
JC McKenna Middle School

Home of the

BLUE DEVILS



2024-2025

Activities/Athletics/Co-Curricular

Code of Conduct

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Evansville Community School District ensures no individual may be denied admissions to any public schools in the District or be denied the right to full participation rights in curricular, extracurricular, student services, recreational or other programs or activities because of a student's sex, race, religion, national origin (including persons whose primary language is not English), ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, gender non-conformity, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability or any other basis protected by law.

JC McKenna Middle (JCM) School Coaching/Advisor Model

The primary purpose of education is to equip each student with the values and training needed to lead a fulfilling and successful life. Activities, athletics, and co-curriculars offer invaluable opportunities for learning and growth across three essential dimensions: Fundamentals, Psychology, and Heart.

Fundamentals encompass tactics, repetition, strength, cardiovascular development, skills, speed, and power.

Psychology involves motivation, confidence, team cohesion, and goal setting.

Heart explores identity, character, significance, self-worth, values, and purpose.

These activities are integral to the educational process, providing unique opportunities and emphasizing goals that are challenging to replicate through other school activities. Participation in activities, athletics, and co-curriculars is considered a privilege, and involved students are expected to adhere to established rules of conduct at all times (24 hours a day / 365 days a year). This responsibility includes maintaining high standards of behavior, maximizing performance, and presenting a positive image to fellow students and the broader community.

Supporting students comprehensively is a proactive approach that respects the guidelines and expectations set forth by each program and the Activities/Athletics/Co-Curricular Code of Conduct. In the event of a code infraction, the aim is to provide fair, predictable, consistent, and appropriate support.

Athletic/Activities/Co-Curricular Activities Offerings

Activities	Bowling	Equestrian Team	
Athletics	Fall Season: Cross Country Football Volleyball	Winter Season: Basketball Poms & Dance Wrestling	Spring Season: Track & Field
Co-Curriculars	Battle of the Books Blue Notes FFA Forensics GSA	Jazz Band Math 24 MS Play Quiz Bowl	Science Olympiad Spanish Club Strength/Conditioning Student Council Solo & Ensemble

Pre-Season Meeting

- **Attendance:** We strongly encourage a family member and the participating athlete to attend the Pre-Season Meeting before the season begins.
- **Code of Conduct:** Participants and families are responsible for understanding the JCM Activities/Athletics/Co-Curriculars Code of Conduct. If you have any questions, please seek clarification from the Activities & Athletic Director.
- **Additional Expectations:** Each coach or advisor will outline additional expectations and team standards for their respective activities/athletics/co-curriculars. These will be provided to each participant before the start of the season/activity.

Rules of Eligibility

Evansville students participating in interscholastic athletics must abide by specific rules of eligibility. These rules of eligibility are established by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) and are supplemented by locally-developed Evansville Community School District (ECSD) rules. All participants must be registered and approved on RSchool (via the ECSD website) prior to the first day of participation. The athletic registration link is: [HERE](#).

Attendance

A student is eligible for practice and competition if they are registered in the attendance system as an enrolled full-time student in either grade 6 (Cross Country and Wrestling only), 7, or 8 at JCM. A student is also eligible for practice and competition if they reside within ECSD, are enrolled in a home-based private educational program (i.e., homeschooled) and a family member has submitted a written statement affirming that the student meets all eligibility requirements established by District policy and this Code. A student is eligible for practice and competition on a daily basis only if the student has been in attendance for the entire school day or has an excused absence as defined below.

Excused absences and exceptions include, but are not limited to: family emergencies, funerals, prearranged professional appointments (medical or dental appointments), release for school sponsored activities and special situations for which an excuse has been secured beforehand from an administrator.

In addition, a participant's excused absence due to illness, transportation problems, or other excusable reasons for part of a day, but in attendance for at least half of the day, will be under the discretion of the JCM Principal, Dean of Students, or the Activities & Athletic Director.

The JCM Principal, Dean of Students, or Activities & Athletic Director will make determinations related to unexcused absences in accordance with school and District policy. Unexcused absences may warrant suspension from practice and/or competition. Acts of truancy may result in ineligibility in the next scheduled contest again at the discretion of the administrators stated above.

Participants suspended or ineligible for activities/athletics/co-curriculars for any reason may still be expected to attend their team's contest or activity at the discretion of the JCM Principal, Dean of Students, and the coach/advisor.

