

Title: Athletic/Activity Policy	
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Floyd Municipal Schools Athletic/Activity Policy

The purpose of establishing and supporting athletics and activity programs, extra-curricular and/or co-curricular, is to provide opportunities beyond the academic programs for students to develop their talents, interests and skills in a supportive learning environment that fosters the development of respect, fairness, trustworthiness, citizenship, caring and responsibility. These six pillars of character are the basis for allowing students to test themselves with and against their peers, thus giving them ample opportunity to ultimately find their place in society where they can excel as responsible citizens, leaders, team players, parents, and community members. Towards that end, the ideals of sportsmanship, competition, effort, pride and responsibility in being a member of a team or organization, are the pillars of the foundation for a successful adult life.

Participation is a privilege offered to students, and is not an inherent right. With participation comes the responsibility of making a commitment to fully engage all aspects of a program from practice, to game or competition events, and to abide by all rules and behavior standards expected of a member in good standing. In support of providing many opportunities for a student to choose to participate in, it is recognized that there will be times when scheduling conflicts will occur between various activities and athletic seasons and competitions. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the coaches and sponsors involved of their total intended commitment and potential conflicts at the beginning of the season. The student with support of their parent(s) or guardian(s) will determine which event takes precedence, have it documented and fully understood, signed by all involved persons, and maintained on file in the Director's office. Coaches/sponsors will have the final determination on the student's participation in specific events, based upon readiness to participate and fairness to other members of the team or activity; but, in no instance shall a student be punished for selecting one event over another. It is also demanded that the coaches and sponsors will actively embrace these principles so that students feel supported to make their school years as broad and enriching an experience as possible.

Students, school personnel, parents and community members are representatives of our school and community. Rules of conduct and good sportsmanship are expected of all, at all times, to exemplify that high standards will be maintained. Failure to abide by these principles will result in loss of privilege to participate.

A. Floyd Municipal Schools Athletic and Activity Code - The design and colors of all athletics/activity uniforms will require the approval of the Principal prior to their purchase. Non-conforming uniforms existing at the time of adoption of this policy shall remain in use until their scheduled replacement when they shall be replaced with uniforms which meet policy. The official Mascot of Floyd Schools will be the Bronco.

1. **Floyd Municipal Schools Philosophy of Activities.** The philosophy of the Floyd Municipal Schools interscholastic program is that all students be provided with a wide range of opportunities for development with and beyond the academic program. We believe that activities are an integral part of the educational process, offering many opportunities for mental, social, and physical growth.
2. Participation in activities is a **privilege** offered to students;

it is not an inherent right. Participation in any of these programs demands a major commitment, not just during practice or competition, but at all times in order to be prepared mentally and physically to do their best.

3. Students, school personnel, and community-school assistants are representatives of their school and community. Their conduct is expected to exemplify high standards at all times.

b. Goals of the Floyd Municipal Schools Athletic / Activity Program. It shall be the goal of Floyd Municipal Schools to provide and to teach each participant the following:

1. A feeling of positive self-worth and the attitude of self-discipline.
2. An opportunity to develop the participant's full physical, mental, and emotional potential.
3. An opportunity to compete with and against others in preparation for a competitive society.
4. A sense of responsibility towards the organization, school, and community.
5. A standard of values and ethics which demonstrate sportsmanship and positive representation of school and community.

C. Athletic / Activity Guidelines

1. A student is subject to the general laws of the community and regulations of the Floyd Schools.
2. A participant, by participating in an activities program, agrees to abide by and be subject to the activities regulations of Floyd Municipal Schools and the Articles and Regulations of the New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA).
3. It is the responsibility of each participant to understand and comply with all Floyd Schools regulations.
4. It is understood that it is impossible to have a regulation for every possible circumstance. Coaches/sponsors and administrators shall use discretionary judgment in dealing with individual situations not covered by a specific written regulation. Specific Rules/Regulations may be provided by each coach/sponsor, in addition to this policy.

