SUGAR SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT #322 POLICY

TITLE: Extra Curricular Eligibility NUMBER: 3420  
 NEW: May 1992

REVISED: Sept 2012

INTRODUCTION

This policy will be administered by the coaches, advisors, administration, activities committee and the board of trustees. The activities committee consists of the head coach or advisor, a school patron, a head coach or advisor from another activity, the principal, and the activities director.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Sugar‑Salem School District is striving to maintain a variety of extracurricular activities where students are given the opportunity to demonstrate their abilities and find success in participation. Students who are involved in extracurricular activities are expected to work hard, keep high standards, make sacrifices, be well disciplined, and display good sportsmanship. To provide consistency, the following policy identifies eligibility standards for students who will participate in extracurricular activities in Sugar‑Salem School District.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

Students desiring to participate in extra-curricular activities at the varsity level must meet the Rules and Regulations of the Idaho High School Activities Association (IHSAA).

Students who attended a High School adjacent to the Sugar-Salem School District prior to attending Sugar-Salem High School will be required to attend Sugar-Salem High School for one trimester prior to being allowed to participate in extra-curricular activities at the varsity level. The approval to participate will be documented on an IHSAA “Waiver of Transfer” (Rules and Regulations section 8-14-11) form and is subject to all requirements and approvals specified on the form. All other “Waiver of Transfer” requests will be reviewed and either approved or denied by the High School principal on a case-by-case basis.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for extracurricular activities in Sugar-Salem School District, a student must meet the minimum IHSAA academic rules plus the local standards (see IHSAA academic rule and local rules below).

IHSAA Academic Rule - To be eligible, scholastically, for athletics, students attending full time must pass four classes if enrolled in five regular credit courses or three if enrolled in four regular credit courses, in the trimester previous to the current grading period. Any subject taken for a complete period, five times per week, and for which one credit toward graduation is given each trimester, is considered as one of the three full-credit subjects required for athletic eligibility.

Local - A student must maintain a 2.00 GPA in all full-credit subject classes to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities. This average will be computed on trimester or mid-trimester grades.

If a student fails to meet the state requirement of passing the required full-credit subjects the previous trimester and subsequently takes extension, home study, or summer school classes to make up this deficiency, he/she shall be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities until official notification of grades are received from the appropriate school. If the course failed is a core course, the course taken to make up for the failed course must be a similar course, as verified by the high school counselor. If course failed is an elective course, the course taken to make up for the failed course may be any course that meets state accreditation requirements.

To evaluate the maintenance of this 2.00 average, the following procedure must be followed:

Within one week following each grading period, the principal shall publish two lists: 1. warned status 2. ineligible status. These lists shall be given to all high school teachers, coaches and advisors. Teachers, coaches and advisors will notify their respective students on their eligibility status.

Warned Status - The warned status list shall consist of those students whose average of trimester or mid-trimester grades is less than 2.00 for the first time during the current school year or whose average of the third (3rd) trimester grades of the previous year was less than 2.00 . Once a student's name is on this list, he/she shall remain on the "warned status" list for the remainder of the school year. He/She shall be allowed to practice and participate in extracurricular activities.

The 10th-12th graders warned list will be cleared at the end of the third trimester of each year.

Ineligible Status - This list shall consist of those students whose average of trimester or mid-trimester grades is less than 2.00 after once being on the "warned status" list. Beginning with the day the "ineligible status" list is published, students whose names are on this list shall not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities until the next list is published and he or she is found to have at least a 2.00 GPA (a period of at least six (6) school weeks). He/She may practice during this period.

Eighth graders who are deemed ineligible at the end of the third trimester of their eighth grade year will be placed on the warned list for the first trimester of their ninth grade year. Criteria for ineligibility will be based on the attainment of a 2.0 GPA and five passed courses. These students may be removed from the warned list if they meet the high school eligibility requirements for the first trimester.

**Alternative courses (i.e. packets, online courses, etc.) may not be taken during the school year to improve GPA for eligibility purposes**. However, if students are deemed ineligible based upon their GPA being lower than 2.00 at the end of the third trimester, they may take a comparable alternative course in an attempt to receive a higher grade. In order to recalculate Sugar-Salem High School must receive the grades from the alternative class before the first day of the first trimester. Any courses taken during the summer, which are not retakes of classes from the third trimester, will not count towards calculation of GPA for eligibility purposes; however, all courses taken from accredited institutions will count towards the student’s cumulative GPA.

Exceptions - If it is determined that a student is not capable of maintaining a 2.00 average by a committee consisting of his/her teachers, a school counselor, and an administrator, he/she may be allowed to participate at the committee's discretion. The committee must, however, submit a written report to the superintendent explaining the action taken.

CODE OF CONDUCT

To be eligible for extracurricular activities, all Sugar-Salem students must adhere to the following code of conduct.

Competition

Students should always display good sportsmanship. They should not use profanity or unsportsmanlike tactics at any time. Student athletes should be gracious in defeat and modest in victory. They should always be courteous and congratulate the opponent whether in defeat or victory. Student athletes should exhibit self-control at all times and be willing to take discipline without grumbling or complaint.

