
JC McKenna Middle School

Home of the

BLUE DEVILS



2026-2027

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 prepare each student with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for a successful and fulfilling life. Participation in activities, athletics, and co-curricular programs enhances this mission by providing meaningful opportunities for growth and development in three key areas: 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.

Participation in activities, athletics, and co-curricular programs is an important part of the educational experience, offering opportunities and challenges not typically found in the classroom. Participation is a privilege, and students are expected to follow all established rules and standards of conduct at all times, both in and out of season (24 hours a day, 365 days a year). This includes demonstrating appropriate behavior, striving for personal excellence, and representing the school positively within the student body and the community.

The school is committed to supporting students while upholding the expectations outlined by each program and the Activities/Athletics/Co-Curricular Code of Conduct. In the event of a violation, responses will be fair, consistent, and appropriate, with an emphasis on accountability and student growth.

Athletic/Activities/Co-Curricular Activities Offerings

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 Athletics Kick-Off (August)

To ensure consistency, communication, and preparation across all middle school athletic programs, Evansville Middle School will host one Pre-Season Athletics Kick-Off event each August. This meeting will serve all fall, winter, and spring sports, including Cross Country, Football, Volleyball, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, Wrestling, Poms & Dance, and Track & Field.

All participants and at least one parent or guardian are strongly encouraged to attend. This event provides families with essential information regarding eligibility requirements, academic expectations, team policies, and practice and game schedules. Attendees will also have the opportunity to meet their sport-specific coaches, the Athletic Director, and the Middle School Principal.

While this meeting will be the only formal preseason gathering hosted by the athletic department, coaches may choose to conduct additional team-specific sessions as needed. Please note that failure to attend does not exempt any student-athlete or family from understanding or following the information presented at the Kick-Off.

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.

Rules of Eligibility

Students participating in interscholastic athletics at Evansville High School must meet all eligibility requirements established by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA), the Rock Valley Conference (RVC), and the Evansville Community School District (ECSD). In addition, all participants must be registered and approved through the district's athletic registration system prior to participation.

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.

Academic Standard For All Activities / Athletics / Co-Curriculars

We are committed to supporting success in both academics and athletics/activities. Participation in extracurricular and co-curricular activities is a privilege that requires dedication both in the classroom and in athletic or activity settings. To ensure that our participants are prioritizing their academic responsibilities, the following Academic Eligibility Policy will be enforced:

Eligibility Based on Missing Work

0-2 Missing Assignments:

- Participants remain fully eligible to participate in practices and competitions.

3-5 Missing Assignments:

- Participants will enter the Caution Category. A weekly printout of missing assignments will be provided by the Team Time teacher to help monitor progress. Participants will remain eligible to participate in their activity/sport but are expected to make consistent progress toward completing missing work and improving academic performance.

6 or More Missing Assignments:

- Participants are ineligible to participate in any athletic/activity practices or competitions until all missing work is completed and submitted. Eligibility will only be reinstated once the assignments are turned in, and the participant's academic standing is reviewed by JCM

Principal, Dean of Students, or Activities & Athletic Director.

No "F" Policy

In addition to the missing work guidelines, this policy aligns with ECSD and WIAA academic standards, enforcing a strict No "F" Policy. If a participant is earning an "F" in any class, they will be deemed immediately ineligible until the grade is improved. Once the failing grade is raised to a passing level, eligibility will be reviewed and restored. Grades will be checked every Thursday during the school year.

Middle School Grade & Assignment Checks

For middle school participants, grades and missing assignments will be checked every week (all efforts will be made to meet with students on Thursday of each week). If a participant is found to have a high number of missing assignments or a failing grade at a grade check, the steps outlined in the policy will be followed accordingly.

[Student Athletic & Activity Eligibility Grade Check Sheet](#)

Goal of the Academic Standard

This policy is intended to encourage academic accountability while aligning with ECSD and WIAA academic standards. Our aim is to help students develop and maintain strong academic habits as they manage the responsibilities of extracurricular and co-curricular involvement, providing them with the support and resources needed to thrive. Maintaining academic eligibility reflects a student's commitment to excellence both in the classroom and in their athletic or activity participation.

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.
- Concussion Return-to-Play Protocol: Any student-athlete diagnosed with a concussion must follow a graduated Return-to-Play protocol before resuming full athletic participation. This process may only begin once the student is symptom-free for a minimum of 24 hours and has been cleared by a licensed healthcare provider. The protocol involves a step-by-step progression of physical activity that increases in intensity each day, monitored by staff to ensure no return of symptoms. If symptoms recur at any point, the athlete must stop all activity and may only resume once symptom-free for another 24 hours, restarting the progression from the previous step.

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 should address concerns with the coach and an assistant coach, unless the concern involves mental or physical mistreatment. In such cases, the participant should bring the concern directly to the Activities & Athletics Director. The participant may also choose to have a trusted staff member present at the meeting (e.g., a counselor or other ECSD staff member).

Step Two – A family member of the participant requests a conference with the coach (and assistant coach) to address the concern(s). If the family member is unsuccessful in contacting the coach, the Activities & Athletics Director may be contacted in order to set-up a meeting.

Step Three – If the family member conference with the coach (and assistant coach) does not resolve the concern/s, there will be a meeting scheduled and mediated by the Activities & Athletics Director or designee.

Step Four – If the concern remains unresolved, it may be elevated to the building principal for further review and resolution.

Step Five - If the concern is still not resolved, it may be elevated to the District Administrator for final review and resolution. All decisions made by the District Administrator are final.

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 core value at JC McKenna. It reflects the essential principles of character and ethics; integrity, fairness, respect, humility, and good citizenship. These qualities help foster a positive competitive spirit, built on healthy rivalry, respectful interactions, and gracious acceptance of outcomes. All individuals involved; coaches, advisors, administrators, participants, cheerleaders, competitors, families, and fans are expected to uphold these standards at all regular season and tournament events. Acts of poor sportsmanship may result in suspension from participation or attendance in any school-sponsored activities, athletics, or co-curricular programs.

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:** JC McKenna MS 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.)
- All consequences in Set "A" and Set "B" are cumulative only within the school year.
- 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**

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

SET "B" VIOLATIONS - Cumulative within the set per school year.

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)

1st Violation	Level 1 (Warning)
2nd Violation	Level 2
3rd Violation	Level 3

*If a participant is removed from class on the day of a scheduled competition, they may be deemed ineligible to participate in that day's event. *

CONSEQUENCES - Activities & Athletics	
Level 1	Warning
Level 2	Suspension from participation in ONE (1) contest scheduled <u>AND</u> School Assistance Program (SAP)
Level 3	Suspension from participation in 50% of contests scheduled <u>AND</u> SAP by a non-school agency at personal expense
Level 4	Suspension from participation in 75% of contests scheduled <u>AND</u> 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 <u>AND</u> SAP** education program
Level 4	40 hours of approved Community Service and suspension from further co-curricular activities for a semester (90 school days) <u>AND</u> 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 may not 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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