Enforcement of Rules Related to the JCM Activities/Athletics/Co-Curriculars Code

Investigation of the athletic code will be based on the following:

- Violations reported by students, staff, families, or community members presented to a school administrator.
- Violations confirmed to the school by law enforcement officials.
- Self-admission

Any such report must be received in a timely manner from the time that a person is aware of the alleged occurrence of the violation. Disciplinary action will be handled as outlined in this Code of Conduct. Upon receiving a report of violation, the JCM Principal, Dean of Students, Activities & Athletic Director, and/or designee shall conduct an investigation (including an interview with the accused) in order to determine whether or not the student has violated the Activities/Athletics/Co-Curriculars Code of Conduct.

Reporting Injuries

- All injuries must be reported to a coach or advisor immediately.
- Participants should consult with the coach or athletic trainer if necessary to see a medical physician.
- If there is an injury to a participant during a competition or event, an athlete's return to

competition will be determined by the athletic trainer. If an athletic trainer is unavailable, the decision will be made by the coach. If a participant requires physician's care, the physician must sign a statement that the participant is physically fit to resume participation prior to the participant being allowed to return to practice and competition.

- In case of emergency, the injured participant will be sent to a local hospital or clinic. Families should indicate any desired medical provider on the participant's emergency card.
- Should an injury be discovered after the participant has returned home, the head coach and/or Activities & Athletic Director must be notified immediately.

GUIDELINES / EXPECTATIONS

Equipment

Each participant is responsible for any equipment and clothing issued to them. All equipment must be returned at the end of the season. Failure to return such equipment shall result in one or several of the following:

- Lost or damaged equipment must be paid for by the participant to whom it was issued.
- Any equipment (even though paid for as a lost item) still belongs to the school and shall be repossessed upon discovery.
- A participant found to be in possession of athletic equipment from another school shall have that equipment repossessed and disciplinary action taken which may prevent further participation.

Procedure for Resolving Concerns

Step One – The participant or family member addresses the concern/s with the coach (unless concern is related to the physical mistreatment of the participant). In that case, the participant or family member should address concern with the Activities & Athletic Director.

Step Two – If the family member conference with the coach does not resolve the concern, there will be a meeting scheduled and mediated by the Activities & Athletic Director or designee.

Concerns the Participant and Families May Discuss

- A. The treatment of the participant mentally and/or physically.
- B. Ways to help the participant improve their performance and skill level.
- C. Concerns about the participants' behavior in school, practice, and/or games.

Concerns the Participant and Families May Not Discuss

- A. Participant's playing time
- B. Team strategy
- C. Play selection
- D. The make-up of a team and the decision as to who plays on a particular team

Tobacco, Alcohol, Illegal Drugs, and Distribution

The illicit buying, selling, consuming, or abusing of tobacco, alcoholic beverages, prescription or non-prescription drugs, E-cigarettes, and/or the possession of drug paraphernalia, synthetic drugs or look-alike drug paraphernalia is illegal and in conflict with the high ideals, principles, and administrative policies of ECSD. A participant will be suspended from active competition and activities for acts which include, but are not limited to, the above named activities.

Mere Presence Policy

Participants are expected to leave any location as promptly and as safely as possible where the unsupervised, illegal use of alcohol, underage drinking, and/or drugs are present. This rule is not meant to prohibit one's presence in an establishment whose primary and/or main focus is other than for the sole purpose of serving alcoholic beverages - e.g. bowling alleys, restaurants, golf courses, concerts, etc. Furthermore, participants may be present at events such as weddings, reunions, anniversaries, graduation parties, or other ceremonial functions where alcohol is served.

Within these guidelines, students may not consume alcohol or be in possession of alcoholic beverages, even if they have family/parent permission. Family/Parent permission does not override the provisions of this code.

Disruptive or Detrimental Conduct

A participant acting in a manner considered disruptive of the educational process, or decorum of the school, or encouraging others to do so, may be disciplined under this Code.

A participant who is suspended or expelled from school will not be allowed to participate in any activities/athletics/co-curricular practices, contests, functions, etc. while the suspension or expulsion is in effect. This includes Saturday competitions (e.g., when a student is suspended Friday through Monday). This may also include pre/post season trips, including practices and competitions.

Bullying, Discrimination, Harassment, and Hazing

Students are expected to act in accordance with ECSD Policies 411.1, 411.3, and state and federal statutes involving acts of bullying, discrimination, harassment, and hazing. A student will be suspended from activities/athletics/co-curricular activities for any acts of bullying, discrimination, harassment, and hazing.

