



# **Athletic Department CODE OF CONDUCT**

## **Athletics**

Dansville Schools provides a variety of athletic activities in which students may participate providing they meet any eligibility requirements that may apply. A student's use of a performance-enhancing substance is a violation that will affect the student's athletic eligibility and participation.

A student's use or sale of a performance-enhancing substance is a violation that will affect the student's athletic eligibility and extracurricular participation.

The Department of Community Health periodically distributes to the District the list of banned drugs based on bylaw 31.2.3.1 of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. Use of any drugs or substances appearing on this list will affect the student's athletic and extracurricular participation.

## **Athletic Training Rules**

Training rules are in effect 365 days each year commencing with the first day on which a student attends practice until he/she is no longer an athlete at Dansville Schools, which could extend past graduation. A student who elects to participate in athletics is voluntarily making a choice of self-discipline and self-denial. Being a member of an athletic team is a privilege and must be treated as such.

Training Rules: A student-athlete shall not use, possess, sell or distribute alcohol, tobacco, any controlled substance or misuse any prescription medication. This also applies to "look-alikes."

## **Discipline for Violation of Athletic Training Rules**

Discipline will begin with the next scheduled game in a sport in which the athlete participates. If it is necessary to carry over the suspension to another sport or year, the discipline will start again with the next game in which the athlete would participate. If an athlete is participating in a sport that is impacted by discipline, the athlete must participate for the entire season of that sport in order for any of the events of that sport to be counted towards the suspension.

The possession, use, or distribution of alcohol, tobacco or drugs will result in a suspension from game participation, as described below:

### **1. Possession or Use of Tobacco**

First Offense: Suspension from game participation for 10% of the total number of games of a sport in which the athlete participates.

Second Offense: Suspension from game participation for 1/3 of the total number of games of a sport in which the athlete participates.

Third Offense: Suspension from participation for one calendar year from the date of the suspension decision.

### **2. Possession or Use of Alcohol or Marijuana or Misuse of Non-Prescription Drugs**

First Offense: Suspension from game participation for 1/3 of the total number of games of a sport in which the athlete participates

Second Offense: Suspension from game participation for one calendar year from the date of the suspension decision and completion of an evaluation by a certified substance abuse counselor who is approved by the district. The student-athlete shall follow the program prescribed by the counselor. The parent/guardian will provide proof that the evaluation was completed and the recommendations were followed. If these steps are not followed, the student-athlete will remain suspended until these steps are completed.

Third Offense: Permanent suspension from athletics.

### 3. **Misuse of Prescription Drugs/Other Narcotics or Distribution of Illegal Substances**

First Offense: Suspension from game participation for one calendar year from the date of the suspension decision and completion of an evaluation by a certified substance abuse counselor who is approved by the district. The student-athlete shall follow the program prescribed by the counselor. The parent/guardian will provide proof that the evaluation was completed and the recommendations were followed. If these steps are not followed, the student-athlete will remain suspended until these steps are completed.

Second Offense: Permanent suspension from athletics.

### **Conduct Unbecoming an Athlete**

Any illegal or disgraceful behavior that results in arrest or conviction or behavior that reflects in a seriously degrading fashion against our athletic program and accepted standards of conduct will result in suspension of 1/3 of the total number of games of a sport in which the athlete participates.

The school may impose a longer suspension depending on individual circumstances. The technicality of having charges dropped or reduced by a civil authority does not automatically clear the student-athlete from these rules; school investigation and findings will prevail over legal findings.

Continued violations may result in **PERMANENT SUSPENSION FROM ATHLETICS AT DANSVILLE SCHOOLS.**

Disgraceful behavior that may result in permanent suspension from athletics shall include, but not be limited to a serious violation by an athlete when in uniform, or going to/coming from a game. Serious illegal activities or felonies that result in arrest or conviction will result in a suspension from athletics for twelve (12) calendar months from the suspension decision, meaning that the athlete cannot participate in Dansville athletics in any form for the duration of the suspension. A longer suspension from athletics may be imposed by the athletic director and/or building principal.

