

EXTRACURRICULAR CODE OF CONDUCT (ECC)

Philosophy on Extracurricular Activities

At Evanston Township High School (ETHS), our goal is to inspire a lifelong passion for learning. We provide a variety of opportunities for learning in the classroom and beyond: through the arts, sports, and activities. Extracurricular activities are an integral part of many students' high school experience. Positive participation in activities helps to increase students' engagement in the school community. Extracurricular activities provide all students with opportunities to develop aspects of leadership, self-discipline, responsibility, teamwork, self-confidence, commitment, and student wellness; while pursuing an interest that may lead to a career or lifelong hobby. Extracurricular activities offer participants the opportunity to be leaders and role models on campus and in the community and enable participants to represent the school district in a positive manner.

Extracurricular Code of Conduct (ECC)

Evanston Township High School District 202 makes extracurricular activities available as an extension of the regular school program with this important difference: equitable participation in the regular curriculum is a right afforded to each student, while participation in the extracurricular program is a privilege that carries additional expectations for acceptable conduct.

Students participating in the extracurricular program at ETHS have a responsibility to lead through their example. Students engaging in extracurricular activities represent not only themselves, but also other students and the school district when performing, competing, or participating in extracurricular activities, and/or while wearing uniforms or other clothing that identifies the student in any setting as an ETHS student.

The Extracurricular Code of Conduct (ECC), articulated in *The Pilot: Student & Family Handbook* and governed by [Board Policy 6:190](#) Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities, sets out school district requirements in order to support safety and wellbeing of participants while promoting high standards of conduct, citizenship, and good decision-making. ETHS District 202 has the authority to restrict or revoke a student's participation in an extracurricular activity. ETHS District 202 also has the right to determine whether or not an entire team, club, group or program will represent the high school in competition or a performance.

Extracurricular Activities: General Provisions

What is an Extracurricular Activity?

- Any school district-sponsored, Illinois High School Association (IHSAA)-sanctioned, or campus-sponsored or related public performances, events, ceremonies, contests, demonstrations, celebrations, displays, club activities, athletics, whether on- or off-campus;
- Any elected offices and honors (such as student council and homecoming court);
- All national organizations (such as National Honor Society or DECA); or
- Any activity held in conjunction with another activity that is considered to be an extracurricular activity (such as a social gathering, meeting, practice, or fundraiser).

Tryouts/Auditions

Tryout procedures, requirements, and timelines for various extracurricular activities are determined by the individual coach/sponsor/advisor in partnership with District guidelines. Upon completion of the tryout process for the activity, the coach/sponsor/advisor will notify all participants of their membership status. The results of tryouts are final and cannot be appealed.

Jurisdiction

Who can participate in Extracurricular Activities? Any student enrolled to receive a grade 9-12 education through District 202 is able to participate in extracurricular activities at ETHS.

Who is subject to the Extracurricular Code of Conduct? Any student of District 202 who participates in one or more extracurricular activities that publicly represents ETHS is subject to the Extracurricular Code of Conduct. Public representation includes, but is not limited to, the following: interscholastic athletics, public performances, interscholastic competition, conferences or summits, printed publications, and video/audio/internet productions. Participants of co-curricular activities that require performances as part of an academic grade are not included under this code. Students are subject to the ECC from the time they are selected for, elected to, or otherwise join an extracurricular activity and continue to be subject to the ECC unless or until the student no longer participates in extracurricular activities and is no longer an ETHS student.

When does the Extracurricular Code of Conduct apply? The privilege of representing ETHS carries with it a greater responsibility to conduct oneself with respect and dignity, and to serve as a role model for all students. Extracurricular participants are expected to adhere to the code not only during their scheduled season of activity, but also during the entire regular school attendance year, including weekends and school holidays. This code is also in effect during periods before and after the regular school attendance year when

athletic teams are formally practicing or when other school activities subject to the code are in progress. The code is in effect throughout a participant's high school career at ETHS.