Sportsmanship Conduct Violations

Good sportsmanship is a priority at JCM. The essential elements of character and ethics in sports or contests are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and its principles: integrity, fairness, respect, modesty and good citizenship. With them, the spirit of competition thrives, fueled by healthy rivalry, courteous relations and graceful acceptance of the results. All ECSD stakeholders should display good sportsmanship at all events, contests, and competitions. Any participant may be suspended from participation or attendance in activities/athletics/co-curriculars for acts of poor sportsmanship.

Fulfilling Code Violations

Participant Expectations During Suspension Period:

- Participants must remain actively involved in team activities during their suspension.
- Administration holds the right to make adjustments based on individual circumstances.
- Failure to comply may result in expulsion from the team, necessitating completion of the suspension in the next full season of participation.

Carrying Forward Suspensions:

- If a suspension cannot be completed within the current season, it carries over to the next season of competition.
- Participants cannot join a sport after the first competition of the season to fulfill a suspension.

Group and Level of Suspension:

- Suspensions must be served within the same group or a higher level of activity in which the violation occurred.
- If a violation occurs during the "off-season," the suspension is enforced at the level of the last participation or at the next season's level, but not lower.

Multiple Activities/Athletics/Co-Curriculars:

- Consequences apply to each activity or co-curricular in which the participant is involved.
- For athletics, consequences apply immediately if in-season, or at the start of the next sports season if out of season.
- Consequences for activities and co-curriculars only apply to current

activities/co-curriculars.

Appeals Process

The consequence for the violation of the Code will remain in effect through the conclusion of the appeal process.

First Appeal

- **Who to Appeal to:** EHS Principal.
- **Deadline:** Within 5 school days of the suspension decision.
- **Submission Requirements:** Must be in writing and include the rationale for the appeal.
- **Criteria for Hearing:** Granted only if new information is presented to the Principal.
- **Outcome Communication:** Principal will communicate findings within 5 school days after the hearing.

Second Appeal

- **Who to Appeal to:** District Administrator.
- **Deadline:** Within 5 school days of the initial suspension decision.
- **Submission Requirements:** Must be in writing and include the rationale for the appeal.
- **Criteria for Hearing:** Granted only if new information is presented to the District Administrator.
- **Outcome Communication:** District Administrator will communicate findings within 5 school days after the hearing.
- **Final Decision:** The District Administrator's determination is final. If a second appeal is not granted, no further appeals are allowed.

Representation

- Both the student and the school district may have representation during an initial or second appeal hearing.
- The school district is not responsible for providing or paying for the student's representation.

EXPECTATIONS AND CODE VIOLATIONS FOR ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

- Suspensions will begin immediately upon the completion of the investigation of the violation and a determination that the student violated the Code of Conduct.
- Any student charged and/or convicted of a felony shall, upon the filing of felony charges, become ineligible for all further participation until the participant has satisfied the conditions of their sentence and the courts consider the sentence served (including probation, community service, etc.)
- Consequences in Set "A" are cumulative regardless of the type of violation per school year. Set "B" are stand-alone non-cumulative consequences (See "Fulfilling Code Violations").
- All consequences listed are minimum consequences. The JCM Principal, Dean of Students, and the Activities & Athletic Director have the right to increase a participant's suspension based on any factor, including, but not limited to, the severity of the violation, the impact of the violation on the community, or the impact of the violation on the school.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The listed standards, rules, and penalties for violations of the following code serve as minimum guidelines. JCM Administration reserves the right to adjust penalties as deemed appropriate. Consequences will be served simultaneously for students involved in more than one activity/athletic/co-curricular at the same time.

Honesty Clause (For All Activities/Athletics/Co-Curriculars):

- **Truthfulness:** The participant shall always communicate honestly and provide accurate information.
- **Transparency:** The participant shall be forthcoming with relevant information and shall not

withhold details that are necessary for a fair and informed decision-making process.

- **Integrity:** The participant shall not engage in deceptive practices, including lying, misrepresentation, or any form of dishonesty.
- **Cooperation:** The participant shall work collaboratively and openly with coaches, advisors, teammates, and any relevant authorities, ensuring that all interactions are marked by honesty and integrity.

If the participant's answers are subsequently found to be untrue and it is determined that the participant violated the honesty clause, the suspension will be increased by one level.

SET "A" VIOLATIONS - Cumulative within the set per school year

The JCM Principal, Dean of Students, and/or the Activities & Athletics Director will notify the participant and a family member of the violation and administer the consequences.

