ATHLETIC/ACTIVITY CODE

POLICY Policy No. 3252

Participating in an athletic or other co-curricular activity is a privilege, not a right, and involves teamwork, responsibility, and self discipline. The Bellevue School District is committed to promoting the well-being, personal development, and successful performance of all high school students. This policy is designed to help students in athletics and other leadership roles to be safe, responsible, healthy, and successful participants. Student participants, whether in athletics or other activities, are expected and required to set an example for all students by their conduct and to promote a school atmosphere free from harmful drug, alcohol, and tobacco use.

The Bellevue School District Athletic/Activity Code exists in order to provide specific guidelines to be followed by high school students from the date of their enrollment and has application to all interscholastic sports/athletics and any other school-approved activities, including but not limited to drill team, dance squad, cheer squad, elected offices (ASB, class), debate or other ASB-approved clubs, Natural Helpers, and music/drama performance events that are part of an extra curricular offering. This code is in effect: (1) throughout the school year, (2) at any school-sponsored programs/events even those occurring during breaks in the school year or summer including from the first day of turn out for a sport or activity that begins during the summer, and (3) at any event at which students are representing their school or the District regardless of when the event happens. All students choosing to participate in athletic and activity programs are to conduct themselves in accordance with this Code and are required to abstain from possessing, using, buying, consuming, selling, or giving away any illegal substance including legend/prescription drugs, controlled substances, anabolic steroids, alcoholic beverages, any tobacco product, or other substance banned by the WIAA.

In addition, students who choose to attend or remain at functions beyond the time reasonably necessary to leave the situation where it is apparent that there are alcohol/drugs being illegally used will be in violation of this policy. Any sanction imposed for a violation of this policy may be in addition to any action that might be taken under other District policies relative to conduct, misconduct and/or the use of alcohol/drugs/tobacco.

Sanctions issued under this policy will be cumulative throughout a student's high school years for any and all activities/athletics and will not start over each year. The Superintendent will establish appropriate procedures for the implementation and for any violations of this policy, and will provide that this policy and related procedures are broadly disseminated in school and district publications and in a manner that will reasonably provide students notification of the Code and provisions.

PROCEDURE Procedure No. 3252.1

From the time a student is enrolled in one of the district's high schools this Policy and these procedures are in effect. Sanctions issued under Policy 3252 will be implemented by the school principal or assistant principal in consultation with other staff as appropriate. If a student commits an infraction of this policy but is not currently involved in a sport/activity, the sanction will be applied if the student participates in a sport/activity within one calendar year from date of the occurrence. If the student does not participate in a sport/activity in that calendar year, the sanction will not then be applied; however, if the student commits a subsequent infraction when he/she is engaged in a sport/activity, at that time the sanction will be at the next higher level. Sanctions are cumulative throughout a student's high school years and will not start over each year, and they are to be imposed for both a sport and an activity if the student participates in both during a given school year. The sanctions are as follows:

First Violation:

1.1 If the student honestly self-reports, by initiating contact with a school official and explaining the circumstances and the student's involvement in the violation, the student will not be allowed to participate for 20% of the regular season contests for the sport/athletic activity;

1.2 If the student does not self-report but is honest, cooperative and admits his/her involvement in the alleged violation, the student will not be allowed to participate for 35% of the regular season contests for the sport/athletic activity;

1.3 If the student neither self-reports nor cooperates, nor admits his/her involvement in the violation of this Policy, but is found to have violated the Policy, the student will be prohibited from participation in 50% of the regular season contests for the sport/athletic activity;

1.4 Because it may not be feasible or practical to apply a comparable percentage sanction to a student participant for a violation of Policy 3252 in a non-sport activity or leadership role, if the application of the sanctions set forth in paragraphs 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3 for the first violation are not workable, the Principal or designee may determine an appropriate sanction commensurate with the nature of the activity, the student's offense, honesty, and his/her own conduct, and/or other relevant factors;

1.5 In addition to the above sanctions, in order for a student to be able to resume participation the student must also participate in an assessment by a Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor/Agency and follow any recommended treatment; and there must be a release of information to the District from such counselor/agency, documenting the assessment and that any recommended treatment is underway or completed.

2.0 Second Violation:

2.1 If the student honestly self-reports, by initiating contact with a school official and explaining the circumstances and the student's involvement in the violation, the student will not be allowed to participate for 50% of the regular season contests for the sport/athletic activity;

2.2 If the student does not self-report but is honest, cooperative and admits his/her involvement in the alleged violation, the student will not be allowed to participate for 65% of the regular season contests for the sport/athletic activity;

2.3 If the student neither self-reports nor cooperates, nor admits his/her involvement in the violation of this Policy, but is found to have violated the Policy, the student will be prohibited from participation in 80% of the regular season contests for the sport/athletic activity;

2.4 Because it may not be feasible or practical to apply a comparable percentage sanction to a student participant for a violation of Policy 3252 in a non-sport activity or leadership role, if the application of the sanctions set forth in paragraphs 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3 for the second violation are not workable, the Principal or designee may determine an appropriate sanction commensurate with the nature of the activity, the student's offense, honesty, and his/her own conduct, and/or other relevant factors.

3.0 Third Violation:

3.1 Upon a finding of a third violation of this Policy, the participant will be denied participation in any and all athletics/co-curricular activities in the district for the remainder of his or her high school career.

3.2 Any decision to allow a student to resume participation in sports/activities after denial under this Policy will be made by the Principal or designee in his/her sole discretion after consultation with a chemical dependency counselor/agency and/or other appropriate professionals the Principal or designee chooses to consult. Any permission to resume participation will be subject to whatever conditions the Principal or designee imposes.

4.0 Implementation of Sanctions and Process:

4.1 If there is a reasonable belief that a student has violated this Policy and such violation is made known to a building administrator and/or Athletic/Activity Director, the allegation will be investigated and the affected student will be given an opportunity to explain his/her involvement, and as needed, a conference may be scheduled by the administration with the student and parent/guardian to review the alleged violation. If it is concluded that the student did violate this Policy, the sanctions outlined above will be imposed in addition to any other sanctions that may be applicable pursuant to other District or WIAA disciplinary processes**.** Further, a student may be immediately removed and/or suspended from an activity or event if his/her presence would cause the risk of disruption or health or safety concerns if he/she remained. Sanctions under this Policy are to be interpreted in a common sense manner and are not to be interpreted in any way that would limit the application of disciplinary sanctions that would otherwise be imposed under other applicable policies when appropriate.

4.2 Upon review of an alleged violation and the recommended implementation of sanction for the violation, the student/parent may appeal such discipline in accordance with the grievance procedure of WAC 180-40-240.

4.3 Records of sanctions imposed under this Policy with regard to any student within the District will be maintained in the same manner as any other student information is maintained.

4.4 Should a sanction under this procedure be applicable for a co-curricular activity that is part of credit course for grade (examples may be drama, music, journalism, art), the Principal or designee will determine what an appropriate sanction will be for the co-curricular event portion of the activity.