Classroom

Attendance ‑ Regular class attendance must be a top priority. Excessive absences, truancy, or tardies may be cause for loss of eligibility to participate.

Trips

On trips everyone represents the school and community. Students are responsible to their coach and advisor and must abide by the rules and regulations established by that particular group. **All school rules apply on trips.** Every student who participates in an activity away from the school must travel to and from that activity on school transportation except when a parent gives prior permission for their child to ride with an adult chaperon.

Physical Condition

Students are expected to keep themselves in top physical condition for the activities in which they participate. The strain of exercise, performance, and competition for some activities demand adherence to strict training rules. It is expected that students will use wise judgment in all areas that affect performance. Student athletes should get proper rest and practice good eating habits. Students are also expected to dress and groom appropriately as requested by the coach or advisor.

Substance Abuse, Moral Conduct, Misconduct

Beginning ten days prior to the first practice of an extracurricular activity and during the activity seasons, all students are expected:

to have appropriate school attendance.

to refrain from misusing substances including, but not limited to, drugs, alcoholic beverages and tobacco in any form or to be in the presence of anyone illegally using them. If you find these substances in your presence, leave immediately or you will be suspended according to the policy listed.

to not be involved in actions that are typically considered as misdemeanors or felonies irrespective of whether or not there are criminal proceedings, whether committed on or off school grounds or whether the misconduct is related or unrelated to a school activity, such as, but not limited to, stealing, shoplifting, destruction of property, battery, etc.

to not be involved in moral misconduct on the school grounds or at any school-related activity

CONSEQUENCES

To provide consistency, the following steps will be followed when it comes to the attention of any school official that any of the above eligibility rules may have been broken.

The advisor, head coach, and administrator shall talk to the student concerning the alleged misconduct. If the student admits to breaking one of the eligibility rules listed, the advisor, head coach or administrator will impose such penalties as directed by this policy.

If the student denies breaking a rule of eligibility, then the student will continue participation in good standing. If it is determined that further action is needed, then an activity committee consisting of the head coach or advisor, the principal, and the activities director shall meet and come to a decision concerning the incident. A hearing will be scheduled and the student and his or her parents notified. The activities committee will meet and render its decision in as prompt a time as circumstances permit.

The first time it is determined that a participant has violated the code of conduct as specified above, whether committed on or off school grounds, or whether the misconduct is related or unrelated to school activity, the following steps will be taken:

If a student is currently participating in an extracurricular activity, he/she shall be suspended immediately for a minimum of 20% of the season (20% of the number of games, performances, or competitions during the regular season. For example, 10 regular season football games would mean missing at least 2 games to include post season). This could be longer as determined by the activities committee. If there is not 20% (or longer) of the season left, then the suspension shall carry over into the next season in which the student participates.

On a second violation of this rule or a violation of a second and different eligibility rule, a student will be removed from participation in all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year or longer if determined by the activities committee. Procedures outlined in Step 1 will be followed.

MISCELLANEOUS

Curfews may be imposed by individual coaches.

Students are responsible for the care and return of all equipment checked out to them.

Those who participate in more than one activity during the same time period must work out scheduling problems with their coaches and advisors as early in the season as possible.

All students participating in any extracurricular activity must purchase a student body activity card, pay all dues and fees for that activity, and the established travel fee before the first game of the season.

The coaches and advisors for each activity shall recommend to the school administration all requirements for lettering and receiving awards. At the end of the season, a list of names shall be submitted to the activities director of those who qualify for a letter or an award. Students who are removed from participation or who drop out of activities will forfeit all awards and letters.

Practice time should be no longer than two hours in length. Exceptions must be approved by the principal or activities director.

RESPONSIBILITY

The coach or advisor is responsible for implementing this policy and is responsible for the physical well being and safety of the students with whom they work. Students are also responsible for learning the rules and regulations and reading this policy. They should understand the dangers, obligations, and commitments involved before participating in an activity.

It shall be the responsibility of a coach or advisor to establish rules and regulations particular to their activity such as physical conditioning, curfew times, and nutritional guidelines.

In all other misconduct not specifically covered by this eligibility policy such as but not limited to such things as disruptive, disrespectful, or vandalistic behavior, the coach or advisor has the discretion to administer discipline as he/she sees fit and will make every effort to maintain as much consistency as possible. Should a student be assigned to the in-district suspension room, the student will not be allowed to travel to or participate in games, activities or events during the following seven days (practices are allowable).

It will be the responsibility of the coach or advisor to have each student participant and their parent or guardian sign the extracurricular activities contract prior to participating in any extracurricular activity. In consideration of being allowed to participate in extracurricular activities, each participant will agree to the following contractual obligations:

The participant has been obeying the eligibility rules ten (10) days prior to the first practice.

The participant agrees to obey the eligibility rules during the activity season.

The participant and parent or guardian must understand the eligibility rules and penalties covered in this policy.