1. **Use, possession, purchase, transfer or distribution of tobacco, E-cigarettes, alcohol, controlled substances, and/or illegal drugs*** (*May include but not limited to: the illicit use of prescription drugs, look-alike drugs, marijuana, anabolic steroids, performance enhancement drugs, cocaine, and drug paraphernalia.*) **Note:** A list of banned substances is provided on the WIAA website www.wiaawi.org and this information is also available in the activities office.
2. **Hazing, Harassment, or Discrimination** (Penalties may be increased based upon the severity of the violation and serve as minimums. *May include but not limited to: Conduct resulting in out-of-school suspensions, truancy, criminal violation, vandalism, violence-threats of violence, acts of aggression, willful damage to property, hazing, and harassment as defined by ECSD Policy 411.1 and state and federal statutes.*)
3. **Hosting/organizing a party where drugs and/or alcohol are present**
4. **Attending a party where drugs and/or alcohol are present**

1st Violation	Level 2
2nd Violation	Level 3
3rd Violation	Level 4

SET "B" VIOLATIONS - Non-Cumulative within the Set and School Career

Penalties serve as minimums and may be increased based on the severity of the violation

1. **Disruptive or Detrimental Conduct** (*May include but not limited to: inappropriate internet activity, cheating-plagiarizing, conduct resulting in in-school suspensions, disrespectful/defiant attitude such as insubordination during an athletic activity, behavior or conduct which reflects unfavorably on a participant, unsportsmanlike conduct resulting in contest expulsion, and profanity or obscene gestures during athletic involvement.*)
2. **Conduct contrary to the ideals, principles and standards of the Rock Valley Conference and/or the WIAA** (*May include but not limited to: Misconduct, verbal abuse of officials/opponents*)
3. **Attendance at a party where drugs and/or alcohol are present** (*Student leaves and does not*

consume drugs or alcohol)	
4. Attendance at a party where drugs and/or alcohol are present (Student does not leave, but does not consume drugs or alcohol)	
1st Violation	Level 1 (Warning)
2nd Violation	Level 2
3rd Violation	Level 3

CONSEQUENCES - Activities & Athletics	
Level 1	Warning
Level 2	Suspension from participation in ONE (1) contest scheduled AND School Assistance Program (SAP)
Level 3	Suspension from participation in 50% of contests scheduled AND SAP by a non-school agency at personal expense
Level 4	Suspension from participation in 75% of contests scheduled AND SAP by a non-school agency at personal expense
Level 5	Suspension from participation for one (1) calendar year

CONSEQUENCES - Co-Curriculars	
These consequences do not override organization bylaws, as set by individual co-curricular clubs.	
Level 1	Warning
Level 2	10 hours of approved Community Service
Level 3	20 hours of approved Community Service AND SAP** education program
Level 4	40 hours of approved Community Service and suspension from further co-curricular activities for a semester (90 school days) AND SAP education program (by a non-school agency at personal expense).
Level 5	Suspension from participation for one (1) calendar year

****School Assistance Program (SAP):** ECSD staff use the Teen Intervene student assistance program. This program allows us to have a guiding platform to address drug and alcohol use in addition to other behaviors displayed by the student.

Community Service

Students are required to fulfill a community service contract to address the code violation. The completion of community service hours must be pre-approved by the Activities & Athletics Director. Completed forms must include signatures from the JCM Principal or Dean of Students, the Activities & Athletics Director, and the supervisor overseeing the community service.

Exceptions / Specific Requirements For Some Music Performing Groups

The music performing groups at JCM have a unique structure where they are considered part of the curriculum and taken for credit. This means that performances, even when they take place outside of regular class time, are seen as an extension of the classroom work and are essential to the students' learning experience. As a result, disciplinary actions for students involved in these courses or activities cannot involve suspension from concert group performances. The reason for this is that ineligibility would affect not only the student but also the ensembles and other related group activities.

In situations where disciplinary action is necessary, the JCM administration will work in consultation with the music director(s) to determine specific consequences. This approach ensures that any disciplinary measures are fair and take into account the importance of the ensemble to the students' overall learning and development.

Policies and Regulations

Policies and regulations are subject to change. Updates will be posted on the ECSD website in a timely fashion. The ECSD Board of Education, in partnership with the JCM Administration reserves the right to modify existing policy based on extenuating circumstances.

Athletic / Activities and Co-Curricular Contact Information

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Revised DATE: June 2024