This code applies to any ETHS participant, before or after school hours, on or off school property, whose conduct at any time or place has a direct or immediate effect on the safety and welfare of the school community. School officials are not expected to monitor off-campus activities; however, if violations of the ECC are brought to their attention, the appropriate administrator will be notified and the administrator will take action. It is possible that a student who violates the Student Behavior Code in *The Pilot: Student & Family Handbook* will incur consequences from both the appropriate school administrator and from their coach, sponsor, or advisor for the same particular violation. However, the standards of the Extracurricular Code of Conduct are independent of the Student Behavior Code, and therefore, it is also possible that a student participating in extracurricular activities could violate the individual extracurricular activities code of conduct and/or the Extracurricular Code of Conduct and be subject to discipline by a coach, sponsor or advisor without having violated the Student Behavior Code. ECC violations accumulate throughout a student's high school career at ETHS.

What are the requirements for IHSA athletics and activities? The Illinois High School Association (IHSA) requires that students must pass five (5) subjects from the previous semester to be eligible to participate, as well as complete passing work for at least five classes of high school per week of the current semester.

The Illinois High School Association (IHSA) regulates interscholastic athletics and various activities in the State of Illinois, including chess, journalism, music, scholastic bowl, and speech. In addition to the Extracurricular Code of Conduct and the Student Behavior Code, students who participate in IHSA-sanctioned sports and activities must have an understanding of the IHSA By-laws and Policies that govern interscholastic competition among IHSA member schools. In case of a conflict between the ECC, the Student Behavior Code, and the constitution and by-laws of the IHSA, the IHSA constitution and by-laws shall control for all IHSA-sanctioned sports and activities. The complete set of IHSA By-laws and Policies is available at:

www.ihsa.org/AbouttheIHSA/ConstitutionBylawsPolicies.aspx

Guidelines

What are the Guidelines for Extracurricular Activity Participants?

Participants in extracurricular activities are representatives of the school district, and must conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on the school district at all times. Specifically, they must:

- Have a parent/guardian consent in Home Access Center allowing participation in extracurricular activities and/or sports;
- Comply with all Illinois High School Association (IHSA) by-laws, policies and eligibility requirements to be considered eligible to perform, compete, and/or represent ETHS in any IHSA-sanctioned sport or activity;
- Academic studies come first. Students must access all available school academic supports and well-being supports to demonstrate their effort toward maintaining a 2.0 GPA benchmark while participating and/or representing ETHS in any extracurricular activity. Students earning below a 2.0 GPA from the previous semester will be placed on an academic watch list and be required to attend academic supports for the entire semester. Any student determined ineligible from weekly grade checks is required to follow the academic support program;
- Maintain strong school and class attendance. Provide advance notice to the coach or sponsor of an activity if they are unable to attend a game, practice, meeting, performance, and/or other scheduled event related to the extracurricular activity.
- Abide by the Student Dress Code as well as any activity-specific uniform/attire standards, as long as these standards abide by Board Policy 7:10 and allow activity participants to wear gender-neutral attire and religious/cultural attire without fear of discipline, body shaming, or discrimination subject to the requirements of the specific activities.
- Comply with all Board Policy as well as school rules identified in the *The Pilot: Student & Family Handbook*, including those related to random drug, alcohol and steroid testing, if applicable;
- Comply with all rules and guidelines in the ECC and any additional rules established by a coach or sponsor for a specific extracurricular activity; and
- Comply with and adhere to the behavioral standards identified in the *The Pilot: Student & Family Handbook*.

Absences and Participation in Activities

If a student has unexcused absences for five (5) periods or more on the day of an activity, the student will be ineligible to participate in an extracurricular activity that day/night. If a student has unexcused absences for five (5) periods or more the Friday before a weekend event, the student will be ineligible for any weekend activities, performances or competitions. The Assistant Superintendent/Principal may waive this policy as appropriate. Excessive unexcused absences may result in suspension or dismissal from the activity/organization. Such decisions shall be made in consultation with the Assistant Superintendent/Principal.

