of season, the suspension will be served during the next occurring athletic season for that particular student athlete. The violator must successfully complete any district-approved program for any reduction in penalties.

Co-Curricular Activities:

At the beginning of the school year, all advisors will list any/all “events” their club or class might have during the year. When a violation occurs, the student will be suspended from a percentage of those events or activities. (This will include all activities that particular student is involved in during the suspension.) Suspensions will follow in chronological order of the scheduled activities/events and be administered as follows:

1. **First Offense:** Suspension from 20% of the cumulative total of all co-curricular activities/events the student is involved in during the time of the violation or participation in a district approved educational based program. (Adolescent Abstinence, etc.). If the program is not successfully completed, the suspension will be immediately reinstated. Students will be required to participate in practices, meetings and sit with teams for games. However, students will not be allowed to suit up for the games. (If the student refuses to comply, he or she will be required to forfeit the remainder of the season.)
2. **Second Offense:** Suspension from 50% of the cumulative total of all co-curricular activities/events the student is involved in during the time of the violation or 20% suspension and participation in a district approved program (different from the first offense program). If the program is not successfully completed, the 50% suspension will be immediately reinstated.
3. **Third Offense:** Suspension from all co-curricular activities/events for the calendar year.
4. **Additional Offenses:** An additional calendar year.

Athletics/Co-Curricular Activities:

Students involved in both athletics and co-curricular activities either concurrently or alternately during the school year will be assessed penalties for violations of the activity code in the following manner:

- a. Suspension from athletics if the student is involved in a sport at the time of the violation.
- b. If not currently in an active sport season, the violation will apply to whatever co-curricular activities the student is involved in at the time of the violation.
- c. If the student is not involved in either a sport or an activity at the time of the violation, the penalty will be applied to the next occurrence of either a sports season or co-curricular activity.

** A student must be an active participant for the whole season for a sport and for the whole year or full length of the activity for co-curricular activities in order to serve a suspension during that time period.

These penalties will accumulate throughout a student’s academic year. At the end of the school year, provided the student has completed all district-approved programs and/or served all assessed penalties, the student’s record of violations will be cleared. However, suspensions not completed during those tenures will be completed during the start of the next tenure (i.e. Middle School, High School).

Any officer/leadership/captains positions will be suspended and reviewed at the end of the suspension period. Members in National Honor Society, Student Council, etc., are subject to review.

If the Athletic season or activity ends before the suspensions are served, the percentage of suspensions not served will apply to the total number of contests in the season/events in the activity. The remaining percentage yet to be served will resume in the next athletic season or activity in which that student participates. An example would be: a student suspended from 50% of the basketball season (20 games per season; 10 game suspension) who served 8 of his/her 10 suspensions before the season ends will have 2 suspension remaining out of his/her 10 which is 20%. When the student begins another season or activity he/she would complete the suspension by missing the first 20% of the games or events in that season or activity.

Individuals Under Suspension:

Students will be required to participate in practices and sit with teams for games. (However, students will not be allowed to suit up for the game.) If the student refuses to comply, he/she will forfeit the remainder of the season. Students involved in an activity other than athletics will be required to attend rehearsals/practices associated with the activity but not be allowed to participate in the events during the suspension. Failure to comply will result in forfeiture of the remainder of the season for that activity.

Enforcement of the Code of Conduct

1. An adult reporting a violation of the Code must submit a signed infraction report form (available in the District Office) to the Principal as soon as possible after knowledge of the alleged violation. This applies to violations during the school year or during the summer months. If a violation occurs during summer months or during a vacation period, a report must be filed within five (5) working days of returning to school. Violations reported after six (6) months will not be considered.
2. The principal will investigate and identify the penalties for alleged violations of the Code as expediently as possible after the report has been submitted. The student and his/her parents/legal guardian will be informed in writing and/or by telephone call of the principal's decision. Such written notice will outline details relating to:
 - a. Nature of violation
 - b. Date of violation or infraction
 - c. Period of suspension (off-activities)
 - d. Other pertinent information
3. Citations from law enforcement officers may be considered to be a misconduct report and if so, will be handled the same as those submitted by adults.
4. Infraction report forms are available in any office (K-12).

Appeal Process

1. After a ruling by the principal that results in Off-Activities, the student and/or parents/legal guardian may appeal the decision in writing to the principal, provided the appeal is received within 1 working day (school day) from the first day of ineligibility. The written request for appeal must be received by the completion of that day. Example: Ruling from Principal made at 10 a.m. Thursday...the student would have until the end of the school day on Friday to submit the written request for an appeal. If a student denies violating the Code of Conduct, the school must provide an opportunity for the student to be heard by the Superintendent prior to any penalty being enforced. (As per WIAA rules.)
2. If upon completion of said hearing the Superintendent upholds the principal's original ruling the penalty will be enforced. After a ruling by the Superintendent resulting in Off-Activities, the student and/or parents/legal guardian may appeal the decision to an Appeals Board review.
3. The date of the Appeals Board review should be mutually agreed upon. Every effort will be made to hold the appeal hearing as soon as possible. (In accordance with Wisconsin Statute 19.85 (1) (c) as pertains to closed board proceedings.) If agreement cannot be reached, the Principal shall set a date and time that will allow for three (3) days notice and fall within the next seven (7) calendar days.
4. The appeals Board shall consist of quorum (a minimum of 3) members of the Tomorrow River School Board but may include the complete five-member board.
5. The student and parents/legal guardian of the student must attend the Appeals Board hearing to present his/her views. In this hearing the student will be afforded the right to present testimony and evidence. If the student or his/her representative does not attend the scheduled hearing, the decision of the Principal will stand and no further appeals will be allowed.
6. For Student Athletes Only: If the student athlete and/or parents (Legal Guardians) are not satisfied with the school board's decision, they may appeal to the WIAA. During this process, any previous penalties will remain in effect pending the WIAA decision.

ATHLETE / PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT

I have read and fully understand the rules and regulations stated in the Tomorrow River School District Code of Conduct. I hereby promise to uphold them.

Signature of Student

Date

I have read and fully understand the foregoing rules and regulations and shall help and encourage my child to uphold them.

Signature of Parent

Date

****IMPORTANT:** After signing, return this page to the Athletic Director / office. Keep the rest of this code at home and available for reference.