D. Eligibility and Participation

1. Any student who is in good academic standing, who meets the requirements of the NMAA, and whose conduct conforms to general school policies may participate in athletics / competitive activities.
2. Realizing that academics is the prime reason for public education, the following eligibility requirements are set:
 - (a) To be academically eligible, a student must be passing all classes and have a grade point average of 2.0 or better. A student must meet all other NMAA guidelines, as outlined in the NMAA handbook regarding enrollment, residence, and other rules stipulated.
 - (b) 8th grade students may participate in High School extra curricular activities. If a coach/sponsor desires an 8th grade student to compete at the high school level, the coach/sponsor must notify the Athletic Director, Principal and the Parent/Guardian prior to participating in any sport or event. Parents must complete an acknowledgement of 8th grade participation at the high school level prior to the student competing or participating at that level.
 - (c) No student shall be absent for school sponsored extra-

- curricular activities in excess of fifteen (15) days per semester and no class may be missed in excess of fifteen (15) times per semester.
3. Before a student may be issued athletic equipment or can begin practice, the student must provide proof of the following:
 - (a) Acknowledgment of Injury form signed by the parent / guardian and student. Also, acknowledgment that both parents and student understand the regulations of the sport or program.
 - (b) Proper insurance coverage.
 - (c) Positive physical examination report from a medical doctor.
 4. Students are required to attend all scheduled practices for participation. If circumstances should arise whereby a student cannot attend practice, the student must notify the coach / sponsor prior to the practice through personal contact or through a written statement or telephone call from a parent/legal guardian. The coach / sponsor must determine the validity of any missed practice. Coaches/Sponsors will specify with students and parents the consequences for missed practices or events.
 5. In order for students to participate in athletics / activities contests, he / she must attend all classes that day up to the departure time set by the coach / sponsor. Unusual circumstances (i.e., medical or dental emergency) will be handled on an individual basis with the coach / sponsor of that particular sport / activity and the Athletic Director / Principal.
 6. In order to participate in an "all-day" event, the student must attend classes the school day prior to the event. Unusual circumstances and emergencies will be handled on an individual basis with the coach / sponsor of that particular sport / activity and the Athletic Director / Principal.
 7. If a participant misses school because of illness, a student may not participate in practice that day.
 8. Students may participate in multiple activities during a season. Students wishing to participate in multiple activities will be expected to extend respect and courtesy to the coaches/sponsors and their teammates by communicating and planning scheduled events, notifying coaches/sponsors of any absences to to the dual participation.
 9. A student dropping an athletic sport / activity shall use the proper procedure. First the student must discuss the departure with the coach / sponsor. Second, he / she must return all equipment and clear all financial responsibility with the athletic department / sponsor.
 10. An injured athlete / participant shall report to practice sessions and meetings unless excused by the coach / sponsor. An injured athlete / participant can continue to observe and help the team / club / etc. as much as his / her condition will allow. If a student is under a physician's care, he / she must have a signed "Return to Participation" form from the physician before participating after the injury or illness.

E. Travel

1. Students must travel with their athletic / activity team in school-sponsored transportation to out-of-town events from the campus/point of school transportation pick-up.
2. For exceptions to this policy, the Athletic Director / Principal may, at their discretion, and upon written request from a parent or legal guardian, at least 24 hours in advance of the stated departing time, approve an exception to the policy.

Coaches/Sponsors should be notified, in writing, of the exception. Should the request be granted, the parent / legal guardian or approved adult must report to the coach/sponsor with the student(s) to the event to be checked in or released, unless otherwise prearranged with the Athletic director / Principal.

3. In no instance shall permission be granted for a student to travel to or from an event in the absence of an approved adult.
4. Upon leaving out-of-town events, students may be released to parents, upon signing a check-out form with the coach/sponsor.

F. General Appearance and Conduct

1. Student participation must adhere to high standards of personal appearance at all times. Appropriate clothing must be worn. Hair must be groomed and arranged so as not to create an inappropriate distraction or health/safety hazard. During participation, students must comply, minimally, to regulations and safety rules of the event in which they are participating.
2. Tattoos will be covered using an approved covering including, but not limited to "under armor", tough-skin, etc... The coach/sponsor's discretion will be used as to the appropriate covering.
3. Good sportsmanship is a major objective during practices and activity contests.
 - (a) Participants will treat each other and opponents with respect.
 - (b) Athletes / activity participants must not argue or make unsportsmanlike gestures towards officials, opponents, spectators or each other.
 - (c) Participants will follow other specific rules set up by the coach / sponsor of a particular sport / organization.
 - (d) Student participants will show self-discipline on and off the athletic field / organization event.
 - (e) Students will be expected to act in a mature manner. (Loud talk, boasting, vulgarity, profanity, and immature behavior and horseplay are not appropriate to Floyd Municipal Schools representatives and will not be tolerated.)
4. On trips, Floyd Municipal Schools students and representatives must remain with the group unless the coach or sponsor has given permission and knows their destination and whereabouts at all times.
 - (a) On out-of-town trips, students will not be allowed in rooms with members of the opposite sex unless accompanied by an adult advisor. Students must abide by a curfew as designed by the coach or the adult sponsor.
 - (b) All Floyd Municipal Schools students will be in their assigned rooms, without visitors, by curfew.
 - (c) Students committing serious violations of the Activities Regulations will be sent home. Parents / Guardians will be contacted and arrangements will be made to send the student home at the parent's expense or will be picked up by the parent / guardian.
5. Students committing minor violations may be removed from participation in the activity or event.
 - (a) The discretion of the coach / sponsor will be used to determine the consequences of student violations of the regulations.
 - (b) Coaches/Sponsors may be expected to provide a general set of rules