Students with injuries will be allowed to attend any practice, performance, game, or other event relating to the activity/organization and allowed to participate only to the extent authorized by written order of the student's health care provider.

Students placed in in-school suspension or out-of-school suspension, are not allowed to attend any practice, performance, game or any other extracurricular activities on or during the day(s) of suspension.

Travel

Students who have the opportunity to travel in connection with an ETHS extracurricular activity/organization are representatives of the District and must exhibit exemplary behavior at all times. Student participants are expected to travel to and from all extracurricular events with their extracurricular team, club or group by school-approved means of transportation. Exceptions will not be routinely granted, but are reserved for exceptional circumstances and unforeseeable emergencies. A student will only be released to a parent/guardian, and only after completion of a travel release form obtained from the coach/sponsor, which must be submitted at least 24 hours in advance except in emergency situations. Exceptions will not be granted for convenience. Violations of this rule may subject students to disciplinary actions up to and including removal from the team, group, or activity.

Equipment

Students are expected to properly store, clean, and maintain all school-issued equipment and return this equipment at the end of the season or school year, as directed by the coach/sponsor/advisor. Exceptions would be for musical instruments loaned over the summer. Any school-issued equipment is for the student's use while participating in a school-related activity/organization. Students who lose or damage school-issued equipment or fail to return equipment as directed will be required to pay for the cost of replacement. Individually owned equipment is the sole responsibility of the student; ETHS will not be responsible for any loss or damage that occurs to student-owned equipment.

Uniforms

If uniforms are required for an activity/organization, student participants must ensure that the uniform is worn only at appropriate times and is neat and clean for the practice, performance, competition, or game/tournament. NOTE: A fee for the maintenance, dry cleaning, or laundering of the uniform may be collected.

Fundraising

Students may be expected to raise funds for team or organization activities. Students may not raise money or solicit funds without prior approval. Advisors, coaches, sponsors, and teachers must follow the [Fundraising Request process](#) listed on the Staff Hub for approval of fundraising activities. Students engaged in fundraising activities are expected to promptly turn in all money received and may be required to reimburse the organization or team for any fundraising money lost or otherwise unaccounted for while in their possession. Students who fail to turn in all fundraising money in a timely fashion or retain money that does not belong to them may be subjected to disciplinary actions up to and including removal from the team or organization.

Prohibited Conduct

What Conduct is Prohibited for Extracurricular Activity Participants?

Violations:

- Engaging in conduct prohibited by the Student Behavior Code in The Pilot that results in a three-day out of school suspension or expulsion;
- Engaging in hazing, bullying, harassment, sexual harassment, or sexual misconduct as defined by [Board Policy Section 7 - Students 7:10; 7:180; 7:185; 7:20](#) and the Student Behavior Code listed in The Pilot;
- Buying, selling, giving, delivering, using, possessing, or being under the influence of tobacco, alcohol, cannabis, a controlled substance (without a proper prescription), or other mood-altering chemicals, or abuse of prescription or non-prescription drugs at any time and regardless of whether the student is on school property or at a school-related activity, as outlined in *The Pilot*;
- Attending a gathering or riding in a vehicle where there is a verified report of drinking or drug use or open alcohol;
- Maintaining or being identified on a website or blog that depicts behavior that is illegal or is sexual in nature;
- Sending, transmitting, or posting images or other material that is related to illegal or sexual activity;
- Engaging in any criminal offense; and,
- Engaging in acts of gross unsportsmanlike conduct as a participant or spectator, including the use of hate speech or other offensive language, cheating, or taunting other participants.

Consequences

Facts, circumstances, and disciplinary measures are analyzed on a case by-case basis. The ECC provides a minimum standard of conduct and guidance when addressing certain behaviors. The consequences listed below will be applied to most violations. However, in cases of severe violations of the Code, consequences in excess of those listed below, including removal from the activity, may be applied.