Athletes will be expected to participate in practice sessions during any disciplinary suspension involving the above training rules, except in suspensions of one calendar year. All discipline involving an athlete for violation of these training rules or practice expectations will be handled by the coach in communication with the athletic director and building principal.

All decisions of the coach are subject to immediate review by the athletic director. All decisions of the athletic director are subject to review by the building principal. Decisions of the building principal are subject to review by the Superintendent.

### **Athletic Participation Policy**

1. Students in grades 7 - 12 who wish to engage in any sport shall submit evidence of physical fitness to the coach before practicing or competing in the sport. The student must secure a form from the coach, to be taken to the physical examination. The form, completed and signed by the doctor (MD., DO., NP or PA), must be returned to the coach and filed in the Athletic Office. Fees charged by the doctor are the responsibility of the student/family. Physicals given after April 15 are valid through June 30 of the following school year. (i.e. April 15, 2014 expires June 30, 2015.)
2. Students may try out for any sport offered at Dansville Schools. Coaches determine the tryout time period and the final roster.
3. Athletes will be required to pay a fee to participate in athletics.
4. Athletes are expected to commence the season at the earliest possible date. Late enrollment will be permitted, but lack of conditioning, instruction in fundamentals, and equipment or uniforms may delay the opportunity for latecomers to participate.

5. If it is necessary to cut players from a team, the coach shall consult with the athletic director and/or principal who will confirm that cuts are needed (high school only).
6. If cuts are confirmed at the junior varsity level, upperclassmen may not be moved to JV or freshman teams (high school only).
7. Seniors shall participate at the varsity level.
8. A student who discontinues one sport (in good standing) may join another team in the same athletic season if the change is made prior to the first athletic contest. If a change is to take place, the student athlete must contact the athletic director who will affect the transfer. A key factor in the decision is the effect on the teams and the student involved in the transfer.
9. Athletes who miss a practice session or contest must present his/her excuse to the coach. If the athlete knows in advance that he/she must miss, he shall inform the coach in advance to request to be excused. The coach will handle excused and unexcused absences. "Automatic suspensions" are not permitted. The coach involved must meet with the athletic director before appropriate action can be taken.
10. To be eligible for participation in any practice, scrimmage or competition, students shall have been in attendance or have an excused absence for the day of classes prior to the competition, scrimmage or practice. If a student is too sick to attend class, they shall not participate in practices, scrimmages or competition.
11. Athletes suspended from the regular school day are not permitted to be on school property or participate in extra-curricular programs.
12. "In-school" suspension is considered a suspension with the same limitations and privileges of an "out-of-school" suspension.

### **Athletics and Eligibility Rules for Dansville High School**

Students who participate in interscholastic sports and those who are student support personnel shall conform to rules of eligibility.

1. To be eligible to participate in athletics for the next semester, students must pass 66% of their classes. This means a student may fail one block class, or two skinny classes and still be eligible. All Career Center courses will count as two classes because each course is the equivalent of a two credit class.
2. Students who fail one or more class during weekly eligibility checks will be ineligible Sunday through Saturday of the following week.
3. Dansville School is a member of the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MSHAA) and enforces MHSAA Regulations.

### **Athletic Ejection Policy**

If an athlete is ejected from an athletic event, that athlete shall not participate in the next event he/she would be eligible to participate in. If a conflict exists between this policy and the MHSAA policy, the principal will ensure that disciplinary action enforced at least meets MHSAA requirements.

If the athlete is ejected from more than one event during a one (1) year period (starting with the date of the first ejection), the athlete shall not participate in the next event and the athletic director and/or coach of the team may impose additional consequences.

# ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Revised June 17, 2017

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read the Dansville Schools Athletic Department Code of Conduct and understand the policies and procedures. I understand that these rules are in effect 365 days a year.

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Student-Athlete Signature & Date

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(Parent Signature & Date)