6. Consequences not specifically covered by this policy, with the understanding that not all circumstances can be covered in any set of rules/policies.

G. Use of Prohibited Substances. This does not take the place of the student discipline matrix and school board policies to which all students must adhere.

1. Tobacco: The use of tobacco in any form is prohibited on all school grounds and at all school-related activities and events. Any activity participant determined to be using/possessing tobacco on school grounds or at school related activities and events will:

(a) First Offense: Student turned over to the head coach, advisor and sponsor of any school activity programs(s) in which they participate for disciplinary action. Student will be subject to additional sanctions as per the discipline matrix and school board policies.

(b) Second Offense: Student suspended from participation in all school activities for twenty school days. Student will be subject to additional sanctions as per the discipline matrix and school board policies.

2. Drug and Alcohol: The use of or possession of alcoholic beverages or drugs (including the smelling thereof) is prohibited on all school grounds and at all school-related activities and events. Any activity participant, caught directly or through reasonable suspicion, determined to be using/possessing drug or alcohol will be suspended from all school activities for one semester or for duration of season for sports related activities. Student will be subject to additional sanctions, as per the discipline matrix and school board policies.

*Violations that are not school or activity related will be handled at the discretion of the coach, advisor and sponsor of any school activity to which they belong. The coach is expected to consult with parents/legal guardians with any suspicion of drug or alcohol use outside of school. The advice or direction of the administration will be used, as well.

**If the offense occurs at the end of a sports season or school year the student will be turned over to the building principal for discipline. Participation in future activities may be limited, at the discretion of the administration.

H. Punishment and Discipline. Students are subject to disciplinary action as deemed appropriate, by the general rules of the coach/sponsor, school policies and regulations, and NMAA, state, or federal rules and regulations. This applies to all students attending Floyd Schools. It should be noted that the violation of all school rules and regulations might jeopardize a student's athletic / activity participation.

I. Lettering. Individual coaches / sponsors will set forth requirements for lettering in their respective activities. Completion of a varsity sports season is the minimum requirement.

J. Equipment and Facilities

1. An athletic participant is responsible for all personal equipment (including uniforms) issued at the beginning of the season and

must return it at the end of the season. Students must pay for equipment which has been lost, stolen, misused, or damaged beyond normal usage.

2. All equipment must be returned before a participant is eligible to letter and / or to participate in any other sport, graduate, receive report cards, or transcripts.

K. Responsibilities. It is the responsibility of the participants and their parents / guardians to be sure students involved in activities / athletics abide by all regulations and procedures set forth herein and those set by individual coaches/sponsors.

1. It is the responsibility of the Athletic Director / Building Principal to administer the overall sports / activity program and supervise the coaches / sponsors in the performance of their duties.
2. The building principal may review and issue disciplinary actions concerned with removal from a team / organization or suspension from school.
3. It is the responsibility of the coach / sponsor to distribute and explain these regulations and answer questions concerning this document. In addition, the coach / sponsor is the first line of enforcement for these regulations.

L. Student Organizations

1. All student organizations using the name of the school and / or using school facilities shall be under the supervision of school authorities. All activities shall be coordinated and approved by the building administrator.
2. The Board of Education will provide support, as funds are available to students competing at a National Convention/Competition on a competitive basis.

M. Appeals. Appeals from the decisions of the coaches, activity sponsor or the Athletic Director may be made to the Building Administrator. If this does not resolve the issue, concerned parties may take the appeal to the District Superintendent.

I have read/reviewed the Athletic/Activity Policy of the Floyd Municipal Schools and have ensured that my program rules are in accordance with this policy.

As a sponsor/coach, I understand it is my responsibility to ensure that students and parents are aware of the rules and policies related to the program I am sponsoring/coaching.

Signature

Date