- A student in violation of the Code will face consequences for all extracurricular activities in which they are involved.

- A student in violation of the Code must complete the entire length of their activity in order for the consequences to be considered fulfilled.
- If a violation occurs too late in the activity season for a suspension to be served, the suspension will carry over into the next season in which the student in violation of the Code participates.
- If a violation occurs too late in the school year for a suspension to be served, the suspension will carry over into the following year.
- Code violations may also result in loss of privileges in celebratory functions, recognition dinners, and/or awards.
- A student in violation of the Code may lose any leadership position, including any team captain positions, any elected, selected or appointed position in Student Activities; and any appointed leadership position in Performing Arts. This position may be lost for the length of that season or school year as a result of a Code violation.

EXCEPTION — PUBLIC PERFORMANCES: A student who is ineligible to participate in an extracurricular activity, but who is enrolled in a state-approved course that requires demonstration of the mastery of the essential knowledge and skills in a public performance, may participate in the performance only if 1) the general public is invited; and, 2) the requirement that the student participate in public is stated in the essential knowledge and skills of the course. For the purposes of this document, any events that meet the above exception will be designated as co-curricular and this Code of Conduct will not apply.

ATHLETICS AND COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES

First Offense: A student in violation of the Code is required to successfully complete a school-based intervention program appropriate to the violation. In addition, the student is suspended for five (5) consecutive days of the activity, including practices, contests, and performances occurring during this five-day period. In addition, if there is no contest or performance during this five-day suspension period, then the student in violation of the Code will also be suspended from the next contest or performance. If a student in violation of the Code is unable to participate in their activity for any reason (e.g., academic ineligibility, injury), the suspension will not be in effect until the student becomes eligible to participate again.

If the violation occurs prior to the start of the season, the student in violation of the Code will be permitted to tryout/audition, if required, in order to participate in that activity. The suspension will take place immediately following the conclusion of tryouts/auditions. If the student in violation of the Code chooses not to complete the school-based intervention program offered to them, the consequence is doubled to a ten-day (10) suspension from the activity.

Second Offense: A student in violation of the Code is suspended for a maximum of 1/3 (one-third) of all contests and performances for the activity season, and is required to successfully complete the school-based intervention program appropriate to the violation. During the suspension, attendance or participation at practice/rehearsal is mandatory. If the student in violation of the Code chooses not to complete the school-based intervention program offered to them, the consequence is doubled, not to exceed a maximum suspension of 2/3 (two-thirds) of all contests and performances for the activity season.

Third Offense: A student in violation of the Code is suspended from all activities for one calendar year and is required to successfully complete the school-based intervention program appropriate to the violation.

Fourth offense: A student in violation of the Code is no longer eligible to participate in any athletic or competitive activities for the remainder of their high school career.

PERFORMING ARTS

First Offense: Year-long/seasonal performance groups and activities: A student in violation of the Code is required to successfully complete a school-based intervention program appropriate to the violation. In addition, the student is suspended for five (5) consecutive days of the activity, including rehearsals and performances occurring during this five-day period. If the student in violation of the Code chooses not to complete the school-based intervention program offered to them, the consequence is doubled to a ten-day (10) suspension from the activity. Performances (i.e. YAMO, winter musical): If the violation occurs during the last two weeks of rehearsal or during performances, the student in violation of the Code will be allowed to rehearse and perform for the current activity/production, but is suspended from participating in the next equivalent activity or production as determined by the sponsor and administrator.

Second Offense: Year-long/seasonal performance groups and activities: A student in violation of the Code is suspended for a maximum of 1/3 (one-third) of the participant's season and is required to successfully complete the school-based intervention program appropriate to the violation. If the student in violation of the Code chooses not to complete the school-based intervention program offered to them, the consequence is doubled, not to exceed a maximum suspension of 2/3 (two-thirds) of all contests and performances for the activity season. During the suspension, attendance or participation at rehearsal is mandatory. Performances: (i.e. YAMO, winter musical): a student in violation of the Code, regardless of when the violation occurs, is suspended from rehearsing and performing. Attendance or participation at rehearsal during the suspension is mandatory.

