

CASSADAGA VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL

Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct

(Revised July 2016, Adopted August 8, 2016)

Purpose:

The purpose of this guide is to inform students and parents of the Cassadaga Valley Extracurricular program, its goals, and requirements. Extracurricular programs include athletics, clubs, organizations, and any other non-credit bearing school group.

Philosophy:

Extracurricular activities, which include any school-related activities (including sports), are an integral part of the total education program. This Guide will incorporate the School Code of Conduct and the following Ten Cardinal Athletic Principles as stated in the N.Y.S.P.H.S.A.A Handbook:

1. To emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play.
2. To eliminate all possibilities which tend to destroy the best values of the game.
3. To stress the values derived from playing the game fairly.
4. To show cordial courtesy to visiting teams and officials.
5. To establish a cordial relationship between visitors and hosts.
6. To respect the integrity and judgment of the sports officials.
7. To achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and standards of eligibility.
8. To encourage leadership, use of incentive, and good judgment by the players on the team.
9. To recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social and emotional well-being of the individual players.
10. To remember that an athletic contest is only a game...not a matter of life or death for player, coach, school, official, fan, community, state or nation.

Academic Requirements:

1. It is the responsibility of the student to maintain passing grades. It is the responsibility of the teacher to keep accurate records. To that end student grades will be checked every three weeks.
 - a. Students with failing grades will be suspended from the activity (or activities) following a ten (10) school day grace period during which time the student can raise their grade and avoid suspension from the extra-curricular activity. Parents will be notified when their child has a failing grade at the three week check point.
 - b. When a student who is suspended from activities for failing raises their grade to passing, they will be reinstated immediately.
2. A student may appeal a failing grade directly with the teacher. The teacher may allow a student to participate if:
 - a.) The student's work assignments are up to date.
 - b.) The student stays after school for help with the course they are failing and works satisfactorily with that teacher.
 - c.) The student demonstrates an attitude and effort that indicates a sincere desire to raise the grade in question.
3. If a teacher grants a student's appeal, he/she shall notify the Main Office. The Principal will be responsible for keeping and updating the list of ineligible students and promptly informing the coaches, advisors and the Athletic Director.

(Academic Requirements cont.)

4. A review committee comprised of the Principal or Assistant Principal, a school counselor, the athletic director or individual in charge of the extra-curricular activity will consider unusual appeals or unique circumstances. While the Principal has the authority to reinstate a suspended student at any time, it will be the work of this review committee to consider the following on a case by case basis:
 - a.) If the student's work assignments are up to date.
 - b.) If the student stays after school for help with the course they are failing and works satisfactorily with that teacher.
 - c.) If the student demonstrates an attitude and effort that indicates a sincere desire to raise the grade in question.
 - d.) If there are extenuating circumstances that should be a factor as reinstatement is considered.

Additional Guidelines

- Cassadaga Valley students are expected to uphold the high ideals and strong moral attributes on which our school system depends for its reputation.
- If social probation or suspension from school occurs, the student is prohibited from participation in the extracurricular program during the social probation period.
- If a student is suspended (in or out of school) he/she is ineligible to participate on the day of the suspension.

Rules and Regulations and the NY State Law

- The possession or use of alcohol by anyone under 21 years of age is against NY State Law.
- Marijuana and all classified street drugs and controlled substances are illegal for all, and punishable by criminal arrest and prosecution.
- Prescription drug possession or use of without a medical authorization is against the law and punishable by criminal arrest and prosecution.
- Possession and use of any tobacco product or tobacco related devices including electronic cigarettes by student athletes shall be a violation of this code.
- A person under the age of 21 is guilty of a misdemeanor if that person attempts to purchase, purchases, or is found in possession of alcohol.
- Our message to students should be understood by all Stakeholders: There will be "NO USE" of alcohol or marijuana or any illicit substances.

Those Who Host -- Lose the Most

Student Ringleaders in parties: There shall be a greater consequence for any student, if it is determined that they were involved in the organization, facilitation, promotion, or hosting of any gathering or social event where alcohol or drugs are available or use has occurred.

Attendance at Parties Where Alcohol or Drug Use Occurs

If a member of an extra-curricular club, team, or organization attends a party/gathering, where alcohol or drugs are being illegally dispensed, the student must leave the party/gathering immediately. (LEAVING MEANS LEAVING IMMEDIATELY) Students who find themselves in this situation should report their attendance to a parent or guardian immediately and are encouraged to report the incident to a coach or administrator before the end of the next school day. Because possession and use of alcohol or drugs by youth under age 21 is against NY State law, it is our intent to prevent any community youth, including athletes and/or extra-curricular participants, from being in an environment which greatly increases the risk of use.

If we allow our athletes to be present in this illegal environment there is an increased possibility that some will partake in the use of these substances.

Possession or Use of Illegal Substances on School Property or at school sponsored events

- Possession or use of illegal drugs on school property in conjunction with a school sponsored event, including use or possession during transport to or from any event or activity, shall result in immediate school discipline and the steps that are outlined under “Consequences” listed below will be implemented.
- Participation in a contest or practice session while under the influence of an illegal substance shall result in immediate school discipline and the steps that are outlined under “Consequences” listed below will be implemented.
- Distribution, dispensing or sale of any such drugs to any other student shall result in immediate school discipline and the steps that are outlined under “Consequences” listed below will be implemented.

Cooperation During Investigation

It is important for all students to understand that involvement in our extra-curricular programs is a privilege. With this responsibility comes a commitment, which is the conditions of this code of conduct. In the event that a student comes under investigation for possible violations of this code, it is expected that:

- The student shall be truthful.
- That the student be forthcoming with information.
- That the student not be deceptive or untruthful.
- That the student be cooperative.

During the investigation of any violation the student must be truthful and forthcoming with information, or the Principal, Athletic Director or extra-curricular advisor has within his/her power to impose a greater level of consequence. Great weight must be placed on the privilege of representing CVCS and as such student representatives must demonstrate character and integrity.

Consequences

Student who violate this code, including possession and/or use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs, and proven to the satisfaction of the appropriate school officials (the principal, coach or activity advisor, and athletic director) during the season will be treated as follows:

1st Offense:

- Student will be suspended from team contests or activity participation for 30 calendar days.

- Student is required to attend all practices during the 30-day suspension.
- Parents/guardians and student are required to follow the education component for chemical health violations as outlined in this document.
- After completing that education component, the 30-day suspension may be reduced by agreement of the principal, coach, athletic director or activity advisor, and upon the written recommendation of the qualified chemical health specialist. (the suspension can be reduced by 3 days for each documented counseling session for a maximum of a 9 day reduction)

2nd Offense:

- Student suspended from team contests or activity participation and practices for 50 calendar days.
- Suspension will carry over from one season or school year to the next.
- After completing that education component, the 50-day suspension may be reduced by agreement of the principal, coach, athletic director or activity advisor, and upon the written recommendation of the qualified chemical health specialist. (the suspension can be reduced by 3 days for each documented counseling session for a maximum of a 9 day reduction)

3rd Offense:

- Student suspended from team contests and practices or activity participation for a period of one year.
- Suspension will carry over into the next school year.

Students involved in criminal conduct (i.e., theft, vandalism, assault, fighting, etc.) proven to the satisfaction of school officials (the principal, coach, athletic director or activity advisor) while in the course of school-related activities acting as representatives of the school will follow the same consequences as those listed for other training violations outlined above.

Educational Component for Chemical Health Violations

If a violation occurs, the code requires immediate administrative action and includes parent involvement. The student and a parent or guardian must participate together in a comprehensive discussion outlining the entire incident with the school administrator. This helps insure that they are informed and aware of the nature of the violation and in full understanding that any future violations will result in greater consequences. The parent can also come to understand their role in helping their child learn a valuable lesson. Every incident or violation must be documented.

This process shall include:

EDUCATION:

- The parent and student must see a qualified Chemical Health specialist. The parent/guardian and student must attend an informative intervention seminar, concerning the implications of use and the effect on physiological, psychological, social development and learning as well as discussion of harm reduction issues and personal and collective responsibility. The education must address affect on athletic performance, brain development, learning and development of the student as a young adult.

CORRECTIVE:

- The student and parent/guardian must come to an understanding that corrective measures are necessary in order to resume participation and/or competition. This shall include a document, signed by the student and parent/guardian, which clearly states the agreed to changes and conditions. This document acknowledges that a violation has occurred, that they (parent/guardian and student) are willing to make changes in order to resume/continue participation and that they will adhere to the code standards. It also indicates that the parent/guardian and student are aware of the next level of consequence that would result, should another violation occur.

Other Related Extra-Curricular Policies

Cyber Image Policy

Cyber Image Policy - Any identifiable image, photo or video which shows a student to have been in possession of or in the presence of alcohol or drugs or portrays actual use, or crime, shall be confirmation of a violation of the code. Since there is no way to establish a timeframe for when or where the image was taken, it shall be a responsibility that the student must assume and is yet another reason why the student should leave such a setting immediately. Students should avoid going where alcohol and/or drugs are being used.

Attendance Policy

Athletes and/or activity participants (such as those in the musical) should be in attendance for the entire school day, unless legally absent, in order to participate in a game, practice, or activity. The following conditions would prevent an individual from participating in that day's/evening's activity:

- **Absent that day from school due to illness or illegal absence.**
- **Going home ill during the day and not returning**
- **Truancy or participation in a "skip day."**

All students should be in school on time – and stay in school for the entire day. Needing to “sleep in” is not an appropriate reason for missing part of a school day.

Transportation Policy

The student must travel to an event or game with the team, coaches and/or advisor, unless arrangements are made with the Athletic Director or High School Principal in advance under certain special cases. They may be released after the game or event to a parent or guardian – or to an adult other than the parent or guardian if the alternate transportation arrangement was made in advance and in writing with the Principal. If a parent or guardian intends to give their child a ride home from an event taking place in a location other than the school (for example; an away game or a marching band performance) the parent should be sure to put their name on the sign-out sheet so the coach or advisor knows the child will not be riding the bus back to the school.

**CASSADAGA VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL
PARENTAL PERMISSION FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR PARTICIPATION**

NOTE: This form must be filed with the person responsible for the activity (advisor or coach) before the candidate is permitted to practice, participate or receive any equipment.

My son/daughter, _____, has my permission to engage in the activity of _____ for the _____ school year and to take such trips as may be desired by the coach or supervisor in charge.

I understand that the district carries a non-duplicating type insurance policy whereby no benefits will be paid to the extent that benefits are payable therefore under any other policy or prepayment plan and that any cost above the scheduled payments of this policy will be the responsibility of the parent or guardian. In case of emergency, I authorize the coach or school official to call an ambulance for my son's/daughter's transportation to the hospital and to authorize emergency treatment at my expense.

While not all extra-curricular activities present the same level of risk, I am aware that playing or practicing to play/participate in any sport or extra-curricular activity can be dangerous in nature and involves the risk of injury. I understand that the dangers and risks of playing or practicing to play/participate in a sport may result not only in serious injury, but in a serious impairment of future abilities to earn a living, to engage in other business, social and recreational activities, and generally to enjoy life. Because of the dangers of participating in any sport, I recognize the importance of following coaches' instructions regarding playing techniques, training and other team rules, etc. and agree to obey such instructions.

I am aware of the cyber image policy, attendance policy, transportation policy included in this Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct and the consequences faced by a student in violation of the code.

In case of emergency, the advisor or coach shall attempt to call:

The parent first: (phone #) _____

Second contact: _____ (phone #) _____

The following Doctor: _____ (phone #) _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

By signing this document, I _____ (parent/guardian) indicate that I understand and agree with the information or policies provided in the Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct, set forth in order for my son/daughter _____ to be afforded the privilege of representing Cassadaga Valley Central School.

Parent/ Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date