Third Offense: Loss of privilege of participation in all performing arts activities for the remainder of high school career.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT, ACTIVITIES, CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND OTHER AFFILIATIONS

First Offense: A student in violation of the Code may be removed from their titled position and suspended from participation in their club, activity, or organization for up to 25% of the school year or up to 25% of seasonal activities. In cases of severe violations of the

Code, students may be suspended from the club, activity or organization in excess of 25% and/or removed from the club. During suspension, the student in violation of the Code may not attend club meetings, events, or competitions.

Second Offense: A second violation in the same school year or subsequent years may result in removal from a titled position and suspension from the club, activity or organization for up to 50% of the school year or up to 50% of seasonal activities. During the suspension, students may not attend club meetings, events or competitions.

Third Offense: Loss of privilege of participation in the student government, clubs, activities or organizations for the remainder of high school career.

Senior Code Violation

If the student in violation of the Code is a senior, commits a code violation outside of school, and they have completed their extracurricular activity season, they will be given a choice of either successfully completing a school-based intervention program appropriate to the infraction or be ineligible to participate in prom.

If the lateness of the infraction does not allow time to complete a school-based intervention, the student may be ineligible to participate in prom.

Self-Reporting

If a participant has no prior Extracurricular Activity Code violations, the participant's voluntary admission of alcohol or drug use to a school administrator will not result in a suspension from participation in extracurriculars, but will be considered the participant's first Extracurricular Activity Code offense. All school-based intervention program requirements as stated above still apply. The purpose of this provision is to assist students in changing behaviors and to allow them to seek help. Voluntary admission must occur prior to any school personnel or police being aware of the incident through other sources than the student.

Procedures

Who Determines that a Violation of the ECC has Occurred? The Dean or appropriate school official will determine whether a violation of the ECC has occurred and will assess the appropriate consequence.

How will Consequences Be Assessed for Different Violations of the ECC? Consequences for violating the ECC are assessed based on the severity of the violation. Prior ECC violations will also be considered.

Is a Student Entitled to Participate in Extracurricular Activities? No. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right. As such, a student's participation may be revoked at the District's discretion.

How will Students and Parents Be Notified that a Violation of the ECC has Occurred? Students, parents and guardians will be notified of all violations that result in suspension from participation in extracurricular activities. A school official will meet with the student. At this time, the school official will inform the student that a violation of the ECC has occurred, discuss with them the applicable consequences, and give the student an opportunity to respond to the allegations. The school official will then contact the student's parent via telephone, email, or face-to-face conference to inform them that a violation of the ECC has occurred, discuss with them the applicable consequences, and inform them of next steps.

What if a Student or Parent Does Not Agree with the Decision? If a student or their parent/guardian is not satisfied with the decision, they may request that the Assistant Superintendent/Principal or their designee, review the matter on appeal. The written request must be made within three (3) school days of being informed of the decision. If no written request to appeal is received within the three (3) school days, Evanston Township High School District 202 will deem the decision final and will implement any recommendations or corrective actions.

To appeal a decision, a student or their parent/guardian may submit an email to the Assistant Superintendent/Principal at principal@eths.k12.il.us within three (3) school days of receiving the decision and provide the following information:

- Student name and ID number;
- A brief explanation of the decision provided by the Dean or school official;
- Reason for appealing this decision;
- Any special circumstances related to the situation that should be considered during the appeal; and
- Possible solution(s)/desired outcome you would like to see for the issue.

Appeals by student and/or parents/guardians shall be reviewed by the Assistant Superintendent/Principal or their designee, who will review all materials generated through the investigation, and who will provide a recommendation to sustain or deny the appeal. Decisions of the Assistant Superintendent/Principal are final and